

# 50th ANNUAL

OC FAIR

# HOME WINE COMPETITION

## CALL FOR ENTRIES

### DELIVERIES ACCEPTED

### March 1 - May 22, 2026

presented by

 OC Wine  
Society

 OC FAIR

## Judging on June 6, 2026

ONE OF THE LARGEST HOME WINE COMPETITIONS IN CALIFORNIA

LEARN MORE AT [HomeWineCompetition.com](http://HomeWineCompetition.com)  
Email us at [HomeWineCompetition@ocws.org](mailto:HomeWineCompetition@ocws.org)



# Home Wine Competition.com

The **OC Fair** and the **Orange County Wine Society (OCWS)** are proud to co-sponsor the 50th Annual Home Wine Competition, celebrating five decades of excellence in amateur winemaking. We invite you to be part of this prestigious milestone event and showcase your craftsmanship alongside fellow home winemakers from across California.

Over the years, the OC Fair Home Wine Competition has grown into one of the ***largest and most comprehensive home wine judging events in California***. Wines crafted by amateur winemakers throughout the state are evaluated across a wide range of categories, including **red, white, rosé, sparkling, dessert, fortified, mead, and fruit or “country” wines**.

In 2025, 92 judges evaluated 603 wines, representing 39 unique varietals, 88 red blends, and 24 white blends. A total of 546 awards were presented, recognizing outstanding home winemaking talent from across California.

## WHY SHOULD I COMPETE?

Participating in the OC Fair Home Wine Competition offers both value and insight:

- Only \$22 per bottle
- Just one bottle per entry required
- Double-blind judging for impartial evaluation
- UC Davis 20-Point Judging System used to ensure consistency and quality
- Judges' Scoresheets with detailed comments mailed to each entrant
- Recognition and bragging rights among California's home winemaking community!

This competition provides a unique opportunity to receive objective, professional feedback to help refine your skills and elevate your winemaking.

## JUDGING

Judging takes place on June 6, 2026, led by panels of experienced winemakers and wine professionals. The competition is conducted double-blind, ensuring unbiased evaluation and maintaining the highest standards of credibility and excellence.

presented by



# HomeWineCompetition.com

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Award notifications will be sent by June 16, 2026, celebrating the outstanding achievements of home winemakers across California. Winners will receive Best of Show, Double Gold, Gold, Silver, or Bronze awards—prestigious honors that are a proud addition to any wine cellar and a true mark of winemaking excellence..

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & GUIDELINES

- Entries are open to amateur winemakers residing in California.
- Wines may be produced from fresh or frozen grapes, wine kits, or other fruits.
- All entries must be received by Friday, May 22, 2026.
- Submit one 750 ml bottle per entry or two 375 ml bottles for dessert wines.
- All wines must be entered online at HomeWineCompetition.com, where complete instructions and shipping details are available.

## WINE LABEL COMPETITION

Put your creativity on display! For an additional \$5 per entry, home winemakers may participate in the Wine Label Competition, open exclusively to Home Wine Competition entrants.

OCWS volunteers and wine competition judges will evaluate labels for visual appeal, clarity, and effectiveness, including elements such as varietal or blend name, vintage, and appellation (as applicable). Information may be included on a back label if desired.

Gold, Silver, and Bronze awards are presented in 11 categories, with one standout label earning the coveted Best of Show title. Award-winning labels will be proudly displayed by OCWS in the Wine Courtyard during the OC Fair, offering excellent visibility and recognition.

Please include one physical copy of each label submitted with your shipped bottles. (Original labels consistently perform better than photocopies.)

## IMPORTANT DEADLINE

**Online Entries must be submitted and ALL wines must be received by May 22, 2026.**



Orange County Wine Society  
88 Fair Drive  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626



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Raise a glass to 50 years of winemaking and wine education tradition - Enter and be part of a legacy worth celebrating!

## DID YOU KNOW??

The Orange County Wine Society (OCWS) is a **501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to wine education and appreciation.** We support the future of the wine industry by providing scholarships to students pursuing enology and viticulture.

Since 1981, OCWS has awarded over \$1,008,975 in scholarships to students at eight California institutions, funded through OCWS events, memberships, donations, and OC Fair Wine Courtyard sales.



## CONTACT US

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