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## **California's El Dorado Wine Region Named to *USA Today's Readers' Choice, 10 Best Wine Region's List***

El Dorado County (September 18, 2018)

Wine lovers all over the U.S. have recognized El Dorado County wine region's place among the nation's most revered wine regions. In [USA Today's 10Best Readers' Choice award for best wine region](#), the national newspaper puts El Dorado Wine Region at no. 8 — above Oregon's Willamette Valley and North Carolina's Yadkin Valley.

The 10Best editors partnered with a panel of wine experts to pick the initial 20 wine region nominees. Then the top 10 winners were determined by popular vote from readers all over the U.S. According to the paper, "Experts Jill Barth, a Provence Wine Master; Shana Clarke, Wine Editor for inside.com and contributor to Eat Sip Trip; Karen MacNeil, one of the foremost wine experts in the U.S.; and June Rodil, a Master Sommelier, were chosen for their knowledge of wine and the American wine scene."

In the final standings, California's El Dorado Wine Region came in at no. 8!

1. Finger Lakes — New York
2. Lodi — California
3. Leelanau Peninsula — Michigan
4. Santa Barbara County — California
5. Walla Walla Valley — Washington
6. Texas Hill Country — Texas
7. Grand Valley — Colorado
8. El Dorado — California
9. Willamette Valley — Oregon
10. Yadkin Valley — North Carolina

Situated one hour from Sacramento to the west and Lake Tahoe to the east, El Dorado County has a long history of winemaking, dating back to the Gold Rush. After rushing the town of Coloma, where gold was first discovered, county settlers planted grape vines in the 1880s, establishing one of the largest wine-growing regions in the U.S. Revival of a robust wine industry in the modern era began in the 1970s with hearty souls willing to take a risk that the rugged conditions, high elevations, and sloped vineyards would produce great wines. Today more than 2,000 acres of vineyards are planted, and El Dorado wineries receive hundreds of guests on weekends. Moreover, a long list of winemakers from other acclaimed California wine regions yearly source El Dorado County for precious grape varieties rarely found in their own regions.

Lexi Boeger, president of [El Dorado Winery Association](#) and marketing manager for her family's [Boeger Winery](#), one of the first modern-era wineries in the county, shares, "Recognition by a national audience like *USA Today's* 10Best voters authenticates our resolve to pursue quality at every level expected of a world-class wine region." She adds, "We are delighted to be among such esteemed wine regions."

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