

# The New York Times

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# Travel

## Napa Valley on \$1,000 a Day

subdivided into Gas-Powered, Air-Powered and CO<sub>2</sub> Powered). They were exhibited as \$50, which was later fetched and delivered by the Getaway Adventures van.

Sporting helmet hair, I visited St. Helena, arguably Napa's toniest town, which, like its Hamptons soul sisters, is wrestling with its popularity among the riffraff. In recent years, the town has apoplectically tried to block the building of a station for the Wine Train, a "down valley" dining experience on rails that some fear would overrun the town with T-shirted fudge shoppers. Old-fashioned places like Taylor's Refresher, a frozen-in-time drive-in with static-y loudspeakers, now commune with shops selling white chocolate koi (at \$8 each a steal compared with a live koi that recently fetched \$170,000 in Japan, a factoid you, too, would know if you read *Auberge*, the *Auberge du Soleil's* glossy magazine).

At the campus store of Greystone, the West Coast outpost of the Culinary Institute of America, I lusted after a \$499 set of six

