



YOUNTVILLE KICKS OFF HOLIDAY SEASON WINE COUNTRY-STYLE WITH FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS CELEBRATION

Free Event Celebrates Holiday Cheer with Gourmet Cuisine, Premium Local Wines and Late Night Shopping

YOUNTVILLE, CALIF. (October 24, 2011) [Yountville](#), the world-famous culinary and wine destination located in the heart of California's Napa Valley, will host its 23rd annual Festival of Lights on Friday, November 25, 2011 from 2-6 p.m. The highly anticipated holiday event will feature the town's renowned MICHELIN-starred restaurants and wine, holiday carolers, horse-drawn carriage rides, late night shopping, free entertainment including performances by the Napa Valley Ballet Company and the VOENA Children's Choir, along with a special appearance by Santa Claus. The event, hosted by ABC7 News Arts and Entertainment Reporter Don Sanchez, will culminate in the town's lighting ceremony that illuminates downtown Yountville with thousands of holiday lights.

"We encourage travelers to escape the hustle and bustle of Black Friday shopping and kick off the holiday season the Yountville way – surrounded by family, friends, food and wine," said John Dunbar, mayor of Yountville. "Napa Valley residents and visitors alike will enjoy the best of Yountville as the town transforms into a wine country winter wonderland."

Taking center stage at this year's Festival of Lights will be a host of local wineries and Yountville's award-winning restaurants, including [Ad Hoc](#), [Bardessono](#), [Bistro Jeanty](#), [Bouchon Bistro & Bakery](#), [Bottega](#), [etoile at Domaine Chandon](#), [Hurley's Restaurant & Bar](#), [Pacific Blues Café](#) and [Redd](#). More than 20+ wineries will also be featured including, [Cornerstone Cellars](#), [Hope & Grace](#), [Jessup Cellars](#), [Hill Family Estate](#), [Girard Winery](#) and [Somerton Wine Company](#). The festival will also feature a silent auction benefitting children's programs in Yountville.

Following the town lighting, Yountville's art galleries, boutiques and restaurants will keep their doors open for a relaxing, convenient and enjoyable holiday shopping experience. From specialty chocolates and jewelry to local art work and luxury spa products, Yountville's local businesses offer something special for every holiday gift need. New this year, "[gift sommeliers](#)" from [V Marketplace](#) will be on hand to offer complimentary, one-hour gift consultations over wine and tasty bites.

The holiday festivities in Yountville won't end with Festival of Lights. The celebration continues with "WinterScape" a series of special promotions, events and holiday activities taking place with Yountville restaurants, wineries, hotels,

spas and shops throughout the month of December. Visitors can also attend a performance of “The Nutcracker” at the [Lincoln Theater](#) or visit the [Napa Valley Museum’s](#) special holiday exhibit “Dreams of Toyland,” which features original vignettes created by renowned vintage holiday toy and artifact collector, Dolph Gotelli. This year's festival is sponsored by Yountville Chamber of Commerce, Town of Yountville, 99.3 “The Vine”/KVON 1440 AM and PG&E. For more information about Festival of Lights, WinterScape or other Yountville events, please contact the [Yountville Chamber of Commerce](#) at 707-944-0904.

About Yountville:

Nestled in the heart of the Napa Valley, Yountville was the site of Napa Valley’s first planted vines in 1838. Home to world-renowned restaurants and award-winning chefs, Yountville is the region’s paramount culinary scene with six MICHELIN stars. An ideal base for the avid oenophile, Yountville’s microclimate pedigree has its own American Viticultural Area (AVA) and offers more than 24 unparalleled wineries and producers. Yountville is home to 11 premium hotel properties, the county’s only hot air ballooning launch, five National Register of Historic Places sites as well as shopping, galleries and performing arts. Located approximately 55 miles north of San Francisco, visitors can arrive via scenic Highway 29 or via Napa County Airport, Sacramento (SMF), Oakland (OAK) or San Francisco (SFO) international airports. For more information and travel inquiries, contact the Yountville Chamber of Commerce at 707-944-0904 or visit www.yountville.com. You can also “Like” us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/YountvilleChamber.

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