



napa valley vintners

2019 NATIONAL TASTING PROJECT SUMMARY

The National Tasting Project (NTP) gives AWS chapters across the US the opportunity to sample the same group of wines in a blind tasting as a means to calibrate our palates. This year 64 chapters, representing 1424 tasters across the country participated in the NTP. This year saw an increase in the number of chapters participating by 6 chapters, and 100 more tasters than last year. The wines overall were very well received. The cabernets scored higher than the other types of wine.

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

- The top scoring wines were 2014 Hoopes Cab and 2014 Pellet Cab. They were the most expensive wines and were tasted by about a third of the chapters.
- Close behind were Mount Veeder and Summers Estate Cab. The Mount Veeder was widely tasted.
- The top white was 2017 St. Supery Sauvignon Blanc. It was the least costly wine in the tasting.
- Based on overall averages, the wines scored 1 Gold, 10 Silver and 1 Bronze. Every wine scored a medal.
- This effectively concludes a successful calibration amongst our members, having a less than 1 point spread between the judges and the group average for all but one wine. This represents a big improvement over last year.

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 that particular wine and rated them as the favorite and the wines in the top 3. First and second place winners are highlighted.

Thank you to all the groups who participated and submitted results.

No.	Wine	Tasters	Cost	Overall Average Score	Wine Judge Average Score	Favorite Wine (percent of chapters)	In Top 3 Wines (percent of chapters)
1	2017 St. Supery Sauvignon Blanc	1271	\$18	15.8	16.4	13%	43%
2	2016 Robert Mondavi Fume Blanc	1184	\$24	14.4	15.1	0%	2%
3	2017 Stags' Leap Viognier	1206	\$30	15.1	15.2	0%	8%
4	2017 Hagafen Chardonnay	432	\$26	15.2	14.9	0%	17%
5	2017 Robert Mondavi Pinot Noir	1201	\$26	15.4	16.1	0%	23%
6	2015 Stags' Leap Petite Sirah	926	\$36	15.9	16.1	12%	43%
7	2014 Green & Red Zinfandel	704	\$29	15.9	16.3	3%	48%
8	2015 Whitehall Lane Tre Leoni	1278	\$29	15.9	16.1	9%	48%
9	2014 Summers Estate Cab. Sauvignon	424	\$30	16.5	16.2	13%	63%
10	2015/2016 Mount Veeder Cab. Sauv.	1202	\$44	16.5	16.6	43%	82%
11	2014 Hoopes Cabernet Sauvignon	458	\$59	16.7	16.7	50%	71%
12	2014 Pellet Cabernet Sauvignon	311	\$80	17.0	16.9	50%	72%