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LOCAL DESTINATION

NAPA ON THE BEACH

Burgundy. Tuscany. Malibu? With Malibu's new designation as an official American Viticultural Area, the region is finally being noticed as one of the West Coast's premier spots for winemaking. Three small vineyards have been instrumental in making that happen, and are showing the wine world that the 'Bu goes beyond beach houses and surfing. — Jason Kessler

DOLIN MALIBU ESTATE VINEYARDS Started in Elliott Dolin's backyard in the hills of Malibu in 2006, the chardonnay vineyard produced three consecutive award-winning vintages, thanks to volcanic soil and oceanic acidity. For Dolin, the new AVA is all about making Malibu a trusted name in wine. "It allows those of us who are growing grapes here to identify our wines with a sense of place," he says. "We hope that the word gets out that Malibu wines rock." dolinestate.com

