2025 Los Angeles Invitational Wine Challenge

Sonoma County, CA February 25, 2025

Best of the Best

Ledson Winery and Vineyards	2019 Ledson Merlot	Sonoma County			96	Well structured, ripe, berry, cherry, roasted coffee, long finish.

Best Dessert Wine

Château d'Arche	2023 Chateau d'Arche Soleil d'Arche	Sauternes AOC	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Grand Cru Classe	97	Shines, balanced, candy lemon peel.

Best Red

Ledson Winery and Vineyards	2019 Ledson Merlot	Sonoma County			96	Well structured, ripe, berry, cherry, roasted coffee, long finish.

Best Rose

King Estate Winery	2023 King Estate Rose of Pinot Noir	Willamette Valley			97	Delicate, Queen Anne Cherry fruit. Bruised apple notes.

Best Sparkling

Pennyroyal Farm	2016 Pennyroyal Farm Almittey Brut	Anderson Valley	Reserve Brut		98	Gorgeous, rich, lemon peel, beautiful sweet finish, creamy.

Best White

Navarro Vineyards	2024 Navarro Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc, Cuvée 128	Anderson Valley			98	Plush citrus, chocolate, tropical, little spritz, nice finish.

Best of Class

2 Towns Ciderhouse	NV 2 Towns Ciderhouse Spiced Cosmic Crisp	Willamette Valley			92	Baked apple, orange blossom, baked spices
ACTA Wine	2022 ACTA Chardonnay	Sonoma County, Russian River Valley			94	Salted caramel, canned peach and butterscotch.
Blue Honey Winery	NV Blue Honey Country Wines & Meads Co. Purple Reign (Blueberry Mead)	Ramona Valley			94	Spice, blueberry cobbler. Balanced.
Bottle Barn	2022 Barn Raiser Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley			97	Showing good value. Uber complex notes.
Caliza Winery	2022 End Of The Day Wines Red Cuvée	Paso Robles			98	Forward fruit, pomegranate, prune, jammy plum.

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Castle Rock Winery	2022 Castle Rock Zinfandel	Lodi			96	Black raspberry, warm spice. Rich and lush. Brooding.
Château d'Arche	2023 Chateau d'Arche Soleil d'Arche	Sauternes AOC	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Grand Cru Classe	97	Shines, balanced, candy lemon peel.
Colangelo & Partners	NV Riunite Lambrusco	Lambrusco Dell'Emilia IGT			93	Nicely done, blackberry, good mouth feel.
CRU Winery	2022 Cru Winery SLH Chardonnay	Santa Lucia Highlands			98	Classic chard, tangy, Meyer lemon, long elegant finish. Lush & creamy.
CRU Winery	2023 Cru Winery Unoaked Chardonnay	Santa Lucia Highlands	Unoaked		90	Great food wine with seafood, sophisticated.
Dutcher Crossing Winery	2021 Dutcher Crossing Proprietor's Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon	Dry Creek Valley	Proprietor's Reserve		96	Smokey, leathery, plum sauce, dried chocolate. Satisfying wine.
Eco Terreno Wines & Vineyards	2018 Eco Terreno Wines & Vineyards Los Cuatro	Alexander Valley	Estate Grown		98	Complex, earthy, rich with spice. Blackberry, currant with oak. Cellar worthy.
En Garde Winery	2021 En Garde Touché	Napa Valley	Reserve		96	Super full mouth feel. Juicy.
Exprimere Wines	2022 Exprimere Persey	Sta. Rita Hills	Single Vineyard		98	Cherry cola, wild strawberry. Bright, great acidity, "lip smacking".
GALLO	NV Barefoot Spritzer Crisp White Spritzer Can	American			90	Refreshing, Kiwi, apple. Really nice fruit, good acid.
GALLO	NV Barefoot Bubbly Brut Rose	California			96	Well balanced, great effervescent, blueberry, fruit cocktail.
GALLO	NV Barefoot Bubbly Peach Bubbly	California			92	Mango, peach, nectarine. Well balanced.
GALLO	NV Barefoot Bubbly Pink Moscato	California			90	Nice raspberry jam. Fresh big strawberries Plush.

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GALLO	NV Black Box Malbec	California			96	Black cherry and blackberry. Long finish, medium body and well balanced.
Imagery Estate Winery	2022 Imagery Estate Winery Sangiovese	Sonoma County		Produced and Bottled By	90	Beautiful color. Great Acid. Perfectly balanced.
Imagery Estate Winery	2022 Imagery Estate Winery Barbera	Sonoma County		Produced and Bottled By	93	Elegant, bold, currant, blackberry, chocolate. Well balanced.
Imagery Estate Winery	2022 Imagery Estate Winery Cabernet Franc	Sonoma County		Produced and Bottled By	99	Rich blackberry and spice. Well balanced throughout.
JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2024 JOLO Vineyards Golden Hallows	North Carolina			94	Floral, herbal, bright, fresh, "zingy" yet dry.
JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2023 JOLO Vineyards Crimson Creek	North Carolina			92	Juicy strawberries, layers of dark fruits and mountain herbs. Elegant!
JOLO Winery & Vineyards	NV JOLO Vineyards Sweet Vermouth	Yadkin Valley			94	Great acidity, nice balance. Black forest cake, cherries, chocolate, ginger.
JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2024 Rayson Riesling	North Carolina, Yadkin Valley			91	Beautiful minerality. Steely quality to the aroma. Lovely layers from mid-palate.
JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2023 JOLO Vineyards JOLOTAGE	North Carolina			93	Elegant integrated herbal. Nice oak balanced.
Keuka Spring Vineyards	2023 Keuka Spring Vineyards Classic Riesling	Finger Lakes			95	Tropical fruit. Subtle spice. Very faint trace of limestone. Mango. Well balanced.
Keuka Spring Vineyards	2023 Keuka Spring Vineyards Late Harvest Cayuga White	Finger Lakes	Single Vineyard		97	Green apple, honeysuckle. Well made. Lovely wine.
King Estate Winery	2023 King Estate Rose of Pinot Noir	Willamette Valley			97	Delicate, Queen Anne Cherry fruit. Bruised apple notes.

2025 Los Angeles Invitational Wine Challenge

Sonoma County, CA February 25, 2025

King Estate Winery	2023 King Estate Domaine Pinot Gris	Willamette Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		98	Bright, lively, well balanced, apple, pear. Round mid-palate.
L&G Verde Vineyards	2022 L&G Verde Vineyards Sophie's Estate Blend	Santa Clara Valley	Estate Vineyards		93	Well balanced, vibrant. Blackberry and oak flavor. Full mid palate with a long finish.
Ledson Winery and Vineyards	2019 Ledson Merlot	Sonoma County			96	Well structured, ripe, berry, cherry, roasted coffee, long finish.
Matrix Winery	2022 Matrix Winery Sonoma County Pinot Noir	Sonoma County			98	Ripe cherry, spice, earthy. Bold round palate. Long finish with lush fruit.
McGrail Vineyards and Winery	2024 McGrail Vineyards Kylie Ryan Rose	Livermore Valley	Estate	Lucky 8 Vineyard	91	Bright, berries, strawberry, nice spice and nice finish.
Merry Cellars	2020 Merry Cellars Syrah	Royal Slope			98	Round in mouth, earthy, herbal, luscious.
Miletta Vista Winery	2022 Miletta Vista Winery Elephant Ear Red	Nebraska			98	Fresh baked Berry cobbler, Rich nose. Tart. Balance from rhubarb. Outstanding!
Miletta Vista Winery	2016 Miletta Vista Winery Legacy	Nebraska	Barrel Aged		93	Baked gingerbread pudding with chocolate.
Miro Cellars	2022 Miro Hitchcock Cabernet Sauvignon	Chalk Hill		Hitchcock Vineyard	92	Chocolate on the nose. Nice tannin's, good ripeness.
Miro Cellars	2022 Miro Cuvee Sasha	Mendocino	Single Vineyard	Chevalier Vineyard	94	Pleasing quality, well balanced and super drinkable.
Navarro Vineyards	2023 Navarro Vineyards Gewürztraminer	Anderson Valley	Estate Bottled		96	Very dry, great zest and spice. Good acid, very floral.
Navarro Vineyards	2024 Navarro Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc, Cuvée 128	Anderson Valley			98	Plush citrus, chocolate, tropical, little spritz, nice finish.
Nike Communications, Inc	NV Woodbridge Merlot	California			97	Plum, coco, white pepper, stone fruit, rich dense black fruit, nutmeg.

2025 Los Angeles Invitational Wine Challenge

Sonoma County, CA February 25, 2025

Nike Communications, Inc	NV Woodbridge Moscato	California			97	Floral, perfumy good intensity and honey suckle.
Nike Communications, Inc	2023 Robert Mondavi Private Selection Chardonnay	California			96	Apple citrus flavor. Medium body, mid palate with long finish. Amazing value!
Nike Communications, Inc	2023 Robert Mondavi Private Selection Bourbon Barrel-Aged Cabernet Sauvignon	California			90	Vanilla mocha. Balanced. Black fruit.
Nike Communications, Inc.	NV Ruffino Prosecco	Prosecco DOC			97	Lemon peel, beautiful balance, gentle nuttiness, complex.
Nike Communications, Inc.	2024 Drylands Sauvignon Blanc	Marlborough			97	Boxwood bud. Intense fruit finish, citrus.
Oak Farm Vineyards	2023 Oak Farm Vineyards Albarino	Lodi, Mokelumne River	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Certified Green & Sustainable under Lodi Rules	98	True to varietal, great paired with shellfish, bright fresh and flirty. Nice structure.
Orsi Family Vineyards	2023 Orsi Family Vineyards Fiano	Dry Creek Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		97	Lovely, fresh, herbs, minerality and spice. White flower with great body.
Orsi Family Vineyards	2019 Orsi Family Vineyards Aglianico	Dry Creek Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		96	Peppery and spicy. Fun wine, hints of herbs that you find in sweet vermouth. Very engaging. Fantastic!
Pennyroyal Farm	2023 Pennyroyal Farm Anyhow Blanc	Anderson Valley	Estate Grown & Bottled		96	Nice floral notes, crisp and bright, bold and adventurous.
Pennyroyal Farm	2016 Pennyroyal Farm Almittey Brut	Anderson Valley	Reserve Brut		98	Gorgeous, rich, lemon peel, beautiful sweet finish, creamy.
Pennyroyal Farm	2023 Pennyroyal Farm Muscat Vin Doolsey	Anderson Valley		Vin Doolsey	98	Great varietals character, clean, persistent finish. Refreshing.
Penrose Hill	2023 Hawthorne Grove Chenin Blanc	Clarksburg			94	Tropical and citrus, pomelo, melon. Very bright and refreshing.

2025 Los Angeles Invitational Wine Challenge

Sonoma County, CA February 25, 2025

Quady Winery	2023 Quady Winery Electra Black	California		91	Black muscat.
Quintessential Wines	2023 Obsession Symphony	Lodi		97	Juicy apricot, pear. Flowery aromatic with plumeria. Varietal correct.
Russian River Vineyards	2023 chester. Wines Pinot Noir	Monterey		98	Big, ripe, generous, sour cherry, herbal, juicy, great nose.
Seka Hills	2023 Seka Hills Viognier	Yolo County	Estate Grown and Produced	90	A nice lime, tropical with nice balance.
Sonocaia Estate Winery / Dysfunctional Family Winery	2017 Dysfunctional Family Winery Red Blend	Sonoma Valley	Gran Reserva	97	Black licorice, cocoa bean. Sensuous mouth feel. Classic.
Trentadue Winery	2022 La Storia La Storia Petite Sirah	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County	Estate	98	Cherries. Boysenberry. Jammy.
Turkovich Family Wines	2020 Turkovich Family Wines Barrel Select Tempranillo	Yolo County	Barrel Select	91	Elegant and well made
Turkovich Family Wines	2023 Turkovich Family Wines Roussanne	Yolo County	Barrel Aged	92	Standouts for a Roussanne. Honey quality on the nose. Nice tropical fruit.
Val du Vino	2023 Val du Vino Winery White Dragon	Sierra Foothills		97	Floral, pear, vanilla, good viscosity and minerality.
Vino Voyage	2022 Kevin O'Leary Primitivo	Italy		92	Tart Cranberry, sour cherry. Vibrant.
Wilson Winery of Dry Creek	2022 Wilson of Dry Creek Three Dog	Dry Creek Valley		98	Nice oak. Nice handling. Elegant. Restrained.
Wilson Winery of Dry Creek	2021 Wilson of Dry Creek Sydney Petite Verdot	Dry Creek Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	92	Juicy plum, blackberry. Lovely tannins.
Zina Hyde Cunningham	2021 Zina Hyde Cunningham Veola	Redwood Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	97	Ripe fruit, Red and black fruit. Dehydrated raspberry. Yummy! Saline char. Seaside cliff.