BRIDES

9 Amazing Destinations for Your Winery Bachelorette Party

A list of the top wine producing regions in the U.S. and Mexico. By Sarah Zlotnick

With wedding planning well underway and a to-do list that seems to only get longer and longer, there's no doubt you're ready to blow off some steam. Enter: your bachelorette party! When it comes to this celebratory occasion, some brides choose to zen out with a spa weekend, while others may want to party all night in Miami or Las Vegas. But for those searching for a middle ground, a winery excursion might be something to consider.

"Most <u>bachelorette parties</u> revolve around drinking in some way," says travel advisor Michelle Manas. "Going to wineries makes the planning easy." Additionally, what's great about this kind of trip is that it doesn't require you to understand the difference between a pét-nat and prosecco, but instead provides rolling hills filled with grapevines, sun-soaked patio tables piled high with nibbles to pair with your drinks, and all the additional fun that a vino-focused bachelorette weekend might offer.

Charlottesville, Virginia



COURTESY OF PIPPIN HILL

Looking to infuse your winery-focused bachelorette weekend with an air of Southern refinement? Look no further than this college town, home to the University of Virginia, and the surrounding Albemarle countryside. When it comes to accommodations, your options range from the posh Keswick Hall—which reopened in 2021 with clay tennis courts, an infinity pool, and a swanky new restaurant by internationally lauded chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten—to the artsy Quirk, a colorful and contemporary hotel with a scene-y rooftop bar and even cooler gift shop.

Must-visit wineries include <u>King Family Vineyards</u>, where you can enjoy polo matches, refreshing rosé, and a lively lawn scene; <u>Pippin Hill</u>, which is run by the same folks behind <u>Charleston's stylish Zero</u> George hotel; and, a bit further out, <u>Early Mountain Vineyard</u>, where the cheese and charcuterie platters

are best paired with the four-pour "Virginia" flight and savored on the outdoor patio. (Open to expanding your palate? Both <u>Potter's</u> and <u>Castle Hill</u> offer stellar cider and beautiful natural scenery.)

Come dinner, indulge with a multi-course tasting menu at <u>Broadcloth</u>, or go casual with seafood at <u>Public Fish & Oyster</u>. And if you need a break from boozing, Charlottesville's downtown pedestrian mall has plenty of adorable boutiques, and the hike to <u>Humpback Rock</u> is sure to help you sweat out any lingering hangovers.