

Speak of the devil



THE GAME PLAN

Roping A COWBOY

While we could say a lot about the riding and racing events at the Livermore Rodeo, let's get right down to what you *really* want to know: How to get up close and personal with those rugged real-life cowboys.



1

WHILE SHOPPING:

Pick up a pair of fierce Corral boots at Baughman's Western Outfitters on Livermore's First Street—and look for dudes searching for ride-appropriate attire.

2

THE DANCE FLOOR:

The precompetition Cattle Penning and Mixer on June 8 lures the biggest rodeo fans to Robertson Park and ends with a tri-tip dinner, live music, and dancing in the barn.

3

IN THE ARENA:

According to Christie Dixon of the Livermore Stockmen's Rodeo Association, the best view of the action on June 11-12 is from seats in sections D, E, and F. (If you can't take the heat—literally and figuratively—rows 19, 20, 27, and 28 are in the shade.)

4

AT THE BAR:

The Oak Door, within walking distance on Pacific Avenue, is the place to be for postrodeo whiskey and a karaoke rendition of "Friends in Low Places." *For more info, visit livermorerodeo.org.*

—LEEANNE JONES

TREND

Wine PLUS

With wine bars popping up from Lafayette to Livermore, it's easy to find a place to enjoy a glass. But for those multitasking oenophiles who just don't have the luxury to linger, here are a few spots where you can sip wine—while taking care of business.

Beauty Lounge

Just switch your glass from one hand to the other, as you get a manicure and sip one of this new spa and salon's dozen different wines, or a sake cocktail. 1512 Palos Verdes Mall, Walnut Creek, (925) 954-8421, beautylounge925.com.

Entourage Day Night Spa Salon and Café

Owner Gino Chiodo has been pairing wine and food with salon and spa services since Entourage opened in 2003: "I was a hairstylist in San Francisco, and I noticed that in the morning, people bring in coffee, but by around 4 o'clock, if there was a bottle of wine open anywhere nearby, it would be sucked down in five minutes. So, why not do it by design?" 2 Theatre Square, Orinda, (925) 254-9721, entouragespa.com.

The Vine Cinema

Take in a classic like the original *True Grit* (June 9) or *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* (June 16), or any of the Vine's art house flicks, while sipping a Livermore Valley wine. 1722 First St., Livermore, (925) 447-2545, vinecinema.com.

—ETHAN FLETCHER

TOP TO BOTTOM: SHUTTERSTOCK; GREG CLARKE