



GARY CRABBE

## a little bit wine country

PLEASANT HILL resident Gary Crabbe likens photographing California's Wine Country to participating in a treasure hunt.

"When I saw something that jumped out at me, it was like finding a gold coin," says Crabbe of the 30 road trips he took to wine-growing regions while shooting for his new book, *Backroads of the California Wine Country* (Voyageur Press, \$19.95). The book covers a good portion of the Golden State's vineyards, from Santa Barbara to Napa Valley.

Crabbe, an East Bay native who spent nine years working with the late, legendary adventure

and travel photographer Galen Rowell, sought out Wine Country scenes with "all of the right elements in place"—even when that meant making a U-turn in his truck to chase a rainbow or venturing down dirt roads to find new colors. At times, the sheer joy of "capturing the moment" even prompted Crabbe to jump up and down next to his tripod.

*Backroads of the California Wine Country* is available at Lafayette Book Store, 3579 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, and at Crabbe's website, [www.enlightphoto.com](http://www.enlightphoto.com). —Elizabeth Shemaria