

Town & Country TRAVEL

SPRING 2006

Enchanting Places

Sonoma

Uganda

France

Charleston

Maldives

Seville

& Rome



SPRING 2006
U.S. \$4.95 CANADA \$5.95
FOREIGN \$5.95

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in northern California) say that the Seaweed Café is the best restaurant they know outside of said alma mater. The food is not unlike that at Chez Panisse: subtle, deceptively simple, light and scrumptious. But it's quite a bit less expensive. They actually do put seaweed in a lot of it (sweetwater oysters, Japanese steamers, abalone sashimi, all pristine), and the owners are major connoisseurs of tea. *Dinner Thursday and Friday, brunch and dinner Saturday and Sunday. 1580 Eastshore Rd.; 707-875-2700.*

FORESTVILLE

The Farmhouse Inn and Restaurant is an old-fashioned country inn, with just enough muted urbanity to convey its seriousness. The rooms are sweet and comfy, the neighborhood is a quiet valley of vineyards and forests, and the restaurant is superlative. If you're lucky, they'll be serving the ravioli stuffed with mascarpone

utterly lovely: modern but warm, every detail a thoughtful and pleasing one. Each bathtub is a gigantic bowl carved from a single block of granite. After a day of heavy-duty wine tasting, this is the ideal refuge, all stillness and elegance. No restaurant but a nice breakfast, including fried banana wontons. *Double rooms from \$275 to \$550. 13540 Arnold Dr.; 707-935-0237; 800-935-0237; fax: 707-935-6411; gaige.com.*

HEALDSBURG

The little town of Healdsburg has recently become extraordinarily sophisticated. Most of the new ventures are small and locally owned but have standards of the highest order.

The coolest hostelry in town is the Duchamp Hotel. The place is designed within an inch of its life, in a whimsical style. Don't bring your grandmother here. What you might expect to see by the pool at the Duchamp would be, oh, a naughty starlet with a silver-