



## Local wineries shine at state fair

**By Rod Byers**  
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A big wine event that took place in July was the California Grape and Gourmet Wine Tasting where they announce all the winners of the California State Fair wine competition. This year over 650 wineries entered more than 2,900 wines in the competition. Only medal winning wineries are invited to pour at this gala event.

Nevada County was well represented this year with seven wineries participating. Three wineries, Avanguardia, Double Oak Vineyards & Winery and Nevada City Winery won "Best of Class" of Region awards. The California State Fair divides the state into regions, Napa, Sonoma, Central Coast or Sierra Foothills, for example.

The "Best of Class" prize is awarded to the best wine of each type for the entire region. The region is always determined by where the grapes are grown not where the winery is located. Avanguardi won Best non-varietal white (a blend) for the Sierra Foothills. Double Oak won best Cabernet Sauvignon for the Sierra Foothills and Nevada City Winery won best Gewurztraminer for Sonoma County.

The following is a list of awards for Nevada County Wineries at the California State Fair.

### Avanguardia Wines

Due Fiori Semillon, Chenin Blanc, Flora, and Orange Muscat  
Best of Class, Sierra Foothills, California State Fair  
Silver Medal, San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition  
Bronze Medal, Pacific Rim

### Cristallo

Silver Medal — Pacific Rim  
Bronze Medal — San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition

### Selvatico

Silver Medal — San Diego Intl.  
Bronze Medal — San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition  
Bronze Medal — Pacific Rim

### Double Oak

2003 Cabernet Sauvignon  
Best of Class — Sierra Foothills, California State Fair  
2003 Zinfandel  
Silver Medal — San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition

### Indian Springs Vineyards

2003 Cabernet Franc  
Gold Sweepstakes — San Diego International Wine Competition

### 2003 Chardonnay

Silver Medal — California State Fair

### 2003 Syrah

Silver Medal — California State Fair

2003 Merlot  
Bronze Medal — California State Fair

2003 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve  
Silver Medal — SF Chronicle Wine Competition

2003 Cabernet Sauvignon  
Silver Medal — SF Chronicle Wine Competition

Naggiar Vineyards  
2005 Viognier  
Silver Medal — California State Fair

2004 Cabernet Franc  
Bronze Medal — California State Fair

Nevada City Winery  
2004 Zinfandel  
Double Gold Medal — Calaveras County Fair  
Gold Medal — Monterey Wine Competition  
Gold Medal — Riverside International Wine Comp.  
Silver Medal — West Coast International Wine Comp.  
Silver Medal — Finger Lakes Wine Comp.

2004 Syrah  
Double Gold Medal — Calaveras County Fair  
Gold Medal — New World International  
Silver Medal — Finger Lakes Wine Comp.  
Silver Medal — San Francisco Chronicle Wine Comp.  
Bronze Medal — Riverside International Wine Comp

2004 Cabernet Franc  
Best of Class and Gold Medal — Pacific Rim International  
Bronze Medal — Finger Lakes Comp.  
Bronze Medal — California State Fair

2003 Cabernet Sauvignon Alexander Valley  
Gold Medal — West Coast International  
Gold Medal — California State Fair

2004 Merlot  
Silver Medal — Monterey Wine Comp.  
Silver Medal — Pacific Rim Wine Comp.  
Silver Medal — Riverside International  
Bronze Medal — California State Fair  
Bronze Medal — West Coast International  
Bronze Medal — Calaveras County Fair

2002 Directors' Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon  
Silver Medal — New World International  
Bronze Medal — Calaveras County Fair

2002 Directors' Reserve Petite Sirah  
Silver Medal — El Dorado County Fair  
Silver Medal — Calaveras County Fair  
Silver Medal — Amador County Fair

2003 Claret

Silver Medal — Monterey Wine Comp.

Bronze Medal — Finger Lakes Comp.

Bronze Medal — West Coast International

Bronze Medal — Calaveras County Fair

2005 Gewurztraminer

Best of Class — Sonoma County, California State Fair

Bronze Medal — Calaveras County Fair

2005 Alpenglow

Gold Medal — Calaveras County Fair

2004 Chardonnay

Silver Medal

2004 Sauvignon Blanc

Bronze Medal — Calaveras County Fair

2005 Malvasia Bianca

Silver Medal — Calaveras County Fair

Pilot Peak

2005 Viognier

Gold — Tasters Guild

Silver — LA County Fair

Silver — West Coast Wine Competition

Bronze — Riverside International Wine Competition

Bronze — LA County Fair

Sierra Starr

2002 Wilder Ranch Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

Gold Medal — Calaveras State Fair

Silver Medal — California State Fair

2003 Phil's Selection Zinfandel

Silver Medal — El Dorado County Fair

Silver Medal — Orange County Fair

Silver Medal — Calaveras County Fair

2002 Phil's Selection Zinfandel

Silver Medal — California State Fair

Silver Medal — Calaveras County Fair

2004 Chardonnay

Bronze Medal — Calaveras County Fair

Starr Bright Champagne

Silver Medal — El Dorado County Fair

2003 Wilder Ranch Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

Bronze Medal — El Dorado County Fair

2003 Cabernet Sauvignon

Bronze Medal — El Dorado County Fair

Smith Vineyard

2004 Chardonnay

Silver Medal — El Dorado County Fair  
Silver Medal — San Francisco Chronicle  
2003 Merlot  
Double Gold — Amador County Fair  
Bronze Medal — El Dorado County Fair  
2003 Cabernet Sauvignon  
Bronze Medal — El Dorado County Fair

Solune  
Tempranillo 2004  
Double Gold Medal — Amador County Fair

Petite Sirah 2004  
Gold Medal, Amador County Fair  
Silver Medal — California State Fair

Barbera 2004  
Gold Medal — Orange County Fair  
Gold Medal — Amador County Fair

Cinq Etoiles  
Silver Medal — Orange County Fair

Fleur de Lune  
Silver Medal — Orange County Fair

Titan I  
Silver Medal — El Dorado County Fair

#### Upcoming Winery Events

Sat., Aug. 26 — Double Oak Winery Summer Dinner — Featuring a delectable dinner at the winery celebrating Summer. For details and reservations call Double Oak at 530-292-3235.

Thurs., Sept. 7 — Nevada City Winery Locally Grown Dinner

An incredible evening of foods all grown or raised in Nevada County. For details and reservations call Nevada City Winery at 530-265-9463.

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