

# 2025 Sunset International Wine Competition

Sonoma County, CA June 10, 2025

## Best of the Best

Imagery Estate Winery	2022 Imagery Estate Winery Pallas	Sonoma Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	98		
Best Boxed Wine						
Delicato Family Wines	NV Bota Box Dry Rose	California		93	Honeysuckle, white flowers; richness in the mid-palate; luscious mouthfeel; Nice!	
Best Cider						
North Canyon Cider Company	NV North Canyon Cider Company American Semi-Sweet	Sierra Foothills, El Dorado	Estate Bottled & Produced	93	Super fruit; Very well balanced	
Best Dessert/Port						
Jack Poust & Company, Inc.	NV Presidential 20 Year Old Tawny Port	Porto DOC		95	Hazelnut, maple; clean and long finish	
Best Red						
Imagery Estate Winery	2022 Imagery Estate Winery Pallas	Sonoma Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	98	Tasty, layered palate, rich middle; nice rich caramel; elegance	
Best Rose						
Folded Hills	2024 Folded Hills Lilly Rosé	Santa Ynez Valley	Estate Grown	98	Good weight, pretty; white grapefruit	
Best Sparkling						
Domaine Carneros	2019 Domaine Carneros Ultra Brut	Carneros	Methode Traditionnelle	Estate Grown, Bottled and Produced	99	Good structure, richness; notable lemon, citrus curd; classic
Best White						
Brockmeyer Family Wines	2024 Brockmeyer Family Wines Albariño	Yakima Valley		Otis Vineyard	98	Honeysuckle, lime; toasty and complex
Best of Class						
J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines	2023 J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines J. Lohr Estates Riverstone Chardonnay	Arroyo Seco	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Certified California Sustainable	97	Tropical fruit; good acid/oak balance

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Brecon Estate	2024 Brecon Estate Rose	Adelaida District			91	Crisp, well-balanced; hint of rose petal and peach; nice finish
Folded Hills	2024 Folded Hills Lilly Rosé	Santa Ynez Valley	Estate Grown		98	Good weight, pretty; white grapefruit
Collina De Bella	2023 Collina De Bella Syrah	Winters Highlands	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		96	Very Syrah-y; cool climate; cherry and violets
Husch Vineyards	2024 Husch Vineyards Chenin Blanc	Mendocino			97	Juicy nectar, citrus blossoms, geranium; spicy, herbal; orchard fruit; very complex
Husch Vineyards	2024 Husch Vineyards Late Harvest Gewurztraminer	Anderson Valley			98	Pear and sweet grapefruit
Maryhill Winery	2022 Maryhill Winery Sangiovese, Proprietor's Reserve	Columbia Valley	Proprietor's Reserve		97	Restrained, bright fruit; basil, rosemary; Old World style
Bella Luna Estate Winery	2021 Bella Luna Estate Winery Estate Riserva	Paso Robles, Templeton Gap District	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	native yeast, unfiltered	95	Good balance; structure is great
Nichelini Family Winery	2024 Nichelini Family Winery Caterina Reserve	Napa Valley	Estate Bottled		95	Light peach and nectarine; complex with green apple and citrus; good acidity
Wise Villa Winery	2024 Wise Villa Winery Muscat	Sierra Foothills	Estate Produced and Bottled		92	Stone fruit, citrus; bright
Gibbs Vineyards	2022 Gibbs Vineyards Cabernet Franc	Napa Valley	Barrel Aged		99	Red fruits, chewy, supple, long lingering finish, concentrated, savory, spice.
McGrail Vineyards and Winery	2022 McGrail Vineyards Shamus Patrick Red Blend	Livermore Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced	Lucky 8 Vineyards	98	Red currants; hearty, nutty, savory, integrated
<u>Carol Shelton Wines</u>	2023 Carol Shelton Wines Black Magic Late Harvest	Sonoma County	Late Harvest		98	Bramble, boysenberry; dense; balanced sweetness
Carter Creek Winery Resort and Spa	2023 Carter Creek 2023 Roussanne	Texas High Plains			98	Silky; true to varietal; remarkable finish

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Drytown Cellars Winery	2023 Drytown Cellars Barbera	Amador County, Sierra Foothills			93	Big, bright red fruit; huckleberry blueberry, plum; tart and dynamic
<u>Dutcher Crossing Winery</u>	2021 Dutcher Crossing Cut Root Vineyard	Russian River Valley	Barrel Aged		99	Good oak, jackfruit and cherry
Davis Family Vineyards	2021 Davis Family Vineyards Sparkling Rose de Noir	Russian River Valley	Methode Champenoise		98	Strawberry blossoms, raspberry; lively on the palate
The Dancing Fox Winery & Brewery	2022 The Dancing Fox Winery & Brewery Roussanne	Lodi, Clements Hills	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Lodi rules certified sustainable	92	Round, balanced; skilled winemaking
St. Francis Winery & Vineyards	2022 St. Francis Moon Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon	Moon Mountain		Artisan Collection	98	Blackberry fruit; cocoa and mocha notes; soft, smooth tannins
Rue de Rêve Apéritifs	NV Rue de Rêve Apéritifs Rouge Apéritif	Sonoma County		Aperitif	91	
Wise Villa Winery	2024 Wise Villa Winery Chardonnay, Stainless Steel	Clements Hills	Estate Produced and Bottled		91	A little sweet; varietally correct; well-balanced, nice finish
Soda Rock Winery	2023 Soda Rock Alexander Valley Reserve Chardonnay	Alexander Valley			97	Buttered toast; very balanced, long finish; well-made
Optio Vineyards	2022 Optio Vineyards Tempranillo	Paso Robles Geneseo District	Barrel Aged		96	Integrated; good VA
Delicato Family Wines	NV Bota Box Dry Rose	California			93	Honeysuckle, white flowers; richness in the mid-palate; luscious mouthfeel; Nice!
J Rickards Winery	2022 J Rickards Winery Petite Sirah, Wild Yeast Reserve	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Reserve	97	Grape skin, plum, rich blackberry, black cherry, touch of menthol; delicious
Belle Fiore Winery	2021 Belle Arte Cabernet Franc	Rogue Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		98	Balance of oak and spice; flint, dried herb, black cherry.
Picchetti Winery	2023 Picchetti Winery Brut Zinfandel	Central Coast		Sparkling Red Wine	90	Describes the Zin well; easy drinking; a summer barbecue wine
Maryhill Winery	2022 Maryhill Winery Syrah, Les Collines Vineyard	Walla Walla Valley	Single Vineyard Series	Les Collines Vineyard	98	Concentrated black fruit with nice texture; well-made and balanced

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<u>Carol Shelton Wines</u>	2022 Carol Shelton Wines Wild Thing Zin	Mendocino County	Old Vine	Organically grown	96	Red currant, pomegranate; spice and earth; creamy; cherry pie; balanced
Wise Villa Winery	2024 Wise Villa Winery Torrontes	Alta Mesa	Estate Produced and Bottled		97	Floral, crisp, clean; a pleasure to drink
Gratus Vineyards	2019 Gratus Vineyards Napa Valley Malbec Estate Grown	Napa Valley	Estate Grown		96	Blueberries, violets and baking spices; intense nose and flavor; long finish
Mill Creek Vineyards	2022 Mill Creek Waterwheel Red Wine Blend	Dry Creek Valley	Grown, Produced and Bottled		95	Toast, sweet spice, cherry
Tedeschi Family Winery	2024 Tedeschi Family Winery Valdiguié	Napa Valley			99	Whole-cluster carbonic maceration; instant drinkability; black cherry; great varietal expression
Delicato Family Wines	2022 Francis Ford Coppola Director's Cut Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	Alexander Valley			95	True to AVA; rich, soft, well-balanced; dark cherry and ripe fruit; pleasantly balanced finish
Wise Villa Winery	2022 Wise Villa Winery Petite Sirah	Sierra Foothills	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		97	Boysenberry, herbs, cranberry and bergamot
GALLO	NV Barefoot Fruitscato Mango	California			94	Soft and restrained; hint of mango; fresh, balanced
WE KNOW JACK!	2021 WE KNOW JACK! ROCKPILE RIFF RAFF ZINFANDEL	Rockpile	Estate Grown	Vineyard Designate, Single Block	99	Blackberry, lingonberry, baking spice; jammy; integrated tannins; elegant
Blue Farm	2022 Blue Farm Laceroni Chardonnay	Russian River Valley	Single Vineyard		97	White peach, lemon, slight vanilla; soft palate, minerality; shows restraint
Sidereus Vineyard & Winery	2022 Sidereus Cabernet Sauvignon	Columbia Valley	Single Vineyard		97	Cocoa, espresso; approachable
GALLO	NV Barefoot Cellars Red Moscato	California			98	Pomegranate, cherry, plums; nice texture

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Domaine Carneros	2019 Domaine Carneros Ultra Brut	Carneros	Methode Traditionnelle	Estate Grown, Bottled and Produced	99	Good structure, richness; notable lemon, citrus curd; classic
Bricoleur Vineyards LLC	2022 Bricoleur Vineyards Kick Ranch Cabernet Sauvignon	Fountaingrove District	Estate		97	Red fruit, dark cherry, rhubarb; earthy, ageable
McPrice Myers Wines	2023 McPrice Myers Wines High on the Hog	Paso Robles			98	Very lush and complete; long finish
Notre Vue Estate Wine Group	2021 Notre Vue Estate Merlot	Chalk Hill	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Certified Sustainable	96	Beautiful berry notes; concentrated
Imagery Estate Winery	2022 Imagery Estate Winery Pallas	Sonoma Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		98	Tasty, layered palate, rich middle; nice rich caramel; elegance
Double Forte Wine	2023 Storyteller Pinot Noir	Sonoma County			96	Mushroom, rhubarb; whole body styling; lingering, tart finish.
J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines	2024 J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines J. Lohr Bay Mist White Riesling	Arroyo Seco	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Certified California Sustainable	96	Classic Riesling; layered, honey
The Winery at Holy Cross Abbey	NV As Above So Below The Theurigist	American			96	Bright, floral, well-balanced
Pezzi King Vineyards	2022 Pezzi King Row 22 Reserve Zinfandel	Dry Creek Valley			96	Tart, toast; juicy lingering finish
Bayernmoor Cellars	NV Bayernmoor Cellars White Pinot Noir	Washington State			96	Crunchy cherry; great acid; floral with lemon; grapefruit and rose petal
Korbel Champagne Cellars	NV Korbel Sweet Rosé	California	Methode Champenoise		96	White raspberry, honeysuckle; dainty and subtle
Mazzocco Sonoma Winery	2022 Mazzocco Sonoma Zinfandel Verano Old Vine Reserve	Dry Creek Valley			98	Ripe plum; good concentration; savory; well structured tannins
South Coast Winery	NV Berenda Road Sparkling Peach	California		Sparkling Grape Wine with Natural Flavors	95	Peach; balanced and good acid

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The Winery at Holy Cross Abbey	NV The Winery at Holy Cross Abbey	Colorado				90	Classic Riesling; well-balanced
Freixenet Mionetto USA	NV Gloria Ferrer Gloria Ferrer Blanc de Blancs	Carneros, Sonoma				97	Pears, mousse; refreshing; fully dynamic autolysis
Storrs Winery & Vineyards, LTD.	2021 Storrs Pinot Noir	Santa Cruz Mountains	Reserve			98	Velvety texture, lively; very complex; intense, nicely extracted
Blue Farm	2022 Blue Farm Gap's Crown Vineyard	Petaluma Gap	Single Vineyard			98	Full-bodied; dried berries with layers of spice; well-integrated and balanced
Bricoleur Vineyards LLC	2024 Bricoleur Vineyards Kick Ranch Viognier	Fountaingrove District	Estate			98	Nice plush palate; white chocolate and macadamia nut; floral and perfumy; mouthfeel is delicious
Pezzi King Vineyards	2022 Pezzi King Hunny Hill Reserve Zinfandel	Dry Creek Valley				99	Very rich blackberry fruit; full bodied; long mid-palate
Soda Rock Winery	2022 Soda Rock Smith Orchard Cabernet Sauvignon	Dry Creek Valley				97	Raspberry, black cherry, chocolate, oak; full-bodied, long finish
Scarlett Wines	2024 Scarlett Sauvignon Blanc	Napa Valley, Rutherford	Estate Grown			97	Nice intensity, silky; really lovely wine
DarkRock Wines	2023 DarkRock Wines Cabernet Sauvignon	Horse Heaven Hills	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Barrel-aged		94	Bing cherry; well-balanced; pleasant finish
J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines	2023 J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines J. Lohr Fog's Reach Pinot Noir	Arroyo Seco	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Certified California Sustainable		98	Elegant, silky texture; good weight; lovely floral aroma; layers of black & blueberry; sophisticated style
Rodney Strong Wine Estates	2023 Rodney Strong Vineyards Chalk Hill Chardonnay	Chalk Hill				97	Creamy with good acid; ripe pear; mouth filling
DIABLO PASO WINES, LLC	2021 DIABLO PASO La Malinche	Adelaida District	Winemaker's Reserve	100% Dry Farm grown.		90	Pleasant eucalyptus; rich palate; graphite and ripe plum
DIABLO PASO WINES, LLC	2024 LA BLANCA 2024 Chardonnay	Monterey County	Unoaked			98	Ripe multiple apples; apricot, peach, pomelo; good acidity and finish

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Delicato Family Wines	NV RELAX "Zero" Alcohol-Removed Sauvignon Blanc	Germany				92	
Trefethen Family Vineyards	2021 Trefethen Family Vineyards 2021 Cowgirl and the Pilot	Napa Valley, Oak Knoll District	Estate Grown & Bottled			96	Well-balanced, lovely texture; bright red fruit with chocolate
Sidereus Vineyard & Winery	2024 Sidereus Riesling	Chehalem Mountains	Estate Grown			98	Floral, nice petrol; good residual sugar balance
Five Star Cellars	2018 Five Star Cellars Syrah	Walla Walla Valley				96	Lovely fruit, plum, berries, graphite, violets. Varietally correct
King Estate Winery	2024 King Estate Rose of Pinot Noir	Willamette Valley				98	Juicy watermelon, strawberry; nice mouthfeel
Picchetti Winery	2023 Picchetti Winery Brother's Blend	Monterey County, Arroyo Seco				98	Black raspberry components. Well integrated excellent balance and long finish.
North Canyon Cider Company	NV North Canyon Cider Company American Semi-Sweet	Sierra Foothills, El Dorado	Estate Bottled & Produced			93	Super fruit; Very well balanced
Dot Wines LLC	2024 Dot Wine Grenache	Russian River		Certified Sustainable		91	Cherry; meaty, dense elegant finish
Furthermore Wines	2022 Furthermore Wines Gap's Crown Vineyard Pinot Noir	Petaluma Gap	Estate Bottled & Produced			98	Varietally correct; notes of allspice; well-balanced, lasting finish; rich and tart
Jaxon Keys	2022 Jaxon Keys Primitivo Blackberry Patch	Mendocino				92	Rich, dark cherry; nicely extracted; nice balance between fruit and spice
DIABLO PASO WINES, LLC	2021 MAX&NICO Maximiliano de Paso	Adelaida District	Barrel Aged	Aged for 28 months in French oak barrels.		94	Good body and fruit juiciness; black licorice
Penrose Hill	2021 Titiritero Bonarda-Syrah-Malbec	Mendoza				91	
Bartholomew Estate Winery	2023 Bartholomew Estate Press Release	Sonoma Valley				95	Smooth mid-palate, nice balance between earth and fruit; full body, long, balanced finish

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Pour Management llc	NV Rockwell Vermouth Native Amber	California			92	
GALLO	NV Barefoot Cellars Chardonnay	California			97	Crisp green apple, melon; very fruity; full on palate with long finish; menthol and juniper
Saini Vineyards	2022 Saini Vineyards Zinfandel, Olive Block	Dry Creek Valley	Estate		97	Excellent, meaty, full-bodied; berries, plums; bright on palate
Acquiesce Winery	2024 Acquiesce Winery & Vineyards Grenache Rosé	Mokelumne River	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Lodi Rules	97	Watermelon, rhubarb; floral; lovely
Maryhill Winery	2022 Maryhill Winery Dolcetto, Art Den Hoed Vineyard Painted Hills	Columbia Valley	Single Vineyard Series		98	Savory, plush, silky, leathery; blackberry
Tom Mackey Cellars	2022 Tom Mackey Cellars Sirius Red Wine	Sonoma Valley			97	Dense; sour cherry, black currant, oak; medium- to full-bodied; long finish
Bluebird Hill Cellars	2024 Bluebird Hill Cellars Pinot Gris	Willamette Valley	Estate Wine		94	Well-rounded; citrus and minerality
Bogle Family Wine Collection	2022 Clemency Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley	Barrel Aged		98	Strawberry and textured tannins; full ripe fruit; total Russian River!
Blue Farm	2023 Blue Farm Sonoma Coast	Sonoma Coast	Barrel Aged		96	Elegant, smooth with a nice mouthfeel; strawberry pie and earth
AvinoDos Wines	2019 AvinoDos Wines Cabernet Sauvignon - Stags Leap District	Napa Valley, Stags Leap District	Single Vineyard		97	Big, dark, chocolate Cab; bold tannins; strong, lasting finish
GALLO	NV Barefoot Bubbly Pinot Grigio Bubbly	California			95	Floral, white peach; creamy and tangy; fruity nose
Kukeri Wines	2024 Kukeri Wines Sauvignon Blanc	Russian River Valley	Single Vineyard		98	Dried herbs, green tea; hint of mustard on nose; slightly grassy
St. Francis Winery & Vineyards	2024 St. Francis Sonoma County Sauvignon Blanc	Sonoma County			97	Full body style; pomelo, ripe melon; very appealing up-front; good body and acidity

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Pennyroyal Farm	2023 Pennyroyal Farm Muscat Vin Doolsey	Anderson Valley	Vin Doolsey	95	Classy Muscat personality; not overpowering
Lionstone International	2023 Sartirano Figli Nas-cetta	Langhe DOC		98	Herbal, white flower, minerality, balanced acidity. Wells balanced fresh clean crisp finish.
Jack Poust & Company, Inc.	NV Presidential 20 Year Old Tawny Port	Porto DOC		95	Hazelnut, maple; clean and long finish
GALLO	NV Viarae Prosecco Rose'	Prosecco Rose DOC		95	Raspberry and cream; nice texture; floral
Halleck Vineyard	2024 Halleck Vineyard Dry Gewurztraminer, Calandrelli Vineyard	Russian River Valley	Single Vineyard	97	Spicy, nice clean finish
Lionstone International	2024 Cabalie Viognier blend	Vin de France		98	Peachy, melon, apricot, stone fruit
Barrister Winery	2021 Barrister Winery Petit Verdot	Columbia Valley, White Bluffs	Barrel Aged	98	Nice chocolate, dark and deep; good tannins
McPrice Myers Wines	2023 McPrice Myers Wines Right Hand Man	Central Coast		91	Dark, varietally correct; great structure, good mouthfeel
Brockmeyer Family Wines	2024 Brockmeyer Family Wines Albariño	Yakima Valley	Otis Vineyard	98	Honeysuckle, lime; toasty and complex