

Wine Spectator

A High Prize for Salma Hayek

Plus, the winemaking *Bachelor* has a night out in Sonoma and a shoplifting celebrity chef is caught in the cookie jar

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• The charming town of Sonoma had a prominent supporting role in this week's episode of ABC's *The Bachelor*. Sonoma winemaker **Ben Flajnik** of Envolve Winery is this season's lucky guy, and this week he took the rose-craving women to his hometown. Sharp-eyed wine-loving watchers had a chance to take in beautiful vineyard views and play "I spy" with the local wine country scenery. First, the Bachelor had a date with **Kacie B.**, which began with a stroll through a disturbingly deserted-looking Sonoma town square (Unfiltered assumes that it was closed for filming, since we know it as a lively and fun spot). The pair had a romantic meal at one of our favorite restaurants, The Girl & The Fig (roses are nice, but Unfiltered will take their duck confit any day). Ben and Kacie also took in some home movies at the Sebastiani Theatre, and twirled a baton together (not a euphemism). Later, on a group date, the suitorettes were good-natured about performing a play, written and directed by local children, at a community theater. Ben's second one-on-one date, with **Courtney**, showcased the area's beloved redwood forests as the setting for a picnic. Through it all, the luxurious Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa provided a wonderful backdrop for multiple make-out sessions and meltdowns. Speaking of meltdowns, there were plenty of tears at the rose ceremony, and blogger **Jenna** and single mom **Shawn** were sent home. If you haven't seen the episode yet, Ben recommends sipping some Sonoma favorites while viewing to get in the mood, specifically, the Truett Hurst Burning Man Petite Sirah, Breggo Savoy Vineyard Pinot Noir and Gloria Ferrer Blanc de Noirs ("for the rose ceremony"). Ben tells Unfiltered he's also picked out which corks he'll pop while watching next Monday's episode: "Much to the chagrin of my [winery] partners **Mike Benziger** and **Danny Fay**, I've been on a crazy Chardonnay kick, so for Monday night I'm lining up a 2008 Chevalier-Montrachet, a 2007 Jean-Marc Brocard Domaine Sainte Claire Chablis, a crazy oaky 2010 Rombauer Chardonnay and our own 2010 Envolve Chardonnay."

