



# Sonoma Wine Country

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## Star Sommelier of Sonoma County

**Author:** Maja Wood | Thursday, 23-04-09

Star Chefs.com recently announced the [2009 winners](#) for their Napa Sonoma Rising Stars Award. And Geoff Kruth, of **The Farmhouse Inn and Restaurant** in Forestville, was honored as the Star Sommelier in [Sonoma County](#).

One of Kruth's tips that the judges liked: **When in doubt, serve champagne with soup.** It provides a nice contrast in textures.

Kruth is a Master Sommelier, one of less than 150 throughout the world, and he founded the non-profit Guild of Sommeliers.

### Other [Sonoma County](#) Stars include:

CHEFS: Eric Korsh and Ginevra Iverson, Restaurant **Eloise**

HOTEL CHEF: Jesse Mallgren, [Madrona Manor](#)

RESTAURATEUR AWARD: John Toulze, the girl and the fig, fig café, and Estate

SUSTAINABILITY: John Stewart and Duskie Estes, Zazu and Bovolo

MIXOLOGIST: Scott Beattie, bar manager at [Cyrus](#) Restaurant and author of *Artisanal Cocktails*

Check out this [video of Eric Korsh](#) just before he and wife Ginevra Iverson opened **Restaurant Eloise** in Sebastopol. (Guess which of his dishes a lot of people would choose as their "death row final meal.")

And here's a [video of John Toulze](#) right before he and Sondra Bernstein opened **Estate** restaurant in Sonoma.

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