

2023 Harvest Terroir Challenge

Sonoma County, CA November 07, 2023

Best of the Best

Lula Cellars	2020 Lula Cellars Rescue Block Pinot Noir	Anderson Valley			98	Rich, ripe. Bing cherry. Hint of orange peel.
Best of Virginia AVA						
Effingham Winery	2020 Effingham Tannat	Virginia	Barrel Fermented Reserve		95	Very savory. Deep and intense flavors. Leather, tar. Ends balanced. A very well made wine.
Pearmund Cellars	2021 Pearmund Viognier	Virginia		Silver Creek Vineyard	95	Layered peach. Hints of lemon bars. Very well balanced. Soft texture.
Best of Sta. Rita Hills						
Fortunati Vineyards	2021 Fortunati Vineyards Pinot Noir	Sta. Rita Hills	Single Vineyard		94	Big new world style, cherry, earth, well balanced, fruit bomb.
Best of South Coast AVA						
Fallbrook Winery	2022 Fallbrook Winery 33°N Albarino	South Coast	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		98	Citrus peel, nice long full mouth feel, great nose, fresh and bright.
Best of South Africa AVA						
Wine Insiders	2022 Wild Gnu Chenin Blanc	WO Western Cape			94	Passion fruit, tropical
Best of Sonoma Valley AVA						
Imagery Estate Winery	2021 Imagery Estate Winery Primitivo	Sonoma County, Sonoma Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced		93	Well integrated, good mouth feel.
Best of Sonoma County AVA						
Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2022 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Rose of Pinot Noir	Sonoma County, Russian River Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced		95	Berry, cherry, floral, ripe and clean
Best of Sonoma Coast AVA						
Cazadero Winery	2021 Cazadero Winery Pinot Noir	Sonoma Coast (Sonoma)	Single Vineyard	Pommard Clone 4	92	Earthy, balanced, intense.
Best of Sierra Foothills AVA						
Chacewater, Inc.	2021 Chacewater Highlander Blend Red Blend	Sierra Foothills	Barrel Aged		92	Black tea, chewy texture, ripe, briary, nice structure

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Best of Show White Wine

Fallbrook Winery	2022 Fallbrook Winery 33°N Albarino	South Coast	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	98	Citrus peel, nice long full mouth feel, great nose, fresh and bright.
Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2022 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Sonoma Coast Chardonnay	Russian River Valley		98	Gorgeous minerality, lively & layered, perfumed.

Best of Show Sparkling Wine

Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2019 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Brut Rose Sparkling Wine	Russian River Valley	Methode Traditionnelle	98	Sweetheart cherries, gorgeous balance, beautiful aromatics.
Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2022 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Rose of Pinot Noir	Sonoma County, Russian River Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced	95	Berry, cherry, floral, ripe and clean

Best of Show Rosé Wine

Best of Show Red Wine

Lula Cellars	2020 Lula Cellars Rescue Block Pinot Noir	Anderson Valley		98	Rich, ripe. Bing cherry. Hint of orange peel.
Seavin, Inc	NV San Sebastian Winery Cream Sherry	American		92	Warm and nutty. Notes of caramel and vanilla

Best of Show Fortified Wine

Best of Show Dessert/Late Harvest

Husch Vineyards	2022 Husch Vineyards Late Harvest Gewurztraminer	Anderson Valley	Estate Bottled	98	Honeycomb. True to variety. Angelic. Poised.
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Best of Santa Ynez Valley AVA

Brick Barn Wine Estate	2021 Brick Barn Wine Estate Albarino	Santa Ynez Valley	Estate	96	Full bodied, nice fruit. Full with long finish, tart, floral nose.
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Best of Santa Cruz Mountains AVA

Kings Mountain Winery	2019 Kings Mountain Vineyards Clone 13 Pinot Noir	Santa Cruz Mountains Appellation	Estate Grown	97	Bold nose, silky palate. Baked peppery finish. Currants
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Best of Russian River Valley AVA

Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2022 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Sonoma Coast Chardonnay	Russian River Valley		98	Gorgeous minerality, lively & layered, perfumed.
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Best of Rogue Valley AVA

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Belle Fiore Winery	2020 Belle Fiore Reserve Numinos	Rogue Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	94	Complex, balanced, plum, food friendly	
Best of Rockpile AVA						
St. Anne's Crossing	2021 St. Anne's Crossing Reserve Rockpile Zinfandel	Rockpile	Reserve	94	Ripe, wild berry, lush, balanced, good acidity, spicy	
Best of Ramona Valley AVA						
Ramona Ranch Winery	2022 Ramona Ranch Winery Symphony	Ramona Valley		90	Bright, cheery, fresh, zesty, citrus.	
Best of Pine Mountain-Cloverdale Peak AVA						
Spicy Vines	2018 Spicy Vines Cabernet Franc	Pine Mountain-Cloverdale Peak (Mendocino)	Single Vineyard	Pine Mountain Vineyard Patio Block	95	Plum skin, subtle tobacco, long finish, nice round mouth feel.
Best of Ohio AVA						
The Vineyards at Pine Lake	2022 The Vineyards at Pine Lake Vignoles	Ohio		96	Pineapple juice, quince. Smooth finish.	
Best of North Carolina AVA						
JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2021 JOLO Vineyards Pilot Shadow Red Blend	North Carolina		97	Good wine crafting, cranberry, integrated complete and seamless.	
Best of New Zealand AVA						
GALLO	2022 Whitehaven Sauvignon Blanc	Marlborough		98	Grassy and sassy, grapefruity, zesty, ready to party.	
Best of Napa - Stags Leap						
Rios Wine Company	2018 Rios Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley	Napa Valley, Stags Leap District	Single Vineyard	92	Nice finish, well balanced, earth, chocolate, mushroom, Unami, smooth tannins.	
Best of Napa - Oak Knoll District						
Fortunati Vineyards	2021 Fortunati Vineyards Chardonnay	Oak Knoll District		92	Citrus and crisp apple.	
Best of Napa - Calistoga						

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Wandering Cellars Inc	2019 Wandering Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon	Calistoga			91	Classy, pleasing blend of fruit & spice, racy cherry fruit.
Best of Napa - Atlas Peak						
Sea Bird Wines	2020 Sea Bird Broken Rock Vineyard	Atlas Peak	Single Vineyard Collection	Broken Rock Vineyard	97	Restrained yet classic. Balanced.
Best of Napa						
Sea Bird Wines	2019 Sea Bird Aphrodite Merlot	Napa Valley, Atlas Peak District	Single Vineyard Reserve	Broken Rock Vineyard	91	Bold, lots of leather and tobacco, Black Cherry
Best of Moon Mountain District						
St. Francis Winery & Vineyards	2020 St. Francis Moon Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon	Moon Mountain District			92	Drinkable, pairs well with a meal or drink by itself. Well made
Best of Monterey-Carmel Valley						
Galante Vineyards	2021 Galante Vineyards Legacy Red Blend	Carmel Valley	Estate Grown & Bottled		92	Varietal character, lots of plush fruit that lingers through finish.
Best of Monterey County AVA						
Tondre	2021 Tondre Chardonnay	Santa Lucia Highlands		Tondre Grapefield	97	Iconic new world style, soft and approachable, great varietal character.
Best of Mendocino County AVA						
Barra of Mendocino	2022 Girasole Vineyards Girasole Vineyards Pinot Blanc	Mendocino County	Estate Grown	CCOF Certified, Vegan-friendly	99	Fresh, intriguing, silky, wild thyme, chamomile, orange peel.
Best of Lodi AVA						
Mettler Family Vineyards	2020 Mettler Family Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon	Lodi	Estate		95	Cedar, cloves, cola, layered pepper, sweet cherry cola.
Best of Livermore Valley AVA						
McGrail Vineyards and Winery	2021 McGrail Vineyards Sláinte Red Blend	Livermore Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced	Lucky 8 Vineyard	93	Earthy, ripe, complex, nice nose.
Best of Lake Michigan Shore AVA						

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Karma Vista Vineyards	2021 Karma Vista Vineyards Reserve Syrah	Lake Michigan Shore	Estate		98	Peppery, lavender. Classic Syrah, vibrant and exciting
Best of Lake Erie AVA						
Franklin Hill Vineyards	2022 Franklin Hill Vineyards Sir Walters Bubbly	Lake Erie		Low alcohol Concord	97	True to its varietal, amazing long finish
Best of Lake County AVA						
Cache Creek Vineyards & Winery	2020 Cache Creek Vineyards & Winery Bugle Call Red Blend	Lake County	Barrel Aged		99	Multi dimensional, juicy, cherry and boysenberry
Chacewater, Inc.	2022 Chacewater Windrem Organic Sauvignon Blanc	Lake County			99	Wow factor. Citrus infused, complex melon
Best of Italy						
Vintage Wine Estates	2021 Villa Victoria Primitivo	Italy			97	Textbook Primitivo, carefully crafted, juicy, jammy, a little bit of savory herbaceous note, dried cranberry, white sage, lingering finish, "the finish does not finish"
Best of Horse Heaven Hills AVA						
Coyote Canyon Winery	2022 Coyote Canyon Sauvignon Blanc	Horse Heaven Hills	Estate Bottled & Produced		93	Jasmine nose with flavors of lichee and very herbaceous.
Best of France - Buzet AOC						
Wine Insiders	2019 Chateau Tournelles Malbec-Cabernet Franc	Buzet AOC			91	Bright fruit and huckleberry, soft mellow red fruit. Red licorice. Approachable
Best of France						
Penrose Hill	2022 Chanmé Méchant Grenache Blanc	Pays d'Oc			94	Lovely fruit, touch of honey, lemon. Well made wine for all seasons
Best of Florida AVA						
Seavin, Inc	NV San Sebastian Winery Vintners White	Florida			92	Good varietal finish. Gardenia, tropical, dried apple, cotton candy.
Best of Dry Creek Valley AVA						

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Amphora Winery	2019 Amphora Cabernet Franc	Dry Creek Valley			98	Good varietal character and tannin. True to the varietal
Best of Delaware AVA						
Nassau Valley Vineyards	NV Nassau Valley Vineyards Nassau Valley Vineyards Meadow's Edge White	Delaware	Estate Bottled & Produced		92	Complete and balanced. Not overly sweet. Solid. Quite expressive
Best of Class						
Amphora Winery	2019 Amphora Cabernet Franc	Dry Creek Valley			98	Good varietal character and tannin. True to the varietal
Barra of Mendocino	2022 Girasole Vineyards Girasole Vineyards Pinot Blanc	Mendocino County	Estate Grown	CCOF Certified , Vegan-friendly	99	Fresh, intriguing, silky, wild thyme, chamomile, orange peel.
Belle Fiore Winery	2020 Belle Fiore Reserve Numinos	Rogue Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		94	Complex, balanced, plum, food friendly
Brick Barn Wine Estate	2021 Brick Barn Wine Estate Albarino	Santa Ynez Valley	Estate		96	Full bodied, nice fruit. Full with long finish, tart, floral nose.
Cache Creek Vineyards & Winery	2020 Cache Creek Vineyards & Winery Bugle Call Red Blend	Lake County	Barrel Aged		99	Multi dimensional, juicy, cherry and boysenberry
Carneros Wine Company	2021 Mahoney Family Vineyards Pinot Noir	Carneros	Estate		97	Purity, cherries, cocoa powder, black tea.
Cazadero Winery	2021 Cazadero Winery Pinot Noir	Sonoma Coast (Sonoma)	Single Vineyard	Pommard Clone 4	92	Earthy, balanced, intense.
Chacewater, Inc.	2021 Chacewater Highlander Blend Red Blend	Sierra Foothills	Barrel Aged		92	Black tea, chewy texture, ripe, briary, nice structure
Chacewater, Inc.	2022 Chacewater Windrem Organic Sauvignon Blanc	Lake County			99	Wow factor. Citrus infused, complex melon
Coyote Canyon Winery	2021 Coyote Canyon Grenache	Horse Heaven Hills	Reserve	18 month barrel aged	92	Gamey note, dark concentrated dark chocolate. pleasant acidity
Coyote Canyon Winery	2022 Coyote Canyon Sauvignon Blanc	Horse Heaven Hills	Estate Bottled & Produced		93	Jasmine nose with flavors of lichee and very herbaceous.

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Delicato Family Wines	2020 Eleanor Red Blend	Sonoma County		93	Concentrated, chewy, dark chocolate, jammy, and slightly oaky
Delicato Family Wines	2021 Francis Ford Coppola Diamond Collection Claret	California		97	Dynamic, bright, juicy, fruity, complex, great finish.
<u>Dutcher Crossing Winery</u>	2018 Dutcher Crossing 2018 Cooney Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon	Alexander Valley	Barrel Aged	92	Big fruit, nice bright acidity
Effingham Winery	2020 Effingham Tannat	Virginia	Barrel Fermented Reserve	95	Very savory. Deep and intense flavors. Leather, tar. Ends balanced. A very well made wine.
Fallbrook Winery	2022 Fallbrook Winery 33°N Albarino	South Coast	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	98	Citrus peel, nice long full mouth feel, great nose, fresh and bright.
Fortunati Vineyards	2021 Fortunati Vineyards Chardonnay	Oak Knoll District		92	Citrus and crisp apple.
Fortunati Vineyards	2021 Fortunati Vineyards Pinot Noir	Sta. Rita Hills	Single Vineyard	94	Big new world style, cherry, earth, well balanced, fruit bomb.
Franklin Hill Vineyards	2022 Franklin Hill Vineyards Sir Walters Bubbly	Lake Erie		97	True to its varietal, amazing long finish
Galante Vineyards	2021 Galante Vineyards Legacy Red Blend	Carmel Valley	Estate Grown & Bottled	92	Varietal character, lots of plush fruit that lingers through finish.
GALLO	2022 Whitehaven Sauvignon Blanc	Marlborough		98	Grassy and sassy, grapefruity, zesty, ready to party.
GALLO	2021 Black Box Vibrant & Velvety Red Blend	California		96	Cherry and pomegranate with good acidity running through it.
GALLO	NV Barefoot Bubbly Extra Dry	California		96	Yellow delicious apple, bright fruit, great balance, nice finish.
Husch Vineyards	2022 Husch Vineyards Late Harvest Gewurztraminer	Anderson Valley	Estate Bottled	98	Honeycomb. True to variety. Angelic. Poised.
Imagery Estate Winery	2021 Imagery Estate Winery Primitivo	Sonoma County, Sonoma Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced	93	Well integrated, good mouth feel.

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JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2021 JOLO Vineyards Pilot Shadow Red Blend	North Carolina			97	Good wine crafting, cranberry, integrated complete and seamless.
Karma Vista Vineyards	2021 Karma Vista Vineyards Reserve Syrah	Lake Michigan Shore	Estate		98	Peppery, lavender. Classic Syrah, vibrant and exciting
Kings Mountain Winery	2019 Kings Mountain Vineyards Clone 13 Pinot Noir	Santa Cruz Mountains Appellation	Estate Grown		97	Bold nose, silky palate. Baked peppery finish. Currants
La Chertosa Wines	2022 La Chertosa Old World Wines Eye of the Swan Aleatico Rosé	Sonoma County, Sonoma Valley			90	
Lula Cellars	2020 Lula Cellars Rescue Block Pinot Noir	Anderson Valley			98	Rich, ripe. Bing cherry. Hint of orange peel.
McGrail Vineyards and Winery	2021 McGrail Vineyards Sláinte Red Blend	Livermore Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced	Lucky 8 Vineyard	93	Earthy, ripe, complex, nice nose.
Mettler Family Vineyards	2020 Mettler Family Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon	Lodi	Estate		95	Cedar, cloves, cola, layered pepper, sweet cherry cola.
Nassau Valley Vineyards	NV Nassau Valley Vineyards Nassau Valley Vineyards Meadow's Edge White	Delaware	Estate Bottled & Produced		92	Complete and balanced. Not overly sweet. Solid. Quite expressive
Page Mill Winery	2022 Page Mill Winery Angela's Cuvee	Livermore Valley			92	Floral, citrus, berries, nice balance.
Pearmund Cellars	2021 Pearmund Viognier	Virginia		Silver Creek Vineyard	95	Layered peach. Hints of lemon bars. Very well balanced. Soft texture.
Penrose Hill	2022 Chanmé Méchant Grenache Blanc	Pays d'Oc			94	Lovely fruit, touch of honey, lemon. Well made wine for all seasons
Pezzi King Vineyards	2021 Pezzi King Estate, Oakey Grande Zinfandel	Dry Creek Valley			97	Nice brambly character, lots of spice, cracked pepper, ripe dried plum
Rios Wine Company	2018 Rios Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley	Napa Valley, Stags Leap District	Single Vineyard		92	Nice finish, well balanced, earth, chocolate, mushroom, Unami, smooth tannins.

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Sea Bird Wines	2019 Sea Bird Aphrodite Merlot	Napa Valley, Atlas Peak District	Single Vineyard Reserve	Broken Rock Vineyard	91	Bold, lots of leather and tobacco, Black Cherry
Sea Bird Wines	2020 Sea Bird Broken Rock Vineyard	Atlas Peak	Single Vineyard Collection	Broken Rock Vineyard	97	Restrained yet classic. Balanced.
Seavin, Inc	NV San Sebastian Winery Cream Sherry	American			92	Warm and nutty. Notes of caramel and vanilla
Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2019 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Brut Rose Sparkling Wine	Russian River Valley	Method Traditionnelle		98	Sweetheart cherries, gorgeous balance, beautiful aromatics.
Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2022 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Sonoma Coast Chardonnay	Russian River Valley			98	Gorgeous minerality, lively & layered, perfumed.
Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2022 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Rose of Pinot Noir	Sonoma County, Russian River Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced		95	Berry, cherry, floral, ripe and clean
Spicy Vines	2018 Spicy Vines Cabernet Franc	Pine Mountain-Cloverdale Peak (Mendocino)	Single Vineyard	Pine Mountain Vineyard Patio Block	95	Plum skin, subtle tobacco, long finish, nice round mouth feel.
St. Anne's Crossing	2021 St. Anne's Crossing Reserve Rockpile Zinfandel	Rockpile	Reserve		94	Ripe, wild berry, lush, balanced, good acidity, spicy
St. Francis Winery & Vineyards	2022 St. Francis Estate Cuvee Blanc	Sonoma Valley			92	Floral, good intensity, well structured, blossomy notes.
St. Francis Winery & Vineyards	2020 St. Francis Moon Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon	Moon Mountain District			92	Drinkable, pairs well with a meal or drink by itself. Well made
Taylor's Wines	2023 Wakefield Taylor's Wines Estate Riesling	South Australia			97	Perfect nose with hints of citrus and stone fruit. Long finish.
The Vineyards at Pine Lake	2022 The Vineyards at Pine Lake Vignoles	Ohio			96	Pineapple juice, quince. Smooth finish.
The Vineyards at Pine Lake	2022 The Vineyards at Pine Lake Moscato	American			95	Fresh squeezed orange, smooth on palate.
Tondre	2021 Tondre Chardonnay	Santa Lucia Highlands		Tondre Grapefield	97	Iconic new world style, soft and approachable, great varietal character.

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Vintage Wine Estates	2021 Villa Victoria Primitivo	Italy		97	Textbook Primitivo, carefully crafted, juicy, jammy, a little bit of savory herbaceous note, dried cranberry, white sage, lingering finish, "the finish does not finish"
Wandering Cellars Inc	2019 Wandering Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon	Calistoga		91	Classy, pleasing blend of fruit & spice, racy cherry fruit.
Wine Insiders	2023 Rookanga Chardonnay	SE Australia		97	Lemon curd, soft, citrusy, buttery and restrained
Wine Insiders	2019 Chateau Tournelles Malbec-Cabernet Franc	Buzet AOC		91	Bright fruit and huckleberry, soft mellow red fruit. Red licorice. Approachable
Wine Insiders	2022 Wild Gnu Chenin Blanc	WO Western Cape		94	Passion fruit, tropical
Best of Chile					
Wine Insiders	2022 Casa De La Luna Red Blend	Valle Central	Reserva de Selección	92	Herbaceous, lovely black and blue fruits, spices.
Best of Carneros AVA					
Carneros Wine Company	2021 Mahoney Family Vineyards Pinot Noir	Carneros	Estate	97	Purity, cherries, cocoa powder, black tea.
Best of California AVA					
Delicato Family Wines	2021 Francis Ford Coppola Diamond Collection Claret	California		97	Dynamic, bright, juicy, fruity, complex, great finish.
Best of Australia					
Taylors Wines	2023 Wakefield Taylors Wines Estate Riesling	South Australia		97	Perfect nose with hints of citrus and stone fruit. Long finish.
Wine Insiders	2023 Rookanga Chardonnay	SE Australia		97	Lemon curd, soft, citrusy, buttery and restrained
Best of Anderson Valley AVA					
Lula Cellars	2020 Lula Cellars Rescue Block Pinot Noir	Anderson Valley		98	Rich, ripe. Bing cherry. Hint of orange peel.

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Best of Alexander Valley AVA

<u>Dutcher Crossing Winery</u>	2018 Dutcher Crossing 2018 Cooney Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon	Alexander Valley	Barrel Aged	92	Big fruit, nice bright acidity
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