

2026 Sunset International Wine Competition

Sonoma County, CA June 16, 2026

Best of the Best

New Clairvaux Vineyard	2025 New Clairvaux Vineyard Assyrtiko	Tehama County	Single Vineyard	St. James Block	99	White pepper; spiced; juicy; fresh cut lemongrass; pineapple and candied ginger
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Best Dessert Wine

Navarro Vineyards	2025 Navarro Vineyards Riesling, Cluster Select	Anderson Valley	Late Harvest		96	Notes of Honey Suckle and Lychee, great mouth feel, exceptionally well made.
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Best Port

Fortunati Vineyards	2022 Fortunati Vineyards Porto Fino Dessert Wine	Oak Knoll District	Estate		98	Chocolaty, candied cherry, cocoa powder.
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Best Red

Domaine Della	2023 Domaine Della "4 Amours" Sonoma Coast Special Select Pinot Noir	Sonoma Coast	Special Select		95	Black fruit, orange zest, berries; strong finish
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Best Rose

Quivira Vineyards	2025 Quivira Vineyards Estate Rosé	Dry Creek Valley	Estate Grown & Bottled	Made from CCOF Certified Vineyards	96	Watermelon, complex fruit, nice structure.
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Best Sparkling

Breathless Sparkling Wines	NV Breathless Blanc De Noirs	Sonoma County	Methode Champenoise		97	Fresh orange, floral; complex minerality
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Best White

New Clairvaux Vineyard	2025 New Clairvaux Vineyard Assyrtiko	Tehama County	Single Vineyard	St. James Block	99	White pepper; spiced; juicy; fresh cut lemongrass; pineapple and candied ginger
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Best of Class

Aadland Moody Vineyards	2023 Aadland Moody Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon	Spring Mountain District			99	Violets, black tea, sandalwood; juicy
Alara Cellars	2021 Alara Cellars Barbera	Chalone	Barrel Aged		98	Complex, ripe, big; blueberry, blackberry, vanilla and mocha

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Alara Cellars	2021 Alara Cellars Tempranillo	Paso Robles, Adelaida District	Barrel Aged		93	Good depth, dark fruits, dark cherry, nice long finish.
AvinoDos Wines	2021 AvinoDos Wines AvinoDos Cabernet Sauvignon	Diamond Mountain District	Founder's Reserve	Single Vineyard	98	Classic varietal; violet and cedar; will cellar well
AvinoDos Wines	2021 AvinoDos Wines AvinoDos Cabernet Sauvignon	Stags Leap District	Single Vineyard		98	Balanced, blackberry, current, spice oak, long finish. Blueberry cocoa.
Benziger Family Winery	2023 Benziger Family Winery Oonapais	Sonoma Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		98	Forest floor; dark fruit; well done; "a show stopper"
Benziger Family Winery	2023 Benziger Family Winery Tribute	Sonoma Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		98	Generous fruit; well-structured with a long finish; "cellar potential, but enjoy now"
Benziger Family Winery	2025 Benziger Family Winery de Coelo Rosé	Sonoma Coast			93	Bubblegum; nice balance; "light on its feet"
Berghold Vineyards	2021 Berghold Vineyards Syrah/Viognier	Lodi	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		98	Fresh orange blossom; juicy and inky
Blue Farm	2023 Blue Farm Laceroni Chardonnay	Russian River Valley	Single Vineyard		98	White peach, pear; integrated oak profile with a nice finish
Blue Farm	2023 Blue Farm Zio Tony Vineyard	Russian River Valley	Single Vineyard Reserve		96	Great color; jammy, rich, round earthy notes; elegant
Boisset Collection	2023 Buena Vista Winery Chateau Buena Vista Pinot Noir	Sonoma Coast			97	Black cherry, good acidity, nice finish.
Bottle Barn	2024 Barn Raiser Barn Raiser Zinfandel	Dry Creek Valley		Seaton	96	Warm winter spices; strawberry and pine; great fruit
Bottle Barn	2023 Barn Raiser Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley	Single Vineyard	Trecini-John's Vineyard	98	Wonderful dark fruit; cherry spice, cranberry and violet; jammy

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Bouchaine Vineyards	2025 Bouchaine Vineyards Alsatian Blend	Los Carneros (Napa)	Clay amphora, neutral French oak, stainless steel, concrete	98	Playful, spicy, floral; apricot, fruit-driven; perfect balance
Breathless Sparkling Wines	NV Breathless Blanc De Noirs	Sonoma County	Methode Champenoise	97	Fresh orange, floral; complex minerality
Brecon Estate	2023 Brecon Estate Rude Nora	Paso Robles		98	Dark plummy fruit; well-balanced; spiced, earthy, peppery
Brecon Estate	2025 Brecon Estate True Acacia Head	San Luis Obispo Coast		96	Lusty and bright; crowd pleaser with a "wow factor"
Calcareous Vineyard, LLC	2023 Calcareous Vineyard 2023 Lloyd	Adelaida District	Estate Bottled & Produced	97	Well-structured; chocolate notes, toasty on the nose; long finish
Calhoun & Company	2022 Campo Viejo Tempranillo	Rioja DOCa	Barrel Aged	98	Lovely representation of the varietal. Deeply complex. Well integrated. All the judges were smitten with this wine.
Calstar Cellars	2025 Calstar Cellars Sauvignon Blanc	Russian River Valley		96	Elegant style; herbal and grassy
<u>Carol Shelton Wines</u>	2025 Carol Shelton Wines Wild Thing Viognier	Placer County		92	Juicy and grassy with stone fruit notes
<u>Carol Shelton Wines</u>	2025 Carol Shelton Wines Wild Thing Chardonnay	Sonoma County		98	Nice texture, lengthy finish; floral, pears and baked apple
Casino Mine Ranch	2025 Casino Mine Ranch Reserve Rose	Shenandoah Valley (Amador)	Estate	97	Big. Bolder. Red berry. Complex. Soft finish.
Casino Mine Ranch	2025 Casino Mine Ranch Vermentino	Shenandoah Valley (Amador)	Estate Grown	92	Cream, melon, citrus.
Castle Rock Winery	2024 Dressage Pinot Noir	Monterey County		95	Nice and clean; spice and pomegranate
Cellar 13 Winery	2025 Cellar 13 Winery Sidanelv	Livermore Valley		95	Juicy, tropical, delicate, grapefruit.

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Charleston Peak Winery	2023 Charleston Peak Winery Riesling	Nevada	Single Vineyard		92	Melon, honey and apricot notes; balanced minerality
CRU Winery	2023 Cru Winery 2023 Unoaked Chardonnay	Santa Lucia Highlands	Unoaked		97	Tropical; great acid; attention-grabber
Del Valle Winery	2022 Del Valle Winery Sangiovese	Livermore Valley	Barrel Aged		97	Cara cara orange, dried cherry, pomegranate; well made
Del Valle Winery	2022 Del Valle Winery Cabernet Franc	Livermore Valley	Barrel Aged		98	Blueberry, blackberry, Bay leaf; peppercorns; great body, herbal finish and finesse
Domaine Della	2023 Domaine Della "4 Amours" Sonoma Coast Special Select Pinot Noir	Sonoma Coast	Special Select		95	Black fruit, orange zest, berries; strong finish
Evergreen Family Wines	2025 Caliche Estate Albariño	Columbia Valley, Ancient Lakes	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Single Vineyard	100	Notes of exotic juniper; well-balanced varietal character
Florence Vineyard	2024 Florence Vineyard Zinfandel	Rockpile	Reserve	Jack's Reserve	99	Rich and balanced, silky and layered, well structured, long finish, WOW factor.
Folded Hills	2024 Folded Hills Wilder Red Blend	Santa Barbara County	Reserve Selection		96	Beautiful blend, well integrated; "all components are here; cherry, herbs and capers
Folded Hills	2024 Folded Hills Sundance Reserve Grenache	Santa Ynez Valley	Reserve Selection		95	Red cherry; good balance and round tannins
Fortunati Vineyards	2024 Fortunati Vineyards Viognier	Oak Knoll District	Estate		97	"Wow factor from start to finish!" Great intensity
Fortunati Vineyards	2022 Fortunati Vineyards Porto Fino Dessert Wine	Oak Knoll District	Estate		98	Chocolaty, candied cherry, cocoa powder.
GALLO	NV Barefoot Bubbly Pink Moscato	California			95	Well-made, balanced, fresh; a peachy crowd pleaser
GALLO	NV Barefoot Bubbly Peach	California			94	Fresh and clean; a candy-like quality; nice acid

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GALLO	NV Barefoot Bubbly Pinot Grigio	California		96	Balanced sweetness; tart Kiwi and Gravenstein apple
GALLO	NV Barefoot Fruitscato Mango	California		93	Tropical and delicious. nice floral notes, crowd pleaser.
GALLO	NV Barefoot Cellars Red Moscato	California		95	Clean and balanced; candied pomegranate; "bright and delicious"
GALLO	NV Barefoot Cellars Riesling	California		90	Banana, apricot, orange blossom and honey
Hoyt Family Vineyards	2022 Hoyt Family Vineyards Petit Verdot	Paso Robles Willowcreek District	Barrel Aged	96	Great fruit structure, dark fruit, plum notes, well integrated oak.
Husch Vineyards	2025 Husch Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc	Mendocino	Sustainably Farmed	95	Bright, grassy, guava. Balanced. Show stopper.
Husch Vineyards	2025 Husch Vineyards Chenin Blanc	Mendocino	Family Farmed	97	Full broad palate; floral and lime juice with apple and pear; good pairing
J Dusi Wines	2025 J Dusi Wines Pinot Grigio	Paso Robles		97	Full bodied, dried straw, stone fruit, savory spice; Vanilla
J Rickards Winery	2023 J Rickards Winery Kindred	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	95	Dark fruit, balanced; concentrated vanilla
J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines	2023 J. Lohr South Ridge Syrah	Paso Robles	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	97	Jammy fruit; black pepper; chocolate.
J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines	2024 ARIEL Vineyards ARIEL Cabernet Sauvignon	Paso Robles		91	Plum, dark blackberry; violets
John Anthony Wine & Spirits	2023 Serial Willow Creek District Syrah	Paso Robles, Willow Creek District	Co-Fermented	99	Fruit forward with plum notes; peppers and bacon; nice tannins that taper; long finish
John Anthony Wine & Spirits	2024 Weather Carneros Gap Vineyard Chardonnay	Napa Valley, Carneros		98	Good balance; superb handling of oak; brisk lemon, fresh

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Kings Mountain Winery	2023 Kings Mountain Vineyards Clone 13	Santa Cruz Mountains	Estate Grown		97	Lavender, violet and cocoa mocha. Easy drinking.
Le Vigne Winery	2025 Le Vigne Paso Rosé of Sangiovese	Paso Robles	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		98	Nectarine skin, bright red fruit, nice mouth feel.
Lula Cellars	2023 Lula Cellars CVR Pinot Noir	Anderson Valley			97	Deep color, rich bold flavor, complex. Winner - WOW factor
Maison jussiaume wines	2020 Maison Jussiaume Maison Jussiaume BRUT NATURE	Rogue Valley	Methode Traditionne lle		98	Classic, sophisticated; brioche, ginger and citrus; minerality
Matrix Winery	2023 Matrix Winery Shiloh Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley			98	Beautiful; strawberry pie, maple syrup, carbonic; beautiful fruit, body and texture
McGrail Vineyards and Winery	2022 McGrail Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve	Livermore Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced		97	Cranberry, stuffing meal in a glass. Vibrant.
McPrice Myers Wines	2023 McPrice Myers Wines Beautiful Earth Cabernet Sauvignon	Paso Robles			98	Plums and blackberries; good structure; nice oak integration; cellar potential.
Mill Creek Vineyards	2022 Mill Creek Waterwheel Red Wine Blend	Dry Creek Valley	Grown, Produced and Bottled		98	Boysenberries; nice tannins; rich and concentrated; will age well
Miro Cellars	2023 Miro Cuvee Sasha	Mendocino	Single Vineyard	Chevalier Vineyard	99	Quaffable, juicy, long finish; great texture, well-balanced; great fruit
Miro Cellars	2023 Miro Miro Zinfandel Reserve	Dry Creek Valley	Reserve	Coyote Ridge	96	Blackberry and black cherry; soft middle; long finish; oatmeal cookie and tar
Monserate Vineyards and Winery	2025 Monserate Vineyards and Winery Vermentino	San Luis Rey	Estate		98	Vanilla, rich mid palate, complex, apple, floral orange blossoms.
Monserate Vineyards and Winery	2025 Monserate Vineyards and Winery Fiore	San Luis Rey	Estate		96	Floral nose; crisp, good acidity and nice weight

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Navarro Vineyards	2025 Navarro Vineyards Riesling, Cluster Select	Anderson Valley	Late Harvest		96	Notes of Honey Suckle and Lychee, great mouth feel, exceptionally well made.
Navarro Vineyards	2025 Navarro Vineyards Edelzwicker, Anderson Valley	Anderson Valley			97	Complex, great fruit, floral
Navarro Vineyards	2025 Navarro Vineyards Gewürztraminer, Deep End	Anderson Valley			92	Floral, melon; "spring in the bottle"
New Clairvaux Vineyard	2025 New Clairvaux Vineyard Assyrtiko	Tehama County	Single Vineyard	St. James Block	99	White pepper; spiced; juicy; fresh cut lemongrass; pineapple and candied ginger
Nichelini Family Winery	2024 Nichelini Family Winery Caterina Reserve	Napa Valley	Estate Bottled		94	Great aromatics, classic varietal characteristics, rich lemon curd
Nichelini Family Winery	2023 Nichelini Family Winery Petite Sirah	Napa Valley	Estate Bottled		98	Blue fruit; live oak; allspice; dusty; rich black tea; long and complex; marionberry
Nichelini Family Winery	2024 Nichelini Family Winery Primitivo	Napa Valley	Estate Bottled		96	Bright acidity; blueberry pie filling and raspberry jam notes
Nolia Wine Company	2024 Bool Sparkling Wines Bool Brut	California			92	Crisp apple, lemon; light brioche
O'Neill Vintners & Distillers	2025 Substance Riesling	Ancient Lakes		Evergreen Vineyard	94	Rich mid-palate; peach; long finish
O'Neill Vintners & Distillers	2025 Charles Woodson's Intercept Chardonnay	Monterey County			96	Apple pie and spices. Really flavorful. Crowd pleaser.
O'Neill Vintners & Distillers	2023 Line 39 Red Blend	California			96	Exciting; violets with a nice finish
Penrose Hill	2024 Libellus Pinot Grigio	Sicilia IGT			97	White pears, floral; savory, complex palate; delightful aromas; pleasing finish.
Peter William Vineyard, LLC	2021 Peter William Vineyard Malbec - PWV Reserve	Rogue Valley	Proprietor Grown	PWV Reserve	99	Lavender and spice; jam; little oak, ashen, earthy; rich full body
Prompt	2025 Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc	Marlborough			98	New Zealand style and terroir; fresh citrus, lemon

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Quady Winery	2024 Quady Winery Red Electra Moscato	California			91	Cherries, fresh berries, strawberries; jammy and balanced
Quivira Vineyards	2025 Quivira Vineyards Estate Rosé	Dry Creek Valley	Estate Grown & Bottled	Made from CCOF Certified Vineyards	96	Watermelon, complex fruit, nice structure.
Ramona Ranch Winery	2022 Ramona Ranch Winery Tannat	Ramona Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Certified Sustainable Winery	98	Dark chocolate; blueberry, vanilla; ripe rounded and balanced
Raymond Burr Vineyards	2022 Raymond Burr Vineyards Cabernet Franc	Dry Creek Valley			97	Sassy, spicy and silky; green bell pepper; elegant, vibrant finish
Rellik Winery	2024 Rellik Winery Cosmic Raven	Rogue Valley			92	Tart plum, watermelon
Reustle Prayer Rock Vineyards	2024 Reustle Prayer Rock Vineyards Gruner Veltliner	Umpqua Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced		98	Lemon cream and meringue; bright aromatics; nice bright palate; crowd pleaser
Rock and Clay Wines LLC	2025 Rock and Clay Wines White Blend	Sonoma Valley			95	Great balance, nice acid, lots of citrus, standout wine.
Rockpile Vineyards	2023 Rockpile Vineyards Zinfandel, Rockpile Ranch Reserve	Rockpile	Reserve		98	Great spice: juicy boysenberry and pomegranate
Rockpile Vineyards	2023 Rockpile Vineyards Petite Sirah, Buffalo Hollow	Rockpile	Single Vineyard		97	Black licorice, gingersnap cookies, sage, dark ripe plum. Unrestrained tannins.
Rutherford Wine Company	2024 Scott Family Estate Pinot Noir	Arroyo Seco			98	Bright, herbal, intense without losing varietal. Lovely pomegranate and cranberry.
San Joaquin Wine Company	2025 Toschi Vineyards Chardonnay	California			98	Peach, tropical, stone fruit, river rock
Scarlett Wines	2023 Scarlett The Pennant	Rutherford	Estate Grown		97	Elegant; "The wow factor!"; great fruit and creamy; dark color, long finish

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Scarlett Wines	2022 Scarlett Petit Verdot	Rutherford	Estate Grown		97	Boysenberry, cedar; beautiful structure and balance; drink now or lay down in the cellar to meet again
Scarlett Wines	2023 Scarlett Proprietary Red Wine	Rutherford	Estate Grown		97	Big black fruit, leather
Schermeister Winery	2023 Schermeister Winery Pinot Noir	Petaluma Gap	Barrel Aged	Native Fermented, Unfiltered, Unfiltered, Roberts Road Vineyard	99	Rhubarb, currant; savory and herbal, like very good stuffing
Sequoia Grove Vineyards	2023 Sequoia Grove Malbec	Napa Valley			98	Black cherry, notes of cocoa and chocolate, classic Napa Valley, delicious.
Shale Oak Winery	2023 Shale Oak Winery Syrah	Paso Robles			98	Great fruit: cherry; creamy rich finish with a touch of plum; chewy tannins
St. Anne's Crossing	2023 St. Anne's Crossing Split Rail Zinfandel	Dry Creek Valley		Split Rail Zinfandel	96	Delicious, raspberry, jammy, soft finish, lingering.
St. Francis Winery & Vineyards	2023 St. Francis Moon Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon	Moon Mountain District			97	Blueberries. Cassis.
St. Supery Estate Vineyards & Winery	2025 St. Supery Estate Vineyards & Winery Estate Sauvignon Blanc	Napa Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Estate	97	Mineral, wet stone, tropical guava, grassy.
Ste Michelle Wine Estates	2023 Northstar Merlot	Columbia Valley			97	Classic Old World style with balanced cloves, cassis and tannins
Ste Michelle Wine Estates	2025 Liquid Light Rose	Washington State			96	Tart cherry, pepper jelly, crushed red pepper; "a touch of whimsy"
Ste Michelle Wine Estates	2021 Eroica XLC Dry Riesling	Columbia Valley			96	Petrol, citrus, dried apricot, stone fruit; long, crisp finish

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Ste Michelle Wine Estates	2022 Northstar Premier Merlot	Columbia Valley			95	Sophisticated; nicely balanced and cellar-worthy
Terra Amata Vineyards	2024 Terra Amata Vineyards Old Vine Reserve Zinfandel	Dry Creek Valley	Barrel Aged	organic non-certified	97	Black tea. Dark cherries. Blueberries and spice.
Trentadue Winery	2023 Trentadue La Storia Cuvee 32	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County	Estate		98	Tart, ripe blackberry fruit; toasty oak; soft mouthfeel and long balanced finish
Trentadue Winery	2024 Trentadue Montepulciano	Alexander Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced		98	Rich and spicy; depth of flavor and aromatics; well-balanced acidity
Unshackled	2023 Unshackled Cabernet Sauvignon	Adelaida District			98	Rich soft, proper herbs, plum, Sacher torte with raspberries and grenache
Vino Voyage	2022 Troupeau De Chevaux Troupeau De Chevaux	California			98	Tobacco, clove; broad spectrum of fruit: red currant, raspberry, black currant, blackberry
Vino Voyage	NV Drury's Espresso Martini	Ohio			91	Mocha, Irish coffee; great after-dinner drink"
<u>Wilson Winery of Dry Creek</u>	2024 Wilson of Dry Creek 2024 RSV Chardonnay	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County	Winemaker's Reserve Blend	Rockpile	98	Lemon sauce and baked apple; butter cream; vanilla; big mouth feel; juicy
Wise Villa Winery	2024 Wise Villa Winery Reserve Chardonnay	Sierra Foothills	Estate Produced and Bottled		98	Soft; round in mouth with creamy crème brûlée; lemon oil.
WX Brands	2022 The Icon Rock Signature Cabernet Sauvignon	Mendoza			96	Nice round mouthfeel, blackberry pie, dusty summer fruit, well structured.
WX Brands	2021 Trapiche Iscay Malbec Cabernet-Franc	Uco Valley			96	Pretty spice with red fruit, violets, and white pepper