



COURTESY OF WENTE VINEYARDS

PLACES to play

■ Vineyards where you can tee off ■ Ski towns that wow

H4 THE OTTAWA CITIZEN

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TRAVEL BEST OF 2008

5 best places to tee it up in a vineyard

1. The Course at Wente Vineyards, Livermore, California:

Designed by Greg Norman, this championship golf course winds through Wente Vineyards, site of California's oldest continuously operated family-owned vineyards and winery. Finish with a cool glass of Wente chardonnay on the patio of the Clubhouse Grill, overlooking both vines and the 18th hole. www.wentegolf.com

2. Clos LaChance at CordeValle Resort, San Martin, California:

Picture-perfect Clos LaChance winery has 150 acres of vines that form a backdrop to CordeValle's championship course by legendary designer Robert Trent Jones. Get breathtaking views of links and rolling hills from the resort's ultra spacious accommodations. www.cordevalle.com www.clos.com

3. Rockway Glen, St. Catharines, Ont.: The winery, restaurant and the golf clubhouse share a building with a unique Antique Wine Museum, all perched by the Niagara Escarpment where the rolling landscape of the 18-hole golf course is bracketed by vineyards. www.rockwayglen.com

4. Viñas del Golf, Mendoza, Argentina: Traditional grills from their wood-fired clay oven, fresh organic orchard produce and Viñas del Golf wines are yours to enjoy at the Golf & Wine Lodge restaurant after whacking the little white



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At California's Wente Vineyards, enjoy a cool glass of Wente chardonnay at the 19th hole.

ball around their challenging nine-holer developed by the son of José Jurado, Argentina's most celebrated golf pro. www.vinasdelgolf.com.ar

5. Chardonnay Golf Club, Napa, California: Shank the ball off the tee and you'll likely be out of bounds among the 150 acres of chardonnay and merlot vineyards that frame the fairways of

this 27-hole championship course, which also features numerous lakes, creeks and a wide variety of native flora and fauna. www.chardonnay-golfclub.com

— Margaret Swaine, a Toronto writer who has sipped and chipped her way around the globe