

# Monterey Wine Country

WHERE GREAT TASTE BEGINS™

**From vine to barrel to bottle**, perhaps no beverage or food is as analyzed, assessed, and examined as wine. There are many ways to judge a wine's success. And while the enjoyment the consumer gets when opening a cherished vintage at home or in a restaurant is certainly the ultimate yardstick, outside "third party" endorsements are also an important part of the process. With literally thousands of wine labels crowding retail shelves and wine lists, vintners look to the wine media and the wine competitions circuit for accolades and awards that can set their brand apart.

By any standard, 2006 was a truly exceptional year for the wines of Monterey County when it came to glowing reviews and gold medals. The world-beating quality of the wines coming out of our region is no longer an industry secret; in head-to-head competition with the best of Napa, Sonoma, France, and Australia, Monterey's vintners are consistently wowing the reviewers and taking top honors. Here is a sneak peak at just a few of the wines from Monterey County that took center stage at some of the most prestigious wine competitions in 2006.

## Cabernet Sauvignon

### GALANTE VINEYARDS

**Wine:** 2003 Galante Vineyards "Blackjack Pasture" Cabernet Sauvignon

**Award:** Double-Gold, Houston Rodeo International Wine Competition. 1600 entries and only 3 double-gold medals given in this category.

**Price:** \$60

**Contact:** [www.galantevineyards.com](http://www.galantevineyards.com)  
831.624.3800

### JOULLIAN VINEYARDS

**Wine:** 2003 Joullian Estate Cabernet Sauvignon

**Award:** 90 points, California State Fair Wine Competition

**Price:** \$28

**Contact:** [www.joullian.com](http://www.joullian.com) | 831.659.8100

## Chardonnay

### CHALONE VINEYARDS

**Wine:** 2004 Chalone Monterey County Chardonnay

**Award:** Gold, Dallas Morning News Competition

**Price:** \$11.99

**Contact:** [www.chalonevineyard.com](http://www.chalonevineyard.com)  
831.678.1717

### J. LOHR VINEYARDS AND WINES

**Wine:** 2004 J. Lohr Arroyo Vista Chardonnay

**Award:** 90 points Wine Enthusiast; Highly Recommended, California Grapevine

**Price:** \$25

**Contact:** [www.jlohr.com](http://www.jlohr.com) | 408.288.5057

### MORGAN WINERY

**Wine:** 2004 Rosella's Vineyard Chardonnay

**Award:** 95 points and #32 in the Top 100 Wines of the Year, Wine Enthusiast

**Price:** \$35

**Contact:** [www.morganwinery.com](http://www.morganwinery.com)  
831.751.7777

### MORGAN WINERY

**Wine:** 2004 Monterey County Chardonnay

**Award:** Top 100 Wine of the Year, San Francisco Chronicle

**Price:** \$22

**Contact:** [www.morganwinery.com](http://www.morganwinery.com)  
831.751.7777

### PESSAGNO WINERY

**Wine:** 2004 Lucia Highlands Chardonnay

**Award:** People's Choice 2nd Place, Monterey County Fair Wine Challenge

**Price:** \$26

**Contact:** [www.pessagnowines.com](http://www.pessagnowines.com) | 831.675.8463

### PESSAGNO WINERY

**Wine:** 2004 Sleepy Hollow Chardonnay

**Award:** Gold, Monterey County Fair Wine Challenge

**Price:** \$30

**Contact:** [www.pessagnowines.com](http://www.pessagnowines.com)  
831.675.8463

### SAN SABA

**Wine:** 2004 Chardonnay

**Award:** 91 Points & Editor's Choice, Wine Enthusiast

**Price:** \$18

**Contact:** [www.sansaba.com](http://www.sansaba.com) | 831.659.7322

## Gewürztraminer

### JEKEL VINEYARDS

**Wine:** Jekel Vineyards 2005 Gewürztraminer

**Awards:** Gus Fertado Trophy; Best New World Gewürztraminer; Best of Varietal/ Best of Class, Gold Medal, Jerry Mead's New World International Wine Competition

**Price:** \$11.99

**Contact:** [www.jekel.com](http://www.jekel.com) | 1.800.753.4567

### VENTANA VINEYARDS

**Wine:** 2004 Ventana Gewürztraminer

**Award:** Double Gold, Florida State Fair Wine Competition

**Price:** \$16.00

**Contact:** [www.ventanawines.com](http://www.ventanawines.com)  
831.372.7415

## Merlot

### HAHN ESTATES

**Wine:** Hahn Estates 2004 Monterey Merlot

**Award:** Gold Medal & Sweepstakes Red Wine, Monterey Wine Competition

**Price:** \$12

**Contact:** [www.hahnestates.com](http://www.hahnestates.com) | 831.678.4555

## Pinot Grigio

### BLACKSTONE WINERY

**Wine:** 2005 Blackstone Pinot Grigio

**Award:** 2006 Pacific Coast Oyster Wine Award. The 2006 crushing expansion at Blackstone also made Blackstone the largest winery in the Central Coast.

**Price:** \$12

**Contact:** [www.blackstonewinery.com](http://www.blackstonewinery.com)  
831.675.5341

## Pinot Noir

### CHALONE VINEYARDS

**Wine:** 2004 Chalone Monterey County Pinot Noir

**Award:** Gold, Monterey Wine Competition

**Price:** \$15.99

**Contact:** [www.chalonevineyard.com](http://www.chalonevineyard.com)  
831.678.1717

### PARAISO VINEYARDS

**Wine:** 2003 West Terrace Pinot Noir

**Awards:** 91 Points, Wine Enthusiast

**Price:** \$40

**Contact:** [www.paraisovineyards.com](http://www.paraisovineyards.com)  
831.678.0300

### PARAISO VINEYARDS

**Wine:** Paraiso 2003 Pinot Noir, Santa Lucia Highlands

**Awards:** Gold Medals, Los Angeles Wines of the World Competition; Gold Medal, Orange County Fair Competition

**Price:** \$22

**Contact:** [www.paraisovineyards.com](http://www.paraisovineyards.com) | 831.678.0300

### VENTANA VINEYARDS

**Wine:** 2003 Ventana Pinot Noir Award: Gold, San Diego National Wine Competition

**Price:** \$34.00

**Contact:** [www.ventanawines.com](http://www.ventanawines.com)  
831.372.7415

## Red Blend

### BERNARDUS WINERY

**Wine:** 2002 Carmel Valley Marinus

**Award:** Bronze, San Francisco International Wine Competition and 90 points, Wine Enthusiast

**Price:** \$40

**Contact:** [www.bernardus.com](http://www.bernardus.com) | 831.659.1900

### J. LOHR VINEYARDS AND WINES

**Wine:** 2005 J. Lohr Estates Wildflower Valdiguié

**Award:** Gold, Best of Class, Jerry Meads New World International Wine Competition

**Price:** \$8.50

**Contact:** [www.jlohr.com](http://www.jlohr.com) | 408.288.5057

## Sauvignon Blanc

### BERNARDUS WINERY

**Wine:** 2005 Monterey County Sauvignon Blanc

**Award:** 90 points, Wine News

**Price:** \$15

**Contact:** [www.bernardus.com](http://www.bernardus.com) | 831.659.1900

## White Blend

### CARMICHAEL VINTNERS

**Wine:** 2005 Carmichael Vintners Grigio e Bianco

**Award:** 89 points, Wine Enthusiast/Steve Heimhoff; Silver, 90 points, Best of Class, Best of Region, 2006 California State Fair

**Price:** \$14.99

**Contact:** [www.carmichaelwine.com](http://www.carmichaelwine.com)  
559.673.6372

## Zinfandel

### CHATEAU JULIEN WINE ESTATES

**Wine:** 2003 Private Reserve Zinfandel

**Awards:** Gold, San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition

**Price:** \$36

**Contact:** [www.chateaujulien.com](http://www.chateaujulien.com)  
831.624.2600

# Monterey Wine Country

WHERE GREAT TASTE BEGINS™

Look for these great wines, and other award winners from Monterey County, the next time that you are at a store or restaurant. You will also have an opportunity to taste them at the events sponsored by the Monterey County Vintners and Growers Association in 2007. Mark your calendar for the following special events:

**Passport Weekend / Monterey Wine Auction & Gala:** February 16-18, 2007

**Winemakers Celebration:** August 11, 2007

**Great Wine Escape Weekend:** November 8-11, 2007

Details on wine events, MCVGA members, and touring Monterey Wine Country can be obtained by calling **831.375.9400** or visiting

[www.montereywines.org](http://www.montereywines.org)