

Wine, etc.: It's always comforting to go back to Italy; there are still new regions to explore | COMMENTARY

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New book on Central Coast

Anyone planning a trip to California's Central Coast would benefit from getting a copy of "Exploring Wine Regions: The Central Coast of California" by Michael C. Higgins.

Higgins has written similar books on Bordeaux and Argentina, so he has the format down pat. There is a lot of detail about the wine growing region with a focus on 102 high-quality wineries in the region's 27 sub-AVAs. A reader gets to know the region's attractions — places to stay and eat — as well as the grape varieties and climate.

There are also good maps to help you navigate local roads.

Higgins took his own photos and they are well beyond what you would expect from a cell phone camera. They make you want to book a trip now.