Winemaking (Adult)
COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

FAIR CONTACT INFORMATION

MARIN COUNTY FAIR | FAIR OFFICE & EXHIBIT HALL	20 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael, CA 94903
WEBSITE	www.marinfair.org
EMAIL	FairExhibits@MarinCounty.Gov
REGULAR OFFICE HOURS	Monday to Friday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
FAIR OFFICE HOURS	July 1 (Wednesday) to July 5 (Sunday): 8:00 am to 8:00 pm
MARIN COUNTY FAIR HOURS	July 1 (Wednesday) to July 5 (Sunday): 11:00 am to 11:00 pm

COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS STAFF

WINEMAKING (ADULT)

COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS MANAGER	Jennifer Olvera
ONLINE SUBMISSIONS COORDINATOR	Carole Sanders
COMPETITION MANAGER	Mary Lou Marek

For a list of Judges & Sponsors, visit www.marinfair.org after June 1, 2026.

COMPETITION CALENDAR

ONLINE ENTRY FORMS DUE	MAY 22, 2026, AT 11:59 pm
ENTRY DROP-OFF – SANTA ROSA ENTRY DROP-OFF – NAPA, CA ENTRY DROP-OFF –BERKELEY ENTRY RECEIVING/ DROP-OFF-EXHIBIT HALL	MAY 26, The Beverage People, Santa Rosa, CA. By 4:00 PM MAY 26, Napa Fermentation Supply, Napa CA. By 4:00 PM MAY 26, Oak Barrel Winecraft, Berkely CA. By 4:00 PM MAY 29, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm & MAY 30, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
ENTRY JUDGING	JUNE 6, 2026
ENTRY RELEASED	JULY 6, 2026, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

The full Competitive Exhibits Calendar is available on www.marinfair.org

REGISTRATION

To register for the 2026 Competitive Exhibits, please visit https://marin.fairwire.com/

ENTRY DELIVERY AND PICK UP

Please refer to the Competition Calendar for exact dates and times.

Drop off is located at the Marin County Fair Exhibit Hall, located at **20 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael, CA 94903**. Follow the signage at the Exhibit Hall for the exact location.

Claim checks will be provided when exhibits are delivered and are required to pick up your entry on entry pick up date.

DEPARTMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

Local and State Rules govern this competition.

1. **ELIGIBILITY** - Open to all Amateur Winemakers over 21 years of age whose permanent residence is within the state of California. Amateur is defined as a person who does not hold an enology degree, and who makes wine only non-commercially, without assistance from any commercial winemaking facility. **No commercial wines may be entered in this competition.**

ENTRY INFORMATION

2. **ENTRY FEES -** $10.00 per Entry | $5.00 per Wine Label Entry
    a. Fees are NON-refundable.
3. **ENTRY LIMIT -** None.
    a. Exhibitors must provide two bottles of wine in each class entered.
4. **IDENTIFICATION -** Entries will be displayed during the Fair, properly label entries with the exhibitor's name, division, and class prior to delivery.

5. **ENTRY REMOVAL -** Accepted works (including sold works) shall not be removed from exhibition until the Fair closes.
6. **ENTRY RELEASE -** Entries must be picked up on release day. Entries will only be released by presenting your claim check, personal identification, or a signed letter of authorization from the exhibitor. Exhibits that are not picked up within the release time will be discarded.

ENTRY SUBMISSION

7. Wines are to be bottled & labeled in 750 milliliters or fifth bottles, except Dessert Wines which may be entered in 375 milliliters or tenth bottles.
8. Please provide adequate information on bottle labels for wine categorization.
    a. Percent residual sugar in the wine must be listed on the entry form.
    b. Judges reserve the right to reclassify wines to facilitate judging.
9. The Marin County Fair or its representatives retains the right to refuse or disqualify any entries that do not meet the specifications of the rules of competition.
10. The Danish System of Judging will be used in judging for medal awards; wines will be judged by professional standards.
    a. Each wine will be judged against established standards of commercial quality, rather than how it compares with the other exhibits. Please note that under this system, it is possible that all, or no, entries could win any given medal.
    b. Every effort will be made to judge similar wines together.
    c. Bottles not used in the judging may be claimed by the exhibitor at the end of the Fair.
    d. A written critique of each wine will be made available to each entrant.

DISPLAY

11. Installation of all items is completed by a professional team whose decisions are final. No alterations or changes (e.g. location, lighting, etc.) may be made by the exhibitor or any staff member at any time.

PUBLICITY

12. The Marin County Fair reserves the right to photograph any work in the exhibition for educational, catalog, website, or publicity purposes.

LIABILITY

13. The County of Marin, Marin County Fair, and/or its contractors will not be responsible for loss or damage which may occur from any cause. Any entries received damaged will not be juried.

DIVISION 11 | WHITE WINES

Entry Fee - $10.00 per entry

CLASSES (Submission Categories)

1. **Sparkling** |Identify grapes and % residual sugar on entry form
2. **Sauvignon Blanc**
3. **Chardonnay**
4. **Other White Varieties** | Identify grapes and % residual sugar
5. **White Blends** | Identify grapes and % residual sugar
6. **Fruit Wines** | Identify fruit and % residual sugar
7. **Varietal Rosé** | Identify grapes and % residual sugar
8. **Rosé Blends** | Identify grapes and % residual sugar
9. **Late Harvest or Dessert White**

DIVISION 12 | RED WINES

Entry Fee - $10.00 per entry

CLASSES (Submission Categories)

10. **Pinot Noir**
11. **Merlot**
12. **Syrah**
13. **Petite Sirah**
14. **Other Rhône Varieties and Blends** | Identify
15. **Sangiovese**
16. **Tempranillo**
17. **Primitivo**
18. **Zinfandel**
19. **Cabernet Franc**
20. **Cabernet Sauvignon**
21. **Other Bordeaux Varieties and Blends** | Identify
22. **Other Red Varieties and Blends**
23. **Late Harvest, Dessert and Fortified Reds**

DIVISION 18 | WINE LABELS

Entry Fee - $5.00 per entry

Entries must follow the guidelines listed below:

- Labels should be affixed to a piece of card stock or any other stiff paper.
- Labels will be judged on originality, creativity, readability, etc.

CLASSES (Submission Categories)

24. **Submit Your Original Wine Label**

AWARDS | DANISH SYSTEM | WINEMAKING

Offered per Class at the Discretion of the Judges

GOLD
SILVER
BRONZE

BEST OF SHOW AWARDS | WINEMAKING

BEST OF SHOW - RED	$75 & MEDAL
BEST OF SHOW - WHITE	$75 & MEDAL
BEST WINE LABEL	$50 & MEDAL