

2009 Wines for Oysters Competition Results

In 2009, seven of the top ten winning wines hail from New Zealand, with California, France, and Spain each having one gold medal winner. The Sauvignon Blanc grape dominated the competition, accounting for eight of the top ten wines. The 15 judges who gathered on November 9th included people from the fields of wine, food, television, sports, law, medicine and journalism. They each blind-tasted twenty finalists and scored each on their affinity for raw Olympia oysters. Their gold medal winner was the Spy Valley Sauvignon Blanc 2008, Marlborough, New Zealand, with first runner-up, The Crossings Sauvignon Blanc 2008 Marlborough, New Zealand, and second runner-up, Marlborough, New Zealand also receiving generous scores.

All 10 gold medal wines will be poured at the Oyster Riot, and will be featured by the glass and bottle, throughout the coming year, at the Old Ebbitt Grill, and at the oyster bars at Clyde's of Gallery Place, Clyde's at Mark Center and Tower Oaks Lodge. Furthermore, all the wines entered for the 2009 competition that were not among the gold medal winners, are also available to sample both evenings, so guests can judge for themselves their ideal oyster and wine pairing.

Our Distinguished Panel of Judges

Jose Andres, Michael Apstein, Bruce Boudreau, Andrew Dornenburg, Bart Farrell, Michael Franz, David Hagedorn, Tom Meyer, Andy Myers, Kaz Okochi, Karen Page, Chip Reid, Phyllis Richman, Richard Wolffe, Thomas Yannucci

2009 GOLD MEDAL WINNERS

Grand Champion

Spy Valley Sauvignon Blanc 2008
Marlborough, New Zealand

First Runner-Up

The Crossings Sauvignon Blanc 2008
Marlborough, New Zealand

Second Runner-Up

Fantail Sauvignon Blanc 2008
Marlborough, New Zealand

OTHER GOLD MEDALISTS

Bodegas Vinedos de Nieva Blanco Nieva, Rueda, Spain 2008
Fire Road Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2009
Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2009
Korbel Natural', Russian River Valley, California NV
Ladoucette Les Deux Tours Sauvignon Blanc, Touraine, France 2007
Mount Nelson Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Sileni Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2009

2009 SILVER MEDAL WINNERS

Boston Bay "The Great White" Sauvignon Blanc, Australia 2009
Brancott "Reserve" Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Cape Mentelle Sauvignon Blanc/Semillon, Margaret River, Australia 2008
Cloudy Bay Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Cono Sur Sauvignon Blanc, Central Valley, Chile 2009
Dancing Bull Sauvignon Blanc, California 2008

Nobilo "Regional Collection" Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2009
Rancho Zabaco Sauvignon Blanc, Russian River Valley California 2008
Santa Carolina Reserva Sauvignon Blanc, Leyda Valley, Chile 2009
Santa Rita "120" Sauvignon Blanc, Central Valley, Chile 2009

2009 BRONZE MEDAL WINNERS

Alma Rosa Pinot Gris, Santa Rita Hills, California 2007
Barefoot Cellars Pinot Grigio, California NV
Bird Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Brancott "B" Series Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Brancott Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Chateau Beau Mayne Blanc, Bordeaux Superieur, France 2007
Cono Sur "Vision" Sauvignon Blanc, Casablanca Valley, Chile 2008
Cupcake Vineyard Riesling, Marlborough, New Zealand 2009
Cupcake Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Cypress Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc, Central Coast, California 2008
Delta Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Dominican Oaks Chardonnay, California 2008
Firestone Sauvignon Blanc, Santa Ynez, California 2008
Glen Manor Sauvignon Blanc, Virginia 2008
Huia Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Hunter's Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Intaglio Bianco Muller-Thurgau/Chardonnay/Riesling, Trentino, Italy 2008
Jackson Estate "Grey Ghost" Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2007
Jackson Estate "Stich" Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Lawson's Dry Hills Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Laxas Albarino, Rias Baixas, Spain 2008
Manu Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2009
Matua Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
McWilliam's Hanwood Estate Chardonnay, Southeastern Australia 2007
Mirrasou Sauvignon Blanc, California 2008
Neudorf Nelson Sauvignon Blanc, Nelson, New Zealand 2008
Nicolas Feuillatte Brut Rose Champagne, France NV
Oyster Bay Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2009
Ponga Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2009
Ritratti Muller-Thurgau, Trentino, Italy 2008
Santa Cristina Camporgrande Orvieto, Tuscany, Italy 2008
Sebeka Chenin Blanc, Western Cape, South Africa 2008
Sherwood Estate Sauvignon Blanc, Waipara, New Zealand 2008
St. Clair Vicars Choice Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2009
St. Supery "Oak-Free Chardonnay," Napa Valley, California 2008
St. Supery "Virtu" Semillon/Sauvignon Blanc, Napa Valley, California 2007
Staete Landt Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2008
Tariquet Sauvignon Blanc, Gascogne, France 2008
Wairu River Wines Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2009
Zeepaard Sauvignon Blanc, Western Australia 2008

Countries and Number of Entries

Argentina, 7
Australia, 18
Chile, 9
France, 20
Germany, 6
Hungary, 1

Italy, 16
New Zealand, 47
South Africa, 7
Spain, 8
United States, 114

United States, 114 Entries

California, 86
New York, 7
Oregon, 4
Virginia, 5
South Dakota, 3
Washington, 9

Oysters Served at the Oyster Riot

Olympia (*Ostrea lurida*)
Olympia (Totten Inlet, WA)

European Flat: *Ostrea edulis*
Harpwell Flat (Casco Bay, ME)

Pacific: *Crassostrea gigas*
Fanny Bay (Baynes Sound, BC)
Gold Creek (Hood Canal, WA)
Kusshi (Stellar Bay, BC)

Eastern: *Crassostrea virginica*
Bee's River (East Ham, MA)
Bluepoint (Norwalk Harbor, CT)
Cape Breton (North Harbor, NS)
Cape Cod Bay (Cape Cod Bay, MA)
Conway Cup (Cascumpeque Bay, PEI)
Matunuck (Potters Pond, RI)

Eastern: *Crassostrea virginica*
Mayflower Point (Nobscusset Harbor, MA)
Moon Shoal (Barnstable Harbor, MA)
Pemaquid (Damariscotta River, ME)
Princetown Point (Conway Narrows, PEI)
Quonset Point (Narragansett Bay, RI)
Raspberry Point (New London Bay, PEI)
Taunton Bay (Taunton Bay, ME)
Thatch Island (Barnstable Harbor, MA)
Wellfleet (Wellfleet Harbor, MA)
Wianno (Barnstable Harbor, MA)
Wild Goose (Narragansett Bay, RI)