

OUR 2014 DINING GUIDE: 3,700+ RESTAURANTS FOR WINE LOVERS

Wine Spectator

www.winespectator.com

ERIC RIPERT

NEW YORK'S
SEAFOOD
MASTER

AUSTRALIA:
CABERNET COMES
INTO FOCUS

PERFECT MATCH:
LAMB CHOPS WITH
AUSSIE SYRAH

MORE THAN 650
WINES REVIEWED

AUG 31 2014



THE BEST WINE LISTS OF 2014

FROM CONCISE TO EPIC,
3,748 RESTAURANT
WINE LISTS EARN
WINE SPECTATOR AWARDS

BY GILLIAN SCIARETTA

GRAND AWARD HONOR ROLL 9

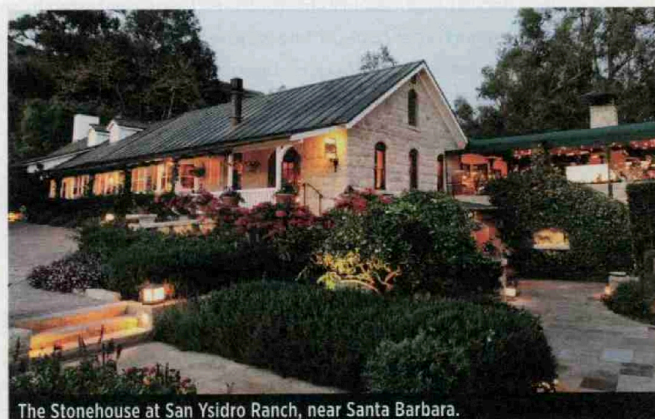
2014 AWARDS ANALYSIS 68

NEW GRAND AWARD PROFILES 75

DIRECTORY BY STATE & COUNTRY 85



Wine director Troy Smith of Studio, in Laguna Beach, Calif.



The Stonehouse at San Ysidro Ranch, near Santa Barbara.



Ravioli Nissarda is a favorite at Nice Matin in New York.

FROM TOP: VANESSA STUMP; MHA KATE; EVAN SUNG; OPPOSITE: PHILIP HARVEY

THE 2014 RESTAURANT AWARDS

IN THE 70 PAGES THAT FOLLOW, YOU'LL FIND LISTINGS FOR ALL THE RESTAURANTS THAT EARNED A *WINE SPECTATOR* AWARD FOR THEIR WINE PROGRAM IN 2014. WE HOPE YOU'LL GIVE THEM A TRY.

87 UNITED STATES • **139** INTERNATIONAL

ABOUT THE AWARD LEVELS To qualify for an award, a wine list must present complete, accurate information, including vintages and appellations for all selections. Complete producer names and correct spellings are mandatory, and the overall presentation of the list is also considered. Lists that meet these requirements are judged for one of our three awards.

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 2,791 winners

Our basic award, for lists that offer a well-chosen selection of quality producers, along with a thematic match to the menu in both price and style. Typically these lists offer at least 90 selections.

BEST OF AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 883 winners

Our second-tier award, created to give special recognition to restaurants that clearly exceed the requirements of the Award of Excellence; many are close to the Grand Award level. These lists display either vintage depth, with vertical offerings of several top producers from major regions, or excellent breadth spread over several winegrowing regions.

These wine lists typically offer 400 or more selections, along with superior presentation; some offer more than 1,000 selections.

GRAND AWARD 74 winners

Our highest award, given to restaurants that show an uncompromising, passionate devotion to the quality of their wine program. These restaurants typically offer 1,500 selections or more, and feature serious breadth of top producers, outstanding depth in mature vintages, a selection of large-format bottles, excellent harmony with the menu, and superior organization, presentation and wine service. Grand Award winners are denoted by **red** type in the listings.

HOW TO READ THE GUIDE In the following pages, abbreviated listings comprising location and basic contact information are given for Award of Excellence winners; listings for Best of Award of Excellence and Grand Award winners include more detailed information, such as the restaurant's wine strengths and type of cuisine. Below are explanations of the different categories of information given.

WINE DIRECTOR/SOMMELIER: This information, provided by the restaurant, indicates the people responsible for managing the wine list and assisting diners with their wine selections.

WINE STRENGTHS: Determined by our judges, this indicates the *emphasis* of the list, not all the regions from which wines are offered. Wine strengths are listed in descending order of prominence.

WINE SELECTIONS: This indicates the number of selections on the restaurant's list at the time the award was conferred. For Grand Award winners, this information is followed by the total number of bottles in the restaurant's inventory.

WINE PRICES: Determined by our judges, this describes the overall pricing of the wine list, taking into account both the general markup of wines offered and the number of wines at high and low price points. *Inexpensive* lists offer many bottles for less than \$50, while also exhibiting a below-normal markup (generally considered to be two to two-and-a-half times the wholesale bottle price). These lists offer uncommon value, and the restaurants are indicated in **green**. *Moderate* lists employ the industry norm for markup, with a range of both less expensive and

expensive offerings. *Expensive* lists offer wines priced with a greater-than-normal markup, along with many selections for more than \$100 a bottle. Pricing is not a judging criterion, it is merely provided as a guide for the reader.

CORKAGE: Provided by the restaurant, this figure reflects the corkage fee charged per bottle to customers. Corkage fees, which can range greatly, are typically charged per 750ml bottle; expect to pay more if you bring a magnum. Some restaurants do not permit diners to bring their own wine; others are prohibited by state or local regulations. Some readers report discrepancies between our listings and actual practices at the restaurants. *If you plan to bring wine to a restaurant, always call ahead to confirm its corkage policy.*

CUISINE TYPE AND MENU PRICES: Provided by the restaurant, these descriptors indicate the style of food served and the price range for dinner entrées, respectively. Restaurants that offer a prix fixe menu are indicated accordingly, with the price (or range of prices) per menu.

NOTE: Our awards program evaluates wine lists, not restaurants as a whole. While we assume that the level of food and service will be commensurate with the quality of the wine lists submitted by award winners, this unfortunately is not always true. We cannot visit every award-winning restaurant (although all Grand Award winners and many others are inspected by *Wine Spectator* editors), so we encourage you to alert us to disparities or disappointments. If you have comments regarding your experience at one of our award-winning restaurants, contact us at restaurantawards@mshanken.com.

WINESPECTATOR.COM

FREE ACCESS to the complete 2014 Dining Guide, with full listings for all of this year's 3,748 award-winning restaurants, is available in our Restaurant Search, at www.winespectator.com/restaurants, which allows users to select by location, award level, wine strengths, cuisine type and other criteria. WineSpectator.com members can also post their own personal ratings and share comments about the quality of their experience at these restaurants.

California

NORTH/OTHER CITIES

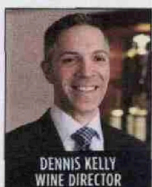
continued

FORBES MILL STEAKHOUSE

206 N. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos; (408) 395-6434 **Wine director** Patrick Mullane
Wine strengths California **Wine selections** 561
Wine prices Moderate **Corkage** \$20 **Cuisine** Steak house/seafood **Menu prices** \$28-\$82

THE FRENCH LAUNDRY

6640 Washington St., Yountville; (707) 944-2380 **Wine director** Dennis Kelly
Sommeliers Aubrey Bailey, Erik Johnson, Bryan Lipa **Wine strengths** California, Burgundy, Bordeaux, Rhône **Wine selections** 2,250 **Number of bottles** 17,500 **Wine prices** Expensive **Corkage** \$150 **Cuisine** American/French **Menu prices** Prix fixe \$295 **Grand Award since 2007**



DENNIS KELLY
WINE DIRECTOR

FRIAR TUCK'S RESTAURANT

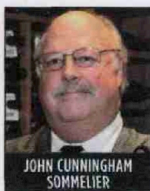
111 N. Pine St., Nevada City; (530) 265-9093
GRANGE RESTAURANT & BAR
Citizen Hotel, 926 J St., Sacramento; (916) 492-4450

GRASING'S

Sixth and Mission Streets, Carmel; (831) 624-6562 **Wine strengths** California **Wine selections** 1,000 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$25 **Cuisine** Seafood/steak house **Menu prices** \$24-\$60

HENRY'S STEAKHOUSE

Red Hawk Casino, 1 Red Hawk Parkway, Placerville; (530) 672-4137



JOHN CUNNINGHAM
SOMMELIER

HIGH STEAKS

Thunder Valley Casino and Resort, 1200 Athens Ave., Lincoln; (916) 408-7777

IL FORNAIO CUCINA ITALIANA

The Pine Inn, Ocean Avenue at Monte Verde, Carmel; (831) 622-5100

IL FORNAIO CUCINA ITALIANA

223 Corte Madera Town Center, Corte Madera; (415) 927-4400

IL FORNAIO CUCINA ITALIANA

520 Cowper St., Palo Alto; (650) 853-3888

IL FORNAIO CUCINA ITALIANA

1179 Galleria Blvd., Roseville; (916) 788-1200

IL FORNAIO CUCINA ITALIANA

Sainte Claire, 302 S. Market St., San Jose; (408) 271-3366

IL FORNAIO CUCINA ITALIANA

1430 Mount Diablo Blvd., Walnut Creek; (925) 296-0100

IL FORNO CLASSICO

2121 Golden Centre Lane, No. 10, Gold River; (916) 858-0651

JACKS RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

Portola Hotel and Spa, 2 Portola Plaza, Monterey; (831) 649-2698

JIMMY'S

4104 Lakeshore Blvd., South Lake Tahoe; (530) 600-3501

JOHN ASH & CO.

Vintners Inn, 4330 Barnes Road, Santa Rosa; (707) 527-7687

JOHN BENTLEY'S

2915 El Camino Real, Redwood City; (650) 365-7777

LA PASTAIA

233 W. Santa Clara St., San Jose; (408) 286-8686

LA TOQUE

The Westin Verasa Napa, 1314 McKinstry St., Napa; (707) 257-5157 **Wine director** Richard Matuszczak
Sommelier Zoe Hankins **Wine strengths** California, France **Wine selections** 1,850 **Number of bottles** 23,418 **Wine prices** Expensive **Corkage** \$25 **Cuisine** French **Menu prices** Prix fixe \$74-\$135 **Grand Award since 2014**



RICHARD MATUSZCZAK
WINE DIRECTOR

LADERA GRILL

17305 Monterey Road, Morgan Hill; (408) 201-9200



SUSAN MARSH
WINE DIRECTOR

LARK CREEK BLUE

378 Santana Row, San Jose; (408) 244-1244

LARK CREEK WALNUT CREEK

1360 Locust St., Walnut Creek; (925) 256-1234

LB STEAK

334 Santana Row, San Jose; (408) 244-1180

LEWMARNELS RESTAURANT

Best Western Station House Inn, 901 Park Ave., South Lake Tahoe; (530) 542-1072

LONGBOARDS BAR & GRILL

Plumas Pines Golf Resort, 402 Poplar Valley Road, Graeagle; (530) 836-1111

LUCY RESTAURANT & BAR

Bardessono, 6526 Yount St., Yountville; (707) 204-6030

MADERA

Rosewood Sand Hill, 2825 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park; (650) 561-1500 **Wine director** Paul Mekis **Wine strengths** California, Burgundy, Bordeaux **Wine selections** 1,930 **Wine prices** Expensive **Corkage** \$25 **Cuisine** Contemporary American **Menu prices** \$33-\$41

MANKAS STEAKHOUSE

2522 Mankas Corner Road, Fairfield; (707) 425-3207

MANRESA

320 Village Lane, Los Gatos; (408) 354-4330 **Wine director** Esteban Garibay **Wine strengths** California, France **Wine selections** 795 **Wine prices** Expensive **Corkage** \$75 **Cuisine** French/Catalan **Menu prices** Prix fixe \$185

THE MELTING POT

125 E. Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Larkspur; (415) 461-6358

THE MELTING POT

814 15th St., Sacramento; (916) 443-2347

MENDOCINO HOTEL & RESTAURANT

Mendocino Hotel & Garden Suites, 45080 Main St., Mendocino; (707) 937-0511

MERITAGE AT THE CLAREMONT

Claremont Hotel, Club & Spa, 41 Tunnel Road, Berkeley; (450) 549-8510

MORIMOTO NAPA

610 Main St., Napa; (707) 252-1600

MURRAY CIRCLE

Cavallo Point, 602 Murray Circle, Fort Baker, Sausalito; (415) 339-4750 **Wine director** Jamie Harding **Wine strengths** California, France, Italy, Spain **Wine selections** 2,238 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$25 **Cuisine** Regional **Menu prices** \$24-\$34

NAPKINS BAR + GRILL

1001 Second St., Napa; (707) 927-5333

OENOTRI

1425 First St., Napa; (707) 252-1022 **Wine director** Daniel McCullough **Wine strengths** Italy, California **Wine selections** 793 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$15 **Cuisine** Italian **Menu prices** \$24-\$29

OLD FISHERMAN'S GROTTO

39 Old Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey; (831) 375-4604



DAVE MULLER
WINE DIRECTOR

OLIVE AND VINE

14301 Arnold Drive, Glen Ellen; (707) 996-9152

PACIFIC'S EDGE

Hyatt Carmel Highlands, 120 Highlands Drive, Carmel; (831) 622-5445 **Wine director** Paul Fried **Wine strengths** California, Burgundy, Italy **Wine selections** 975 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$40 **Cuisine** Californian **Menu prices** \$24-\$58

PAOLO'S

333 W. San Carlos St., San Jose; (408) 294-2558 **Wine director** Jalil Samavarchian **Wine strengths** California, Italy, Bordeaux **Wine selections** 450 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$20 **Cuisine** Contemporary Italian **Menu prices** \$18-\$35

THE PARK BISTRO & BAR

Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa, 3287 Mount Diablo Blvd., Lafayette; (925) 283-7108



ALEX ROBLES
WINE DIRECTOR

PEÛPOLI

The Inn at Spanish Bay Resort, 2700 17 Mile Drive, Pebble Beach; (831) 647-7490 **Wine director** Wendy Heilmann **Wine strengths** California, Burgundy, Bordeaux, Italy **Wine selections** 1,000 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$35 **Cuisine** Italian **Menu prices** \$20-\$47

PILOTHOUSE RESTAURANT

Delta King Hotel, 1000 Front St., Sacramento; (916) 441-4440

THE PLUMED HORSE

14555 Big Basin Way, Saratoga; (408) 867-4711 **Wine director** Jeffrey Perisho **Wine strengths** Champagne, Burgundy, Bordeaux, California, Madeira **Wine selections** 2,100 **Wine prices** Expensive **Corkage** \$35 **Cuisine** Californian **Menu prices** \$36-\$55

PLUMPOCK CAFÉ

Squaw Valley Inn, 1920 Squaw Valley Road, Olympic Valley; (530) 583-1578 **Wine director** Peter Fain **Wine strengths** California, France **Wine selections** 600 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$20 **Cuisine** Contemporary American **Menu prices** \$27-\$42

POGGIO TRATTORIA

Casa Madrona Hotel & Spa, 777 Bridgeway, Sausalito; (415) 332-7771

PRESS

587 S. St. Helena Highway, St. Helena; (707) 967-0550 **Sommeliers** Scott Brenner, Kelli White, Angela Stem **Wine strengths** California **Wine selections** 1,300 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$25 **Cuisine** Steak house **Menu prices** \$25-\$90

PRIMA

1522 N. Main St., Walnut Creek; (925) 935-7780 **Wine director** John Rittmaster **Wine strengths** California, France, Italy, Germany, Australia **Wine selections** 1,100 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$25 **Cuisine** Italian **Menu prices** \$18-\$42

Grand Award

Best of Award of Excellence

Award of Excellence

New Winner

Upgrade

Restaurants in GREEN feature inexpensive wine pricing