

# 2026 Press Democrat North Coast Wine Challenge

Santa Rosa, CA April 07, 2026

## Best of the Best

Grey Stack	2023 Grey Stack Cellars Four Brothers Grenache	Sonoma Mountain	Estate	Field blend	99	Wild blueberries; mineral yet powerful; very pretty layers; excellent balance
<b>Best Dessert Wine</b>						
Navarro Vineyards	2025 Navarro Vineyards Riesling	Anderson Valley	Late Harvest		94	
<b>Best of Lake County</b>						
R Vineyards	2023 R Vineyards Reba Red	Lake County		Vineyard Select	97	Deep dense notes of red fruit, wild herbs and spices.
<b>Best of Mendocino County</b>						
Kara Marie	2025 Ra Ra Wine Co. Dry Gewurztraminer	Mendocino County, Redwood Valley			98	White peach; salty; pineapple
<b>Best of Napa County</b>						
AMPL Wine	2023 AMPL Wine AMPL Proprietary Red	Howell Mountain	Barrel Aged		98	BBQ, tomato, light style.
<b>Best of Solano County AVA</b>						
Moshin Vineyards	2024 Moshin Vineyards Chenin Blanc	Solano County			97	Tropical paradise, spring hike, Jimmy Buffet.
<b>Best of Sonoma County</b>						
Grey Stack	2023 Grey Stack Cellars Four Brothers Grenache	Sonoma Mountain	Estate	Field blend	99	Wild blueberries; mineral yet powerful; very pretty layers; excellent balance
<b>Best Red</b>						
Grey Stack	2023 Grey Stack Cellars Four Brothers Grenache	Sonoma Mountain	Estate	Field blend	99	Wild blueberries; mineral yet powerful; very pretty layers; excellent balance
<b>Best Rose</b>						
Grey Stack	2025 Grey Stack Cellars Four Brothers Rose'	Sonoma Mountain	Estate		99	Aromatic, cherry and raspberries.
<b>Best Sparkling</b>						

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Breathless Sparkling Wines	NV Breathless Brut	Sonoma County	Methode Champenoise	98	Apricots. Small bubbles.
<b>Best White</b>					
Deodora Wines	2023 Deodora Estate Riesling	Sonoma Coast	Estate	99	Tropical note; bright and charming; easy to drink; notes of honeysuckle, cumin, and apricot Succulent finish
<b>Best of Class</b>					
Adruni Vineyards, LLC	2023 Adruni Vineyards Estate Cabernet Sauvignon	Dry Creek Valley	Estate	98	Nice floral quality.
Allen Vineyards	2024 Allen Vineyards Pinot Noir	Russian River	Estate Vineyard	99	Very expressive, balanced, yummy.
AMPL Wine	2023 AMPL Wine AMPL Cabernet Sauvignon	Howell Mountain	Barrel Aged	98	Perfect varietal character, superb structure, checks all the boxes, its Cary Grant in a T-shirt.
AMPL Wine	2023 AMPL Wine AMPL Proprietary Red	Howell Mountain	Barrel Aged	98	BBQ, tomato, light style.
Boisset Collection	2023 Buena Vista Winery The Sheriff	Sonoma County		98	Powerful and graceful, complex wine.
Breathless Sparkling Wines	NV Breathless Brut	Sonoma County	Methode Champenoise	98	Apricots. Small bubbles.
Bricoleur Vineyards LLC	2023 Bricoleur Vineyards Kick Ranch GSM	Fountaingrove District	Estate	99	This is what GSM is all about, Intangibles. Stole my heart.
Brooks Note Wines, LLC	2025 Brooks Note Pinot Blanc	Mendocino County		97	Granny smith apple
Brooks Note Wines, LLC	2024 Brooks Note Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley	Russian River Valley		98	Beautiful Pinot nose. Layered.
Bulldog Vineyards	2022 Bulldog Vineyards Bulldog Vineyards THEO Pinot Noir	Sonoma Coast	Barrel Aged	98	Artistic approach to pinot noir; "Recommend it to friends and write about it in your diary:
<u>Carol Shelton Wines</u>	2019 Carol Shelton Wines Florence Reserve Petite Sirah	Dry Creek Valley	Reserve Florence Vineyard	97	BIG Led Zepplin of Petite Syrah; berry-licious.

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CMB Family of Wines (Martin Ray Winery)	2020 Martin Ray Brut Rose	Russian River Valley	Method Traditionne lle	97	Truly lovely, elegant, sophisticated, tantalizing, crisp morning.	
CMB Family of Wines (Martin Ray Winery)	2024 Martin Ray Concrete	Russian River Valley		96	Complete, simplicity.	
Davero Farms and Winery	2023 Davero Fiano	Dry Creek Valley	Barrel Aged	96	Pretty and fun; very crisp	
Deodora Wines	2023 Deodora 2023 Estate Riesling	Sonoma Coast	Estate	99	Tropical note; bright and charming; easy to drink; notes of honeysuckle, cumin, and apricot Succulent finish	
Domaine Della	2023 Domaine Della Russian River Valley Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley		98	Bombastic...all components of the 1812 overture. All instruments playing at the same time	
<u>Dutcher Crossing Winery</u>	2025 Dutcher Crossing 2025 Sauvignon Blanc	Russian River Valley		98	Delicious, vibrant citrus notes, passion fruit, tropical notes, crisp with herbaceous element.	
<u>Dutcher Crossing Winery</u>	2022 Dutcher Crossing Brothers' Reserve	Dry Creek Valley		98	Elegant - blackberry jammy, super nose.	
Ektimo Vineyards	2023 Ektimo Vineyards Cabernet Franc	Alexander Valley		98	Bubble gum. Brown sugar and butter.	
Graziano Family of Wines	2024 Monte Volpe Vermentino	Mendocino County	Barrel Fermented	96	Mouth watering; lemon zest and kiwi	
Graziano Family of Wines	2024 Enotria Arneis	Mendocino County	Barrel Fermented	97	Super zippy; winter melon; bright acid and lemon	
Grey Stack	2023 Grey Stack Cellars Four Brothers Grenache	Sonoma Mountain	Estate	Field blend	99	Wild blueberries; mineral yet powerful; very pretty layers; excellent balance
Grey Stack	2025 Grey Stack Cellars Four Brothers Rose'	Sonoma Mountain	Estate		99	Aromatic, cherry and raspberries.
Hendry Winery	2023 Hendry Hendry Vineyard Napa Valley Primitivo	Napa Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		98	Round with big finish, wonderful palate, classic style.

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Husch Vineyards	2025 Husch Vineyards Chenin Blanc	Mendocino		Family Farmed	97	Real structure; bright fruit; pineapple.
Imagery Estate Winery	2023 Imagery Estate Winery Lagrein	Pine Mountain - Cloverdale Peak		Produced and Bottled By	98	Tart dark fruit; woody clove; lean and fresh fruit; pomegranate, red currant and alpine spices
James Maclan	2024 James Maclan Quiet Water	Russian River Valley	Single Vineyard		95	Delicate. Sour cream, and ground mace.
Kara Marie	2025 Ra Ra Wine Co. Melon de Bourgogne	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County			98	Ginger and lemon zest; complex; very rounded mouth
Kara Marie	2025 Ra Ra Wine Co. Pinot Noir Nouveau	Sonoma Coast			96	Yummy, patio pounder, raspberry fruit.
Kara Marie	2025 Ra Ra Wine Co. Dry Gewurztraminer	Mendocino County, Redwood Valley			98	White peach; salty; pineapple
Ketcham Estate	2024 Ketcham Estate Viognier	Russian River Valley	Barrel Aged		97	Honeysuckle, tropical Hawaiian afternoon.
La Chertosa Wines	2022 La Chertosa Old World Wines Winemaker Remembrance Reserve Superior Barbera	Sonoma Valley	Reserve		97	Brambleberry, Well balanced.
La Prenda Wines	2025 LA PRENDA Pinot Grigio	Napa Valley			97	Orange blossom. Bright, lively. A pip cherry.
Ladera Vineyards	2024 Ladera Chenin Blanc	Oak Knoll District			98	Honeysuckle and jasmine; stone fruit; nice creamy wine
Langhart & Hill Wines	2023 Langhart & Hill Malvasia Bianca	Dry Creek Valley			97	Floral, blossoms, summer in a glass, Dixie Chicks harmony.
Ledson Winery and Vineyards	2022 Ledson Caudalies Reserve	Sonoma Valley	Estate Bottled Reserve		97	Classic velvety texture; blackberry
Mauritson Wines	2023 Mauritson Zinfandel	Dry Creek Valley			99	Dense, concentrated; rich and voluptuous
Mayo Family Winery	2022 Mayo Family Winery Syrah	Napa Valley	Reserve	Single Vineyard, Page/Nord Vineyard	95	Smokey and well aged

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Mayo Family Winery	2023 Mayo Family Winery Cabernet Sauvignon Brad's Cuvée	Napa Valley	Reserve	Single Vineyard, HMS Vineyards	98	Lush; blue and red fruit; super crowd pleaser; balanced with sultry spice
Mira Winery	2021 Mira Winery Mira Estate Petit Verdot	Yountville	Estate Grown and Produced		98	Rich nose, black and blue fruits, velvety texture.
Miro Cellars	2024 Miro Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley	Reserve	Anderson Ross	97	Cherry cola component; Black cherry; sweet oak; juiciness. Good concentration and Presence.
Naked Wines	2022 Franc Dusak Franc Dusak Pagani Ranch Vineyard Sonoma Valley Alicante Bouschet	Sonoma Valley			96	Super smooth!!with three 'o's. Velvety; inky.
Navarro Vineyards	2025 Navarro Vineyards Rosé of Pinot Noir	Anderson Valley			98	Crowd pleaser, ripe, pomegranate, rocking rose/lush strawberry.
Navarro Vineyards	2025 Navarro Vineyards Riesling	Anderson Valley	Late Harvest		94	Tropical fruit, dried pineapple, baked apple.
North Coast Wine Co.	2022 Outerbound Chardonnay	Sonoma Coast			98	Lean, well balanced, mineral, green apple, well balanced.
O' Brien Estate	2022 O'Brien Estate Seduction	Oak Knoll District	Estate		97	Elegant, timeless, seductive, Saturday night date! Savory, rich.
Orsi Family Vineyards	2024 Orsi Family Vineyards Biancolella d'Ischia	Dry Creek Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		96	Earthy and flinty front end; stone fruit and saltiness; fun and enjoyable; has a lot of character.
Panther Ridge Wines	2023 Panther Ridge Pinot Noir Reserve	Petaluma Gap	Unfined & Unfiltered	Fermented in Natural Yeast, Aged 17 months in 50% new French Oak	98	Very delightful; rhubarb and strawberry and spice; earthy
<u>Pedroncelli Winery</u>	2025 Pedroncelli Rose	Dry Creek Valley	Unoaked		98	Lively fresh and balance. Beautiful color. Triumph!

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Pennyroyal Farm	2023 Pennyroyal Farm Pinot Noir, Monty In	Anderson Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced		97	Ripe zippy; good stuff happening here
Peterson Winery	2021 Peterson Winery Merlot	Dry Creek Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Bradford Mountain Estate Vineyard	99	Rich, luxurious, elegant. Let's get engaged!!! That knew what they were doing!
Pezzi King Vineyards	2023 Pezzi King Hales Zinfandel	Dry Creek Valley			98	Super yummy; tastes expensive; dark playful and intense
Pezzi King Vineyards	2023 Pezzi King Old Vine Zinfandel	Dry Creek Valley			98	Inviting wine; boysenberries
Portalupi	2024 Portalupi Sangiovese Grosso	Sonoma Valley	Barrel Aged	Stone Wall Ranch	97	Sun dried tomato, Mediterranean herbs, lots of structure, lots of grip, great Italian style family wine.
R Vineyards	2023 R Vineyards Reba Red	Lake County		Vineyard Select	97	Deep dense notes of red fruit, wild herbs and spices.
Roche Winery & Vineyards	2024 Roche Chardonnay American Oak Reserve	Carneros			98	Subtle barrel; yeasty; lemon curd and peach
Saini Vineyards	2025 Saini Vineyards Chenin Blanc	Dry Creek Valley	Estate		96	Nice structure; green apple and honeysuckle
Saini Vineyards	2025 Saini Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc	Dry Creek Valley	Estate		99	If Vivaldi was a wine maker instead of a musician, this is the wine he would have made. Bright, engaging and leaves a smile on your face.
Serres Ranch Wine	2022 Serres Ranch Katherine	Sonoma Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Certified Sustainable	98	Soft and billowy; blueberry/raspberry; lingers like a kiss
Speedy Creek Winery	2023 Speedy Creek Two Lovers Red Wine Blend	Sonoma County, Knights Valley	Estate Grown		98	Persistent, pleasant, and plummy. Sweet, juicy and yummy. Power! Savory, structured.

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Talisman Wine	2024 Talisman Wine Dutton Ranch Pinot Blanc	Russian River Valley	Single Vineyard	Dutton Ranch	99	Easy to drink; floral; nutty; well made and balanced
Thirty-Seven Wines	2024 Thirty-Seven Albariño	Petaluma Gap			97	Wow...summer wine; white flowers; great acid; apricot skin; fresh clean and bright
Trentadue Winery	2023 Trentadue Old Patch Red	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County			93	Very handsome, nice palate, delicate richness with some intensity, black pepper spice.
Trentadue Winery	2024 Trentadue La Storia Chardonnay	Russian River Valley			96	Nice vanilla hint; lemon curd; elegant and persistent
Trione Vineyards and Winery	2021 Trione Vineyards & Winery Block 21	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County			99	Elegant and refined; dusty tannins; lingering finish; long palate
Turnstile Cellars	2023 Turnstile Cellars Chardonnay	Sonoma Mountain	Unfiltered & Unfiltered	Barrel Fermented	98	Sophisticated chard; big chardonnay; rich meaty; beautiful big and bouncy