

BIZBASH

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National Venue Guide

850 Venues for Events & Meetings in 16 Cities

ATLANTA, ATLANTIC CITY, BOSTON, CHICAGO, DALLAS, LAS VEGAS, LOS ANGELES, MIAMI, NEW ORLEANS, NEW YORK, ORLANDO, PHILADELPHIA, PHOENIX/SCOTTSDALE, SAN DIEGO, SAN FRANCISCO & WASHINGTON





Hopmonk Tavern



Solage Calistoga

Entertaining in Wine Country

Hotel restaurants are no longer run-of-the-mill eateries—these new on-site additions are suitable for entertaining clients and C.E.O.s alike.

are on the menu. (14301 Arnold Drive, 707.935.4488, Glen Ellen, www.bluegrassbarandgrill.com)

Lager and Live Music From Gordon Biersch Brewing Company co-founder Dean Biersch comes new venture **Hopmonk Tavern**. Open since April 2008 in west Sonoma County, the gastropub aims to bring beer to wine country inside a 105-year-old stone-and-timber building. A menu of rustic California fare is complemented by more than 75 bottled beers and an ever-changing lineup of drafts. A 55-seat German-style beer

Brisket and Whiskey Specializing in dry-rub barbecue meats, the 5,000-square-foot **Bluegrass Bar & Grill** opened in Sonoma in February 2008 and is known for its ribs and brisket. Several event spaces are available, including an expansive 40-seat open-air deck and a private upstairs room for 50. More than 20 Kentucky whiskeys

garden abuts a 2,000-square-foot music venue. (230 Petaluma Ave., Sebastopol, 707.829.7300, www.hopmonk.com)

Home and Garden The longstanding Brix restaurant in Napa has a new look, a new focus, and a new name: **25° Brix Restaurant**. Resembling an urban farmhouse with its creative mix of rich Provençal fabrics, marble and stone, and antique pieces, the 5,000-square-foot restaurant has rededicated itself to farm-to-table dining. A separate dining room called the Cottage can seat 30, and its adjoining 1,500-square-foot pergola-covered patio—with a view of the property's two-acre garden—seats 60. (7377 St. Helena Hwy., Napa, 707.944.2749, www.25degreesbrix.com)

Meetings and Mudbaths The Auberge Resorts introduced the environmentally conscious **Solage Calistoga** in July 2007. The 25-acre property has 89 bungalows and more than 15,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor function space. A 1,400-square-foot terrace with views of the Palisades Mountains can host receptions of 180, while the 3,500-square-foot Solbar restaurant seats 230. Also on site: the 20,000-square-foot Spa Solage. (755 Silverado Trail, 866.942.7442, www.solagecalistoga.com)

Miette Confiserie



SWEET RETREATS

Two new shops offer groups more than a sugar rush.

CHAMPAGNE AND CUPCAKES Located in Hayes Valley, **Miette Confiserie** is a vintage-style sweets shop that features flowery wallpaper, candy-filled apothecary jars, and cupcake-stuffed display cases. For on-site cocktail parties for as many as 35 guests, Miette's baker-owners can whip up a menu of lavish, Marie-Antoinette

style desserts, which they serve beside champagne and cotton candy. (449 Octavia Blvd., 415.626.6221, www.miettecakes.com)

CHOCOLATE, CHOCOLATE, CHOCOLATE **Christopher Elbow**, an artisanal chocolate boutique and hot chocolate lounge, opened in Hayes Valley in February 2008. A small lounge area offers seating in plush, dark-chocolate hued booths beside illuminated Lucite tables. (401 Hayes St., 415.355.1105, www.elbowchocolates.com)