



## A Burger Joint, St. Helena Style.

By Tim Tesconi



Photo by Clay McLachlan

While Taylor's Refresher is a great place to sip Napa Valley wines, it's the down-home ambience that is a draw to both visitors and locals.

Taylor's Refresher in St. Helena is Wine Country's world-class version of a fast-food hamburger joint.

In addition to a number of specialty burgers, Taylor's offers take-out food like gazpacho, fried calamari and Chinese chicken salad. The best-seller at this bustling eatery is the Ahi burger with ginger wasabi mayo and Asian slaw.

People line up 30-deep for the white pistachio milkshake and beer-battered onion rings. Patrons can buy beer and select Napa Valley wines to wash down their garlic fries or fish tacos.

Orders are taken at the front windows and then delivered on metal cookie sheets from a side door. Diners take their food and eat at picnic tables in the lawn area out back.

Brothers Joel and Duncan Gott bought the 1949-era drive-in four years ago and transformed it into a popular roadside attraction on St. Helena's Main Street.

"We serve the kind of food we like to eat," said Duncan, 31.

Early next year the brothers Gott plan to open their second Taylor's Refresher in San Francisco's Ferry Building.

Taylor's Refresher, 933 Main Street, St. Helena.  
Open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. 707-963-3486.

