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Plus, a new home for Sullivan Rutherford Estate and more news from California

A New Home for Sullivan Rutherford Estate

The owners of Sullivan Rutherford Estate are breaking ground on a new winemaking facility at their 26-acre property in Napa Valley. The building has been designed by renowned architect Hans Baldauf of BCV Architecture + Interiors and Orla Huq Regan of Orla Studios and will be completed in June 2026.

"We are thrilled to officially launch the next phase of this historic estate," said Juan-Pablo Torres-Padilla, managing partner for the winery, which was founded five decades ago by James O'Neil Sullivan. Torres-Padilla's family firm purchased Sullivan Rutherford Estate in 2018. The original winery was designed by the late John Marsh Davis, who also designed the Joseph Phelps and Chateau Souverain (now Rutherford Hill) wineries in the 1970s. Baldauf, who refers to Davis' style as "wood expressionism," plans to build off that for the new facility.

The new facility will feature a mix of stainless steel and concrete tanks, an open-plan cellar and a non-intrusive pump system that will rely mostly on gravity to facilitate movement through the winemaking process. "It's a winemaker's dream," said winemaker Jeff Cole. "My team and I will be able to forecast the needs of each of our three estate vineyards—Sullivan Estate Vineyard, Criscione Vineyard, and our Merlot- and Cabernet Franc–focused vineyard in Soda Canyon—with even more accuracy."—*Mitch Frank*