

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. |

2025 Los Angeles Invitational Wine Challenge

Sonoma County, CA February 25, 2025

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 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. |
| <u>Dutcher Crossing Winery</u> | 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 Bubbly Brut Rose | California | | 96 | Well balanced, great effervescent, blueberry, fruit cocktail. |
| GALLO | NV Black Box Malbec | California | | 96 | Black cherry and blackberry. Long finish, medium body and well balanced. |
| GALLO | NV Barefoot Spritzer Crisp White Spritzer Can | American | | 90 | Refreshing, Kiwi, apple. Really nice fruit, good acid. |
| GALLO | NV Barefoot Bubbly Peach Bubbly | California | | 92 | Mango, peach, nectarine. Well balanced. |

2025 Los Angeles Invitational Wine Challenge

Sonoma County, CA February 25, 2025

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----|--|
| GALLO | NV Barefoot Bubbly Pink Moscato | California | | 90 | Nice raspberry jam. Fresh big strawberries Plush. |
| Imagery Estate Winery | 2022 Imagery Estate Winery Cabernet Franc | Sonoma County | Produced and Bottled By | 99 | Rich blackberry and spice. Well balanced throughout. |
| 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 Sangiovese | Sonoma County | Produced and Bottled By | 90 | Beautiful color. Great Acid. Perfectly balanced. |
| JOLO Winery & Vineyards | 2024 JOLO Vineyards Golden Hallows | North Carolina | | 94 | Floral, herbal, bright, fresh, "zingy" yet dry. |
| 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 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 | 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. |
| 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. |

2025 Los Angeles Invitational Wine Challenge

Sonoma County, CA February 25, 2025

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|----|--|
| 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 | 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 Cuvee Sasha | Mendocino | Single Vineyard | 94 | Pleasing quality, well balanced and super drinkable. |
| Miro Cellars | 2022 Miro Hitchcock Cabernet Sauvignon | Chalk Hill | Hitchcock Vineyard | 92 | Chocolate on the nose. Nice tannin's, good ripeness. |
| Navarro Vineyards | 2024 Navarro Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc, Cuvée 128 | Anderson Valley | | 98 | Plush citrus, chocolate, tropical, little spritz, nice finish. |
| Navarro Vineyards | 2023 Navarro Vineyards Gewürztraminer | Anderson Valley | Estate Bottled | 96 | Very dry, great zest and spice. Good acid, very floral. |
| 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. |

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 | NV Woodbridge Merlot | California | | 97 | Plum, coco, white pepper, stone fruit, rich dense black fruit, nutmeg. | |
| 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. | |
| <u>Oak Farm Vineyards</u> | 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. |
| Quady Winery | 2023 Quady Winery Electra Black | California | | | 91 | Black muscat. |

2025 Los Angeles Invitational Wine Challenge

Sonoma County, CA February 25, 2025

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|----|---|
| 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. |
| <u>Wilson Winery of Dry Creek</u> | 2021 Wilson of Dry Creek Sydney Petite Verdot | Dry Creek Valley | Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled | 92 | Juicy plum, blackberry. Lovely tannins. |
| <u>Wilson Winery of Dry Creek</u> | 2022 Wilson of Dry Creek Three Dog | Dry Creek Valley | | 98 | Nice oak. Nice handling. Elegant. Restrained. |
| 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. |