

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.
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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.
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Best Red

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

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

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

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

GALLO	NV Barefoot Bubbly Brut Rose	California			96	Well balanced, great effervescent, blueberry, fruit cocktail.
Penrose Hill	2023 Hawthorne Grove Chenin Blanc	Clarksburg			94	Tropical and citrus, pomelo, melon. Very bright and refreshing.
Imagery Estate Winery	2022 Imagery Estate Winery Barbera	Sonoma County		Produced and Bottled By	93	Elegant, bold, currant, blackberry, chocolate. Well balanced.
Castle Rock Winery	2022 Castle Rock Zinfandel	Lodi			96	Black raspberry, warm spice. Rich and lush. Brooding.

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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.
Nike Communications, Inc	NV Woodbridge Moscato	California		97	Floral, perfumy good intensity and honey suckle.
2 Towns Ciderhouse	NV 2 Towns Ciderhouse Spiced Cosmic Crisp	Willamette Valley		92	Baked apple, orange blossom, baked spices
<u>Blue Honey Winery</u>	NV Blue Honey Country Wines & Meads Co. Purple Reign (Blueberry Mead)	Ramona Valley		94	Spice, blueberry cobbler. Balanced.
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.
GALLO	NV Barefoot Spritzer Crisp White Spritzer Can	American		90	Refreshing, Kiwi, apple. Really nice fruit, good acid.
Miro Cellars	2022 Miro Hitchcock Cabernet Sauvignon	Chalk Hill	Hitchcock Vineyard	92	Chocolate on the nose. Nice tannin's, good ripeness.
Matrix Winery	2022 Matrix Winery Sonoma County Pinot Noir	Sonoma County		98	Ripe cherry, spice, earthy. Bold round palate. Long finish with lush fruit.
Quintessential	2023 Obsession Symphony	Lodi		97	Juicy apricot, pear. Flowery aromatic with plumeria. Varietal correct.
Nike Communications, Inc	2023 Robert Mondavi Private Selection Bourbon Barrel-Aged Cabernet Sauvignon	California		90	Vanilla mocha. Balanced. Black fruit.
Keuka Spring Vineyards	2023 Keuka Spring Vineyards Late Harvest Cayuga White	Finger Lakes	Single Vineyard	97	Green apple, honeysuckle. Well made. Lovely wine.
GALLO	NV Black Box Malbec	California		96	Black cherry and blackberry. Long finish, medium body and well balanced.

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JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2023 JOLO Vineyards Crimson Creek	North Carolina		92	Juicy strawberries, layers of dark fruits and mountain herbs. Elegant!
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.
Seka Hills	2023 Seka Hills Viognier	Yolo County	Estate Grown and Produced	90	A nice lime, tropical with nice balance.
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.
Imagery Estate Winery	2022 Imagery Estate Winery Sangiovese	Sonoma County		Produced and Bottled By 90	Beautiful color. Great Acid. Perfectly balanced.
Quady Winery	2023 Quady Winery Electra Black	California		91	Black muscat.
CRU Winery	2023 Cru Winery Unoaked Chardonnay	Santa Lucia Highlands	Unoaked	90	Great food wine with seafood, sophisticated.
Merry Cellars	2020 Merry Cellars Syrah	Royal Slope		98	Round in mouth, earthy, herbal, luscious.
Ledson Winery and Vineyards	2019 Ledson Merlot	Sonoma County		96	Well structured, ripe, berry, cherry, roasted coffee, long finish.
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.
Miletta Vista Winery	2022 Miletta Vista Winery Elephant Ear Red	Nebraska		98	Fresh baked Berry cobbler, Rich nose. Tart. Balance from rhubarb. Outstanding!
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.

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JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2024 Rayson Riesling	North Carolina, Yadkin Valley		91	Beautiful minerality. Steely quality to the aroma. Lovely layers from mid-palate.	
Nike Communications, Inc	NV Woodbridge Merlot	California		97	Plum, coco, white pepper, stone fruit, rich dense black fruit, nutmeg.	
JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2024 JOLO Vineyards Golden Hallows	North Carolina		94	Floral, herbal, bright, fresh, "zingy" yet dry.	
Exprimere Wines	2022 Exprimere Persey	Sta. Rita Hills	Single Vineyard	98	Cherry cola, wild strawberry. Bright, great acidity, "lip smacking".	
Pennyroyal Farm	2023 Pennyroyal Farm Muscat Vin Doolsey	Anderson Valley	Vin Doolsey	98	Great varietals character, clean, persistent finish. Refreshing.	
Pennyroyal Farm	2016 Pennyroyal Farm Almittey Brut	Anderson Valley	Reserve Brut	98	Gorgeous, rich, lemon peel, beautiful sweet finish, creamy.	
Nike Communications, Inc	2023 Robert Mondavi Private Selection Chardonnay	California		96	Apple citrus flavor. Medium body, mid palate with long finish. Amazing value!	
Trentadue Winery	2022 La Storia La Storia Petite Sirah	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County	Estate	98	Cherries. Boysenberry. Jammy.	
ACTA Wine	2022 ACTA Chardonnay	Sonoma County, Russian River Valley		94	Salted caramel, canned peach and butterscotch.	
<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.	
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.	
Bottle Barn	2022 Barn Raiser Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley		97	Showing good value. Uber complex notes.	
<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.

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Caliza Winery	2022 End Of The Day Wines Red Cuvée	Paso Robles			98	Forward fruit, pomegranate, prune, jammy plum.
Miro Cellars	2022 Miro Cuvee Sasha	Mendocino	Single Vineyard	Chevalier Vineyard	94	Pleasing quality, well balanced and super drinkable.
Miletta Vista Winery	2016 Miletta Vista Winery Legacy	Nebraska	Barrel Aged		93	Baked gingerbread pudding with chocolate.
CRU Winery	2022 Cru Winery SLH Chardonnay	Santa Lucia Highlands			98	Classic chard, tangy, Meyer lemon, long elegant finish. Lush & creamy.
Colangelo & Partners	NV Riunite Lambrusco	Lambrusco Dell'Emilia IGT			93	Nicely done, blackberry, good mouth feel.
Nike Communications, Inc.	NV Ruffino Prosecco	Prosecco DOC			97	Lemon peel, beautiful balance, gentle nuttiness, complex.
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!
Val du Vino	2023 Val du Vino Winery White Dragon	Sierra Foothills			97	Floral, pear, vanilla, good viscosity and minerality.
En Garde Winery	2021 En Garde Touché	Napa Valley	Reserve		96	Super full mouth feel. Juicy.
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.
GALLO	NV Barefoot Bubbly Peach Bubbly	California			92	Mango, peach, nectarine. Well balanced.
Russian River Vineyards	2023 chester. Wines Pinot Noir	Monterey			98	Big, ripe, generous, sour cherry, herbal, juicy, great nose.
Vino Voyage	2022 Kevin O'Leary Primitivo	Italy			92	Tart Cranberry, sour cherry. Vibrant.
Navarro Vineyards	2024 Navarro Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc, Cuvée 128	Anderson Valley			98	Plush citrus, chocolate, tropical, little spritz, nice finish.

2025 Los Angeles Invitational Wine Challenge

Sonoma County, CA February 25, 2025

Navarro Vineyards	2023 Navarro Vineyards Gewürztraminer	Anderson Valley	Estate Bottled	96	Very dry, great zest and spice. Good acid, very floral.
Pennyroyal Farm	2023 Pennyroyal Farm Anyhow Blanc	Anderson Valley	Estate Grown & Bottled	96	Nice floral notes, crisp and bright, bold and adventurous.
Turkovich Family Wines	2020 Turkovich Family Wines Barrel Select Tempranillo	Yolo County	Barrel Select	91	Elegant and well made
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.
<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.
Keuka Spring Vineyards	2023 Keuka Spring Vineyards Classic Riesling	Finger Lakes		95	Tropical fruit. Subtle spice. Very faint trace of limestone. Mango. Well balanced.
JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2023 JOLO Vineyards JOLOTAGE	North Carolina		93	Elegant integrated herbal. Nice oak balanced.
JOLO Winery & Vineyards	NV JOLO Vineyards Sweet Vermouth	Yadkin Valley		94	Great acidity, nice balance. Black forest cake, cherries, chocolate, ginger.
Imagery Estate Winery	2022 Imagery Estate Winery Cabernet Franc	Sonoma County	Produced and Bottled By	99	Rich blackberry and spice. Well balanced throughout.
GALLO	NV Barefoot Bubbly Pink Moscato	California		90	Nice raspberry jam. Fresh big strawberries Plush.
<u>Wilson Winery of Dry Creek</u>	2022 Wilson of Dry Creek Three Dog	Dry Creek Valley		98	Nice oak. Nice handling. Elegant. Restrained.
Nike Communications, Inc.	2024 Drylands Sauvignon Blanc	Marlborough		97	Boxwood bud. Intense fruit finish, citrus.