



**BEEF LONDON BROIL STEAKS**  
**PORK COUNTRY STYLE SPARERIBS Bone-In**  
**BUY ONE GET ONE FREE**  
FREE IDENTICAL ITEM - OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE



**SWEET, JUICY PEACHES**  
 Large, Summerripe, Yellow Flesh,  
 Specially Grown For Lucky Stores  
**47¢ LB.**

**Summer Transitions**  
**Lucky**  
 July 21 through July 27, 2010

Location ▾	Cuisine ▾	Events ▾	Local Products ▾	News and gossip ▾	Recipes ▾	Top 25	PD
------------	-----------	----------	------------------	-------------------	-----------	--------	----

Search for Restaurants

## Dear Bohemian Grove: Russian River eats

20. Jul, 2010 [Print This Post](#)

★★★★★ 4 Votes

Dear Bohemian Grovers,

First off, welcome back to Camp Big Cheese! Yes, we locals know you're here. Perhaps it was the traffic jam of private jets on our local tarmacs last week, the preponderance of "OMG. Celeb sighting!" Tweets around Sonoma County or the sudden run on grand crus from our local wine shops. Who's to say, because frankly, we've been more focused on the traffic jam of limos on River Road.



Now we know you have a lot to do these next few days, what with the rituals, high jinks and wheeling and dealing, but let us be the first to suggest that some off-campus bread-breaking might just be the thing. Goodness knows that with 2,000 of your fellow VIPs clogging up the cafeteria lines, mystery meat at your campsite (again!) and unsavory gate-crashers lurking about, maybe you're better off with a little covert nosing.

So in the spirit of friendship (and totally not stalking), may we suggest a few of our favorite local eateries? We're talking quiet, off-the-beaten-path spots where the locals hang and great grub is a way of life. You're in Sonoma County, after all. Just leave a big tip and we promise we'll post a flattering iPhone picture of you to our Facebook page.

### BiteClub's Best Bets for What to Eat In (and around) Monte Rio



**Applewood Inn:** Chef Bruce Frieeseke is one of the best Wine Country chefs you may not know. In his brief tenure at the helm of this quiet Guerneville bed and breakfast, he's elevated the cuisine from ho-hum to haute. Trained in Paris and San Francisco, with stints at the Farmhouse Inn and as Exec chef at Healdsburg's Manzanita, Frieeseke has put his energy toward a locally-inspired dinner menu with dishes like fresh chilled English Pea soup with mint; a tartare of beef, potato chips, pickled mustard seeds, quail's egg and house-cured anchovies; and cacao nib crusted rack of lamb with brown butter parsnips, house made chorizo and mini chimichurri. The five-course tasting menu at \$70 is still a value, with impressive wine or beer-pairings for \$105. 13555 Highway 116, Guerneville, 869-9093.

**Garden Grill:** Don't let the name fool you. This insanely popular breakfast spot has recently added a lineup of house-smoked barbecue to their menu, including ribs, bbq tri-tip and brisket for lunch and dinner. And while we won't guarantee it's quite up to our native KC and Tennessee standards (because nothin' east of the Rockies can compare), the pink smoke rings brought a tear to our eye and a smile to our lips. 17132 Hwy 116, Guerneville, (707) 869-3922.

**Raymond's Bakery:** Hidden among the redwood groves in Cazadero is your diet's downfall. Award-winning baker Mark Raymond and his wife Elizabeth have fresh racks of baguettes, batards, fougasse and boules each day — meaning yummy bread in all shapes and sizes — along with fresh pizza and pastries. Don't miss the butter-crusting walnut tart, a tastier, classier cousin to pecan pie. 5400 Cazadero Highway, Cazadero, (707) 632-5335

**Don's Dogs and More Cafe:** Monte Rio has a love-hate relationship with the Grovers. While some folks in

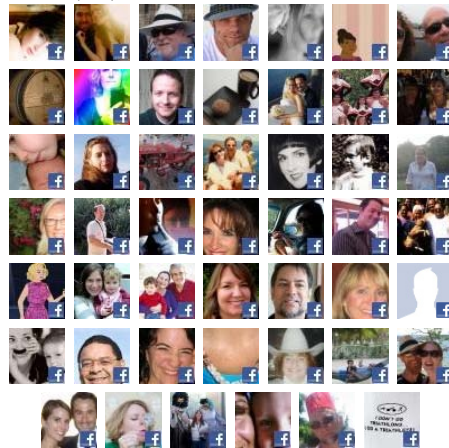
**PLAN YOUR 2010 Christmas Party**  
 ONLY 5 MONTHS TO CHRISTMAS...

**Sheraton Sonoma County**  
 PETALUMA  
 707-283-2888

**Tolay**  
 Sonoma County Casino  
 BOOK NOW >



Followers (247)



[Follow this blog](#)



[biteclubbeats](#)



[RSS Feed](#)



Tips? Just wanna chat?  
[heather@heatherirwin.com](mailto:heather@heatherirwin.com)

these parts can be pretty unfriendly to big-talkin' conservative-types, the Grove also raises quite a bit of money each year for their fire services, schools and churches. But if you're craving a dog, Don's is the place to get your wiener relished. Locals swear by the Don's Dog, a grilled quarter-pounder best eaten on the deck. Bohemian Hwy and Hwy 116 intersection, Monte Rio, (707) 865-4190.

Sophie's Cellars: For three weeks each year, John Haggard is at the beck and call of the world's most powerful men. The other 49 weeks, he's just a guy from Monte Rio who happens to run a world class wine shop. Nestled deep among the coastal redwood groves of West County, Sophie's Cellars caters to the grand cru-set during the Grove gathering, but is equally happy to sell a \$15 bottle of chardonnay. In fact, he seems to get just as much satisfaction match-making visitors with local eateries and tasting rooms (with maps and coupons), giving insider menu tips and suggesting tasty wine pairings. Call him the Concierge of West County. 20293 Hwy 116, Monte Rio, 707-865-1122. Open 11am to 7pm, closed Wednesday.

Boon Eat + Drink: Simple, stylish decor with an equally simple and stylish menu. This funky eatery serves up just a handful of local, seasonal dishes, but almost all are done to perfection. Flat iron steak, a beefy boon burger with garlic aioli and pickled onions (\$9), fresh salads and a giant bowl of truffle fries with sundried tomato ketchup and garlic aioli shouldn't be missed. And [Humphry Slocombe ice cream](#) is a perfect foil for all those gin fizzes you've been packing. 16248 Main St., Guerneville, 869-0780.

Share |

### Related Posts

- A. [Guess who's cooking at Bohemian Grove](#)
- B. [Russian River Brewing's "Temptation" Makes Saviour 100](#)
- C. [Sonoma's Lunch Aquatic: Pool, river & waterside dining](#)
- D. [Bohemian Creamery](#)
- E. [Outdoor Eats](#)

« [Sarah's Forestville Kitchen](#)

[Win: Fair Food Scramble 2010](#) »

### 3 Responses



Kenry Hissinger 21. Jul, 2010 at 5:08 pm #

Garden Grill is pretty good. The rest of the article is BORING but the Garden Grill is worth stopping by if your attitude is good.

REPLY



Dawn Bell 20. Jul, 2010 at 5:48 pm #

Just an FYI related to eateries in the Russian Rlver area that serve often as hosts to Bohemian guests..... The Village Inn and Restaurant sees many out-of-area folks common to the Grove, as does the Highland Dell. Additionally, Sophie's Cellars, in addition to their fantastic wines, boasts local breads baked at Casa LaBelle Breads in the kitchen of the Village Inn. Freshciabatta baguettes, seeded loafs and fougasse daily at Sophie's as well as breadsticks and French bread for the Village Inn. As the baker for this small enterprise, I just wanted you to know we existed and have a good product for sale to the public. Thanks for the article, but I hope you can make mention of these other notable businesses. Thanks!

REPLY

biteclub 21. Jul, 2010 at 4:36 pm #



**Fresh BiteClub**  
Sign up for the alerts

The Daily Bite:  
The Weekly Digest:

### Photos on flickr



### Categories

- [Ask Heather](#) (1)
- [Best Of...](#) (18)
- [CUISINE](#) (280)
  - [American](#) (53)
  - [Bakery/Dessert](#) (33)
  - [BBQ](#) (7)
  - [Brunch/Breakfast](#) (27)
  - [Burgers](#) (37)
  - [California](#) (26)
  - [Chinese/Thai/Vietnamese](#) (22)
  - [Clubs + Sportsbars](#) (1)
  - [Coffee House](#) (5)
  - [Dessert/Bakery](#) (1)
  - [English/Irish](#) (3)
  - [Fast Food](#) (2)
  - [French](#) (18)
  - [German/Eastern European](#) (5)
  - [Greek](#) (1)
  - [Indian](#) (18)
  - [Italian](#) (15)
  - [Japanese](#) (9)
  - [Mexican/Latin](#) (21)
  - [Middle Eastern](#) (2)
  - [Pizza](#) (13)
  - [Pubs](#) (6)
  - [Sandwiches + Subs](#) (2)
  - [Seafood](#) (16)
  - [Southern/Cajun](#) (5)
  - [Steakhouse](#) (1)
  - [street food](#) (4)
  - [Tea/Coffee](#) (2)
  - [Vegan/Vegetarian](#) (17)
  - [Wine Bar/Cocktails](#) (48)
- [DIY](#) (5)
  - [Classes](#) (4)
- [Events](#) (90)
  - [Birthdays](#) (1)

### Recent Comments

- BettyBoop2u on [Win: Fair Food Scramble 2010](#)
- biteclub on [Win: Fair Food Scramble 2010](#)
- biteclub on [Win: Fair Food Scramble 2010](#)
- Wojamo on [Win: Fair Food Scramble 2010](#)
- Ron Reynolds on [Win: Fair Food Scramble 2010](#)
- Win: Fair Food Scramble 2010 <http://nblo.gs/61Qlq1>