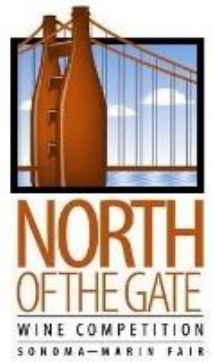


NORTH OF THE GATE WINE COMPETITION *Information*



Welcome, to the North of the Gate Wine Competition!

The mission of the North of the Gate wine competition is to promote and highlight the world-class wineries of Northern California. Wines entered in this competition highlight the uniqueness of the region between the Golden Gate Bridge and the Oregon border, while the winners represent world renowned wines produced by farmers and winery professionals that call this bountiful landscape home.

The benefits of participation are many and provide invaluable exposure for your winery.

- Exposure to professional judges representing trade, education, media, and/or retail.
- Medal Winners are featured in a display during the 5-day annual Sonoma-Marín Fair.
- Best of Show, Sweepstakes, Best of County, Best of Class, Double Gold, and Gold Medal wines are featured in the Fair Wine Garden. This is NOTG only pouring, and wineries will also be invited to pour their wines for an evening.
- Award winning wines will be printed in an award booklet offered to the public in the Wine Garden and the Fair wine display.
- Media releases announcing winners. Online, social media, and print outlets will all be utilized.

RULES

1. **Eligibility:** commercial wines that are made in the counties of: Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Tehama, Trinity, Yolo and Yuba. Any bottled wine labeled with the above counties as their main source of grapes, even if bottled out of the area, is eligible for entry.
2. A copy of the completed entry form with the fees must be received by the Sonoma-Marín Fairgrounds by **Friday, April 13th, 2018**.
3. All wines must be received at the Sonoma-Marín Fairgrounds at 175 Fairgrounds Drive in Petaluma between **April 16th and 20th, 2018**. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, we are closed from 12-1 p.m. for lunch daily.
4. All Best of Show, Sweepstakes, Best of County, Best of Class, and Double Gold winning winery brands are required to pour or send one case of the winning wine (*sent wine becomes the property of the Sonoma-Marín Fair and will not be returned*) to be poured during the NOTG Wine tasting at the 2018 Sonoma-Marín Fair. Gold Medal Wines are encouraged to participate; additional information to follow. Wineries must comply with this requirement to receive recognition for their award. Wine to be provided by winery at their expense.

ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS

- There is no limit to the number of entries per winery.
- There is no limit to the number of vintages of the same variety a winery may enter.
- The same wine (although marketed under a different label) may not be entered in more than one category. However, a winery may submit multiple entries in the same category.
- Wines entered must be available for commercial sale prior to the start of judging, **Thursday, April 26th, 2018**.

JUDGING OF WINES

- Wines will be evaluated and scored blind by a panel of qualified judges; the judges' decision is final.
- The competition reserves the right to re-classify wine entries.
- The competition is not responsible for errors in entries.

AWARDS

Judges will award **Double Gold, Gold, Silver** and **Bronze** awards as well as **Best of Show, Sweepstakes: Best Red, Blush/Rose, Sparkling, White, Sweet and Fortified; Best of Class, Best of County and Winemaker of the Competition Awards**. Best of Show and Winemaker of the Competition will receive plaques. Certificates Will be awarded to Sweepstakes: Best Red, Blush/Rose, Sparkling, White, Sweet and Fortified; Best of Class, Best of County. Bottle medallions will be awarded to Double Gold, Gold wines; Silver wines. **Best of Show** is awarded to one wine recognized to possess characteristics of the highest quality overall.

Following the judging, wineries will be notified of any awards won. All medal award-winning wineries required for the public tasting, mentioned on #4 of the rules, will be contacted to schedule pouring.

Enter Online – using [Enofileonline.com](http://www.enofileonline.com)

Enter online today at [enofileonline.com](http://www.enofileonline.com) or follow the direct link to
North of the Gate Wine Competition at <http://www.enofileonline.com/landing.aspx?competitionID=303>

ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

Entry Information: There is a **\$60** per entry fee. Please enter online at www.enofileonline.com or you may send the entry fee and forms to Sonoma-Marin Fair at 175 Fairgrounds Drive, Petaluma, CA 94952. Entry deadline is April 13th, 2018.

Wines: Send six (6) 750 ml bottles per entry and a copy of the entry form to the Sonoma-Marin Fairgrounds, 175 Fairgrounds Drive, Petaluma, CA 94952. Wines are to be delivered to the Administration Building between the dates of **April 9th and 25th, 2018**. Office hours are 8-Noon and 1-5pm, Monday-Friday. *No wine will be accepted for which carrier charges have not been prepaid. All wines become the property of the Sonoma-Marin Fair. Surplus bottles will be used in the North of the Gate Fair display and poured in the Wine Garden.*

White Wines

<u>Class</u>	<u>Classification</u>
10	Flavored Sparkling
20	Brut or Natural Sparkling, Blanc de Blanc
40	Blanc De Noir, Rosé Sparkling
60	Sauvignon Blanc or Fume Blanc
80	Chardonnay - No Oak
100	Chardonnay
120	Gewurztraminer
140	Riesling
160	Viognier
180	Pinot Grigio/Pinot Gris
200	Late Harvest White with RS over 2.0
240	All Other Whites (White Blends/Chenin Blanc/Semillon)
260	Fortified White Wine (Port)

Blush Wines

<u>Class</u>	<u>Classification</u>
300	White Zinfandel/ White Merlot/ Blush
320	Rosé

Red Wines

<u>Class</u>	<u>Classification</u>
400	Pinot Noir
460	Merlot
480	Zinfandel <i>up to \$29.99</i>
490	Zinfandel <i>\$30.00 and over</i>
500	Zinfandel <i>greater than 14.5% alcohol</i>
510	Primitivo
520	Sangiovese
540	Barbera
560	Syrah/Shiraz
580	Petite Sirah
600	Cabernet Sauvignon <i>up to \$34.99</i>
620	Cabernet Sauvignon <i>\$35.00 to \$74.99</i>
630	Cabernet Sauvignon <i>\$75.00 and over</i>
640	Cabernet Sauvignon <i>2008 Vintage or older</i>
650	Bordeaux - Single Varietals (Malbec/Petite Verdot)
660	Cabernet Franc
680	Italian—Single Varietals (Charbono, Dolcetto, Nebbiolo)
700	Spanish - Single Varietals (Tempranillo)
720	Rhone - Single Varietals (Mourvedre, Carignane)
740	Grenache
760	Red Meritage / Bordeaux Blends
770	All Other Red Wines including Red Blends
780	Fortified Wine (Port, Sherry, Madeira)
800	Late Harvest Red with RS over 2.0
820	Distilled Wine (Brandy, Grappa)

Questions?

For specific wine or entry questions contact: Dr. Valery Uhl, Wine Competition Director, 510-421-7808

For delivery or payment questions contact the Sonoma-Marin Fairgrounds staff:
707-283-3247 or email: info@sonoma-marinfair.org

Erin Post, Chief Executive Officer ♦ Valery Uhl, Wine Competition Director