

Peninsula Geological Society Field Trip to the Napa Valley

Leader: David Howell, U.S. Geological Survey

Sunday, December 2, 2001



This field trip will be a preview of a forthcoming book by Jonathan Swinchatt and David Howell *The Winemaker's Dance—the people, wines and geology of Napa Valley*. During the trip (besides sampling a variety of great wines) we will review evidence for the tectonic evolution of Napa Valley that includes volcanic conflagrations, extensional faulting, convergence and uplift, and a final collapse involving gigantic landslides. All the evidence is preserved in the landscape and all this is part of what enhances the magnificence of the wine itself! Graphic by Joe Vigil.

Itinerary:

—7:45 AM Meet at either Stanford (Geology Corner) or USGS (flagpole in front of Map Sales – Building 3) or you can meet us in Napa Valley:

—10:00 AM Be at **Opus One Winery**, 7900 Saint Helena Hwy., Oakville (directions below)

—The trip will end with a private tasting at **Stag's Leap Wine Cellars**, concluding ca. 5:00 PM

Directions to Stop #1 (Driving time from Menlo Park, Calif., 2 hrs.):

—Highway 101 to Highway 80 East across the Bay Bridge.

—Continue on Highway 80 through Berkeley and head Northeast toward Sacramento

—Cross the Carquinez Bridge (\$2.00 toll) and continue through Vallejo

—As you are leaving Vallejo, take the Highway 37 to Napa exit

—After approximately 2 miles turn right (North) onto Highway 29 (which is also Sonoma Avenue) toward Napa, Sonoma, and Calistoga

—After approximately 7 miles, Highway 29 becomes 3 lanes. Stay to the left continuing on Highway 29 toward Sonoma/Calistoga

—Stay on Highway 29 North through Napa, Yountville, and Oakville (approximately 20 miles)

—**Opus One Winery** is just north of Oakville on the right hand-side

Lunch: Please pack a sack lunch. Drivers please bring iced-down ice chests for people's drinks if you can.

Signups: We have room for 35 people besides the leader on this trip. Signups will begin at the Peninsula Geological Society meeting on Tuesday, November 13, where PGS Treasurer Janice Sellers will take reservations. We will try to get folks to organize ridepools at that time. You can reserve any remaining slots after the meeting by contacting Janice at:

Janice Sellers, Seismological Society of America, 201 Plaza Professional Building, El Cerrito, CA 94530.

Phone: (510) 559-1780. Email: janice@mail.seismosoc.org