



Presented By  
**SONOMA-MARIN  
FAIRGROUNDS &  
EVENT CENTER**  
FOURTH DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

**NORTH  
OF THE GATE**  
WINE COMPETITION  
SONOMA-MARIN FAIR

## 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-Marin Fair.
- Wineries are invited to sign up for our Craft Beverage Hall where they can pour tasters of their NOTG competition and/or flagship wines at the Sonoma-Marin Fair, June 22-26, 2022. This is an opportunity to personally connect with consumers and industry colleagues.
- 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 through 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-Marin Fairgrounds by Friday, **May 6, 2022**.
3. All wines must be received at the Sonoma-Marin Fairgrounds at 175 Fairgrounds Drive in Petaluma between **April 25th and May 6th, 2022**. 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-Marin Fair and will not be returned*) to be poured during the NOTG Wine tasting at the 2022 Sonoma-Marin 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, May 12, 2022**.

### **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, and 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.



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## ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

**Entry Information:** There is a \$60 per entry fee. Please enter **online** at [www.enofileonline.com](http://www.enofileonline.com) or you may send the entry fee and forms to Sonoma-Marín Fair at 175 Fairgrounds Drive, Petaluma, CA 94952. **Entry deadline is May 6, 2022.**

**Wines:** Send four (4) 750 ml bottles per entry and a copy of the entry form to the Sonoma-Marín Fairgrounds, 175 Fairgrounds Drive, Petaluma, CA 94952. Wines are to be delivered to the Administration Building between the dates of **April 25 & May 6, 2022.** *No wine will be accepted for which carrier charges have not been prepaid. All wines become the property of the Sonoma-Marín Fair. Surplus bottles will be used in the North of the Gate Fair display and poured in the Wine Garden. After the Fair, unused bottles are donated to charitable organizations for their fundraisers and auctions. Organizations selected support youth athletics, the arts, education, and youth development. Your wines continue to receive exposure after the Fair.*

## 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
190	Albarino
200	Late Harvest White with RS over 2.0
210	Pinot Blanc
240	All Other Whites (Chenin Blanc/Semillon/Verdelho/Torrontes)
250	White Blends
260	Fortified White Wine (Port)
270	Muscat

## Blush Wines

<u>Class</u>	<u>Classification</u>
300	White Zinfandel/ White Merlot/ Blush
320	All Other Dry Rosés
330	Rosé of Pinot Noir

## 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>2009 Vintage or older</i>
650	Malbec
655	Petit 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 Single Red Varietals (Souzao, Touriga, Tannat)
780	Fortified Wine (Port, Sherry, Madeira)
790	All Other Red Blends
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-Marín Fairgrounds staff:

707-283-3247 or email: [ceo@sonoma-marinfair.org](mailto:ceo@sonoma-marinfair.org)

Kristie Hubacker, Chief Executive Officer ♦ Valery Uhl, Wine Competition Director