

National Tasting Project 2018



The National Tasting Project (NTP) gives AWS chapters across the U.S. the opportunity to sample the same group of wines in a blind tasting in an effort to calibrate our palates. This year 66 chapters, representing 1465 tasters across the country participated in the NTP. This year, our participation increased by 18 chapters and 240 tasters. The wines were very well received and the chapters who held tastings had larger turnouts than the previous year.

Each participating chapter selected from 12 wines, tasting as many as they wished. The wines were tasted blind and scored on the AWS 20-point scale. The results show that:

- ⇒ The top 3 favorite wines were: #1 Porto Quinta Vale Dona Maria 20 year Tawny, #2 Dona Maria Amantis Reserva Red and #3 Porto Quinta Vale Dona Maria White.
- ⇒ The difference between the judges and non-judges scores for both the top 2 wines was 0.5.

⇒ Based on overall averages, the wines scored 1 Gold, 9 Silver and 2 Bronze medals. Every wine earned a medal. The NTP committee likewise awarded metals to all the wines we selected for this project.

⇒ This effectively concludes a successful calibration among our members, having a less than 1 point spread in the group averages for the top 2 wines. Overall the gap was 1.2 between the chapters judges and non-judges scores.

There were only 2 reports of faulty wines. During the pre-evaluation of the wines by the NTP team, all the wines selected had no faults and all were bronze or higher ranked. Coincidentally, the top 3 wines in the committee tasting matched the top 3 final scores! Dona Maria 20 yr. Port 17.12, Amantis Reserva 16.47 and the White Port 16.38.

The following table shows the average scores for the participants and the graduate wine judges. The last 2 columns show the percentage of the chapters that tasted a particular wine and rated them as the favorite and the wines in the top 3. First, Second, and Third place winners are highlighted.

All wines scored a bronze or higher. Also of note is all of the 12 wines had rankings in the top 3 wines (on average) among the participating chapters. Overall, the wines were very well received and the calibration was a success. Thank you to all the groups who participated and submitted results.



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No.	Wine	Tasters	Average Cost	Average Score	Wine Judge Average Score	Favorite Wine (percent of chapters)	In Top 3 Wines (percent of chapters)
1	Castello D'Alba Reserva White 2015	943	\$17	14.3	15.0	0%	10%
2	Beyra Reserva Vinho Blanco 2015/16	1324	\$14	13.6	14.8	0%	2%
3	Dona Maria Amantis Reserva Viognier 2014	1164	\$22	14.3	15.2	0%	10%
4	Beyra Tinto Reserva Red 2013	1062	\$14	15.0	15.7	0%	25%
5	Quinta do Gradil Red 2015	1153	\$10	15.1	15.9	8%	26%
6	Dona Maria Amantis Reserva Red 2013	935	\$24	16.0	16.5	31%	71%
7	Castello D'Alba 'Vinhas Velhas' G.R. 2014	1072	\$24	15.5	16.2	4%	35%
8	Dona Maria Grande Reserva Red 2012	475	\$35	16.1	16.7	14%	64%
9	Quinta Vale D. Maria Red 2013	786	\$61	16.1	16.7	11%	51%
10	Porto Quinta Vale D. Maria White Port NV	903	\$14	16.1	15.9	24%	73%
11	Porto Quinta Vale D. Maria Ruby Port NV	790	\$14	16.2	16.2	23%	69%
12	Porto Quinta Vale D. Maria 20yr Tawny Port NV	570	\$59	17.1	17.6	76%	100%



Chapter	1 Castello D'Alba White	2 Beyra Vinho Branco	3 Dona Maria Viognier	4 Beyra Tinto Red	5 Quinta Do Gradil Red	6 Dona Maria Amatis Red	7 Cast. D'Al- ba Vinhas Velhas	8 Dona Maria Gr. Res.	9 Quinta Vale D. Maria Red	10 Vale D. Maria White Port	11 Vale D. Maria Ruby Port	12 Vale D. Maria 20 Yr Tawny
Alle-Kiske PA	14.8		14.1	16.2	17.3	15.8					15.6	
AOC East Bay CA	14.0	11.6	11.9	14.2	14.5	15.1	15.4		14.8	16.5	14.0	17.7
Beaver County PA	14.4	12.9		14.2		15.9				15.7	15.5	
Bill Tuller SC	13.5	12.1	13.9	14.4	13.5		15.1			14.3	14.9	
Bucks County/Philly PA		13.3	12.9		14.4				16.8	15.7	16.0	
Carroll County MD	13.9	13.8	15.6	14.8	15.5	16.5						
Catalina Foothills AZ	13.5	12.2		13.4	14.5		14.6		15.9			18.1
Catawba NC	13.9	11.0	12.5	13.9			13.8	15.3	15.1	15.6	15.3	16.0
Cleveland OH	14.2	13.2	14.2		15.4	16.8	16.8					
Columbus OH		12.4	12.1		12.8	13.6	13.5			14.9		
Dayton OH		14.6		15.9	15.2		14.4			13.9	16.4	16.1
Electric City PA		14.8			15.1	16.4	15.5		16.3		16.0	
Emerald Coast FL		12.7		14.3		16.4	16.2	15.5			17.0	18.6
First State Wine Guild DE	14.7	14.2					16.0	15.9	16.3	14.3	17.9	17.3
Fleetwood Farm VA		12.1	12.7	15.2	14.3	15.5	14.8			16.1	15.3	
Glacier Ridge NY			14.6	14.3				15.2	14.6	17.6		18.3
Glimmerglass NY		16.5	15.4	17.5			16.6			17.7	17.1	
Greater Atlanta GA	14.7	14.6	14.9	15.6	15.6	14.8	15.1	16.0	15.2	15.2	16.2	15.6
Hammonton NJ	15.3	16.1	17.7		16.7	18.1	17.5			17.2	17.3	18.2
Hartford CT	14.0	13.2					15.3		16.0	15.3	15.2	16.5
Heritage Hunt VA	14.6	13.4	14.7	15.8	15.1	16.8	16.3		16.7	17.2	17.6	17.6
Houston TX	11.2			13.1		13.1	11.4		12.6			16.0
Indian Valley PA	14.7		14.7	15.0			15.8				15.6	16.3
John Marshall VA		15.5	15.9	15.2	15.3	17.5	15.7			16.8	17.2	
Keuka NY	13.1	13.2	12.2	13.0	14.7	16.1	13.1			14.1		
King George VA	14.5	12.7	13.5	15.5	15.0		15.1	15.4			15.8	
Lake Hickory NC		13.9	13.8	14.9		16.6		15.8		18.1		
Laurel Highlands PA			16.6		16.5	17.0		17.1	16.6	16.6		
Lone Star TX	15.7	15.3	16.2	16.2	16.5	18.3	17.5		17.6			
Meadowlands NJ	13.4	12.7	12.6	13.3	14.8	15.3						
Meadow Run Mtn Lake PA	13.3	14.1	17.2	17.1	15.0		16.4	17.6	18.0	15.8		
Mount Nittany PA		14.7		16.7	16.7	17.5	16.5	18.3				
North Alabama AL		14.7	15.9		16.6		16.4		17.3			
Northampton PA	14.6	13.4	16.7	16.0	17.5	16.9	15.5	16.4				
N. Loudon County VA	14.5	13.7	15.6	15.7	15.0	16.9				16.1		
Northeast TN Wine Lovers	14.5	13.5	14.1	15.7	14.0	15.0	15.7		16.3	16.4	15.6	16.9
Northern Virginia VA		12.3	12.7	12.6	13.0	14.1	14.4			16.1	14.9	
Northern Neck Uncorked VA	13.0	11.9	13.4	14.3	14.7	14.7	13.6				15.9	
Ocean Isle Beach NC	14.9			16.7	15.8					16.8		
Perkiomen Valley PA		15.6			16.3	16.3		15.5	16.2	17.3		
Phoenix AZ		13.1	14.2	15.6				15.6	15.6			17.3
Piedmont Wine and Vine SC	15.1	14.0	14.7	15.0		17.0			17.0			
Pioneer Vly Wmakers MA			13.6	14.1				14.7	13.5	16.0		16.8
Pittsburgh PA		14.4	14.9	15.3		16.6	16.4			16.2		
Pittsburgh East PA	15.3	14.3	15.5	16.0	15.2	16.6	16.2	16.2		17.0	16.2	
Princeton NJ	15.3	13.2	14.5	14.7		15.5			15.2	16.1	14.7	
Puget Sound WA	13.2	14.3	14.5	15.0	14.4	14.0	15.7		16.4	16.6	15.3	16.5
Raritan Valley NJ		15.7	16.7	17.2	14.9				17.1	17.9	17.5	
Rehobeth Beach DE		14.9	12.9		15.2	15.9	16.6	14.7		16.8		16.9
Rochester NY	13.8	13.0	13.1	14.1	14.6		15.4		15.4			17.6
San Diego CA		13.3		15.0	14.5		15.2	15.0	15.8	17.1	16.7	18.7
SE Hunstville AL	16.5	16.1	15.8	16.3	16.3	17.9	18.0	18.1	18.2	19.0	18.4	19.1
Silicon Valley CA	14.1	14.0	13.8	14.9	13.8	15.8	14.2	15.1	14.7	13.5	13.3	
Smoky Mountain TN		13.9	11.6	14.5	13.4				16.0	14.7	17.9	
Sonoita AZ	15.3	14.5		13.7	14.8		13.8					18.5
Space Coast FL	16.0	14.2	15.5	15.3	16.5	16.6	15.8		17.3		17.3	16.7
Springfield OH			14.5			15.6	14.6		16.1		16.9	18.5
St. Louis/Gateway MO/IL		13.9	14.2	15.5	13.7	15.1	17.2	16.0	15.4	16.4	16.3	
Suffolk NY	14.3	13.1	13.8	13.8	14.7		13.8	15.3	14.6			16.3
Tipple Tasters IN	14.0	15.6	14.6	14.4	15.9							
Triangle NC	15.8	14.6		15.5	16.2	16.6			17.5		18.0	
Tucson AZ	11.5	12.2	12.0	13.3	14.6	15.8						
Tupelo Blue Hawaii MS	15.3	10.9	15.3		17.3	15.1	14.2			16.4		17.2
Walt Whitman NJ	13.6	13.7	13.8	15.7	15.6	16.3	16.5			14.6	15.2	17.4
West Michigan MI	15.9	14.5	15.9				16.6	17.4	17.7	17.3		17.5
Worcester MA	15.0	14.3	13.3	15.3	15.0	15.9	15.8		15.8	16.2		17.1