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# BARDESSONO

IT'S MOSTLY THE WINE, of course, that lures us to Wine Country. But at Bardessono, a 62-room luxury hotel, restaurant, and spa in Yountville, it's clear that wine appreciation goes beyond drinking: It's in the rejuvenation offered by a grapeseed oil massage and the beauty of recycled wine casks in the lounge's rich wood-plank ceiling.

**A platinum stay:** Opened in February 2009, Bardessono is not only stunning in its contemporary design but uncommonly committed to the natural landscape. Its restaurant's farm-fresh ingredients are seasonal and locally sourced (I spotted pineapple guava and wicked-hot ghost chilies in the on-site garden), solar panels provide half of the electrical supply, and salvaged building materials include tufa stone from the Bardessono family home that once stood here. It is one of only three hotels in the world to have earned LEED Platinum certification.

**Unhurried indulgence:** The spa, too, takes its cues from nature, with a seasonally changing menu

SAMMY TODD DYESS



of herbs, oils, and salts. While the spa building includes treatment rooms and a rooftop pool with striking views of the Mayacamas Mountains, treatments are also available in guest rooms. A spa butler arrived at mine ahead of the massage therapist to set up a treatment table in the spacious spa-suite bathroom, leaving a row of candles along the edge of the tub and a soothing soundtrack playing from an iPod.

**Simply divine:** The vinotherapy massage features organic Chardonnay grapeseed oil from Olavie. The light seed extract is a potent antioxidant and forms a protective layer on the skin that is supposed to stimulate the renewal of cells and collagen. But as I deeply inhaled the oil's fragrance at the start of my massage, I didn't think about the science: It simply smelled divine.

**Who needs dinner?:** With the stress rubbed out of my muscles, I headed for the tub—and almost never left. In my post-massage haze, I even forgot to eat dinner. I've never felt so relaxed.

**Recycled art:** Check out the art displayed around Bardessono: Ninety percent incorporates objects that have been found or recycled. Then, venture out into Yountville on a carbon-fiber bicycle, free for guests to use. The town boasts four Michelin-starred restaurants and unlimited fruits of the vine to drink.

*bardessono.com.* —LEEANNE JONES