



KOBRAND
FINE WINE AND SPIRITS
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2017 National Tasting Project

The National Tasting Project (NTP) gives AWS chapters across the US the opportunity to sample the same group of wines in a blind tasting in an effort to calibrate our palates. This year 40 chapters, representing 1084 tasters across the country participated in the NTP. This year saw a decrease in the number of chapters participating by 8 chapters, but had 21 more tasters than last year. The addition of the Konstantin Frank tasting option for our 50th Anniversary was a factor in this decrease, but overall the chapters who held tastings had larger turnouts.

Each participating chapter selected from 12 wines, tasting how many they wish from the selection.

The wines were tasted blind and scored on the AWS 20-point scale. The results show that:

- The top favorite wines were: St. Francis Old Vines Zinfandel, Fonseca Terra Bella Reserve Porto and Domaine Carneros Pinot Noir.
- The difference between the judges and non-judges scores for top 3 wines were between .3 and .4 respectively.
- Based on overall averages the wines scored 1 Gold, 8 Silver and 3 Bronze. Every wine scored a medal.
- The original NTP committee likewise awarded medals to all the wines when selected for this project.
- This effectively concludes a successful calibration amongst our members, having a less than 1 point spread in the group averages.

There were no reported faulty wines. During the pre-evaluation of the wines by the NTP team, all the wines selected for the tasting did not have any faults and all were bronze or higher ranked (top scores at that tasting: Château des Jacques Morgon 17.5, Fueda Maccari Nero D'Avola 17.5, St. Francis Old Vines Zinfandel 16.8).

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 (St. Francis) and Second place (tie for second) winners are highlighted.

The Top Wines (in pink) are only .4 and .3 difference between the wine judge scores and average group scores. All wines scored a bronze or higher. Also of note is the fact all 12 wines ranked in the top 3 wines (on average) amongst 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.

No.	Wine	Tasters	Average Cost	Average Score Non Judge	Wine Judge Average Score	Favorite Wine (percent of chapters)	In Top 3 Wines (percent of chapters)
1	2012 Domaine Carneros Brut	647		14.6	15.9	8%	7
2	2015 Craggy Range Te Muna S.Blanc	856		15.0	16.0	13%	12
3	2015 Don Olegario Albarino, Rias Baixas	783		14.2	14.9	0%	3
4	2014 Dom. Zind-Humbrecht Pinot Gris	732		14.3	15.6	3%	7
5	2014 Dom. Zind-Humbrecht Gewurtztraminer	536		15.2	15.2	15%	9
6	2013 Château Des Jacques Morgon	558		12.8	14.8	0%	1
7	2013 Domaine Carneros Pinot Noir	594		15.5	15.9	10%	15
8	2013 Fuedo Maccari Nero d'Avola	694		14.8	16.3	0%	12
9	2015 The Seeker Cabernet Sauvignon Chile	682		15.3	15.9	26%	19
10	2014 Alta Vista Malbec, Lujan de Cuyo	769		15.7	15.5	12%	20
11	2013 St. Francis Old Vine Zinfandel, Sonoma	747		16.2	16.5	52%	32
12	NV Fonseca Terra Bella Reserve Porto	536		15.5	15.9	26%	16









