

# THE 2011 RESTAURANT AWARDS

IN THE MORE THAN 60 PAGES THAT FOLLOW, YOU'LL FIND LISTINGS FOR ALL THE RESTAURANTS THAT EARNED A *WINE SPECTATOR* AWARD FOR THEIR WINE PROGRAM IN 2011. WE HOPE YOU'LL GIVE THEM A TRY.

**85 UNITED STATES • 135 INTERNATIONAL**

**ABOUT THE AWARD LEVELS** *To qualify for an award, a wine list must present complete, accurate information, including vintages and appellations for all selections. Complete producer names and correct spellings are mandatory, and the overall presentation of the list is also considered. Lists that meet these requirements are judged for one of our three awards.*

**🏆 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE** **2,827 winners**

Our basic award, for lists that offer a well-chosen selection of quality producers, along with a thematic match to the menu in both price and style. Typically, these lists offer at least 100 selections.

**🏆🏆 BEST OF AWARD OF EXCELLENCE** **833 winners**

Our second-tier award, created to give special recognition to restaurants that clearly exceed the requirements of the Award of Excellence; many are close to the Grand Award level. These lists display either vintage depth, with vertical offerings of several top producers from major regions, or excellent breadth spread over several winegrowing regions.

These wine lists typically offer 400 or more selections, along with superior presentation; some offer more than 1,000 selections.

**🏆🏆🏆 GRAND AWARD** **74 winners**

Our highest award, given to restaurants that show an uncompromising, passionate devotion to the quality of their wine program. These restaurants typically offer 1,500 selections or more, and feature serious breadth of top producers, outstanding depth in mature vintages, a selection of large-format bottles, excellent harmony with the menu, and superior organization, presentation and wine service. Grand Award winners are denoted by **red** type in the listings.

**HOW TO READ THE GUIDE** *In the following pages, abbreviated listings comprising location and basic contact information are given for Award of Excellence winners; listings for Best of Award of Excellence and Grand Award winners include more detailed information, such as the restaurant's wine strengths and type of cuisine. Below are explanations of the different categories of information given.*

**WINE DIRECTOR/SOMMELIER:** This information, provided by the restaurant, indicates the people responsible for managing the wine list and assisting diners with their wine selections.

**WINE STRENGTHS:** Determined by our judges, this indicates the *emphasis* of the list, not all the regions from which wines are offered. Wine strengths are listed in descending order of prominence.

**WINE SELECTIONS:** This indicates the number of selections on the restaurant's list at the time the award was conferred. For Grand Award winners, this information is followed by the total number of bottles in the restaurant's inventory.

**WINE PRICES:** Determined by our judges, this describes the overall pricing of the wine list, taking into account both the general markup of wines offered and the number of wines at high and low price points. *Inexpensive* lists offer many bottles for less than \$50, while also employing a below-normal markup (generally considered to be two to two-and-a-half times the wholesale bottle price). Because these lists offer uncommon value, the restaurants are indicated in **green**. *Moderate* lists use the industry norm for markup, with a range of both less expensive and expensive offerings.

*Expensive* lists offer wines priced with a greater-than-normal markup, along with many selections for more than \$100 a bottle. Pricing is not a judging criterion, it is merely provided as a guide for the reader.

**CORKAGE:** Provided by the restaurant, this figure reflects the corkage fee charged per bottle to customers. Corkage fees, which can range greatly, are typically charged per 750ml bottle, so expect to pay more if you bring a magnum. Some restaurants do not permit diners to bring their own wine; others are prohibited by state or local regulations. Some readers report discrepancies between our listings and actual practices at the restaurants. *If you plan to bring wine to a restaurant, always call ahead to confirm its corkage policy.*

**CUISINE TYPE AND MENU PRICES:** Provided by the restaurant, this descriptor indicates the style of food served and the price range for dinner entrées, respectively. Restaurants that offer a prix fixe menu are indicated accordingly, with the price (or range of prices) per menu.

**NOTE:** Our awards program evaluates wine lists, not restaurants as a whole. While we assume the level of food and service will be commensurate with the quality of the wine lists submitted by award winners, this unfortunately is not always true. We cannot visit every award-winning restaurant (although all Grand Award winners and many others are inspected by *Wine Spectator* editors), so we encourage you to alert us to disparities or disappointments. If you have comments regarding your experience at one of our award-winning restaurants, contact us at [restaurantawards@mshanken.com](mailto:restaurantawards@mshanken.com).

**WINESPECTATOR.COM**

Free access to the complete Restaurant Award listings, with full information for all 3,734 award-winning restaurants, is available at: [www.winespectator.com/restaurants](http://www.winespectator.com/restaurants), where our Restaurant Search also allows you to select by location, award level, wine strengths, cuisine type and other criteria. Wine Spectator.com members can also post their own personal ratings and share comments about the quality of their experience at these restaurants.

# California

## SOUTH/OTHER CITIES

continued

- LOS OLIVOS CAFÉ**  
2879 Grand Ave., Los Olivos; (805) 688-7265
- LUCKY'S**  
1279 Coast Village Road, Montecito; (805) 565-7540
- MARAVILLA**  
Ojai Valley Inn & Spa, 905 Country Club Road, Ojai; (805) 640-2100 **Wine director** David Brodowsky **Wine strengths** California, France **Wine selections** 945 **Wine prices** Expensive **Corkage** \$25 **Cuisine** Regional **Menu prices** \$28-\$35
- MARIO'S PLACE**  
3646 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside; (951) 684-7755 **Sommeliers** Andrea and Leone Palagi **Wine strengths** California, Italy, France **Wine selections** 475 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$15 **Cuisine** Italian **Menu prices** \$21-\$40
- MARISOL AT THE CLIFFS**  
The Cliffs Resort, 2757 Shell Beach Road, Pismo Beach; (805) 773-2511
- MASTRO'S OCEAN CLUB FISH HOUSE**  
8112 E. Coast Highway, Newport Beach; (949) 376-6990
- MASTRO'S STEAKHOUSE**  
633 Anton Blvd., Costa Mesa; (714) 546-7405
- MASTRO'S STEAKHOUSE**  
2087 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd., Thousand Oaks; (805) 418-1811
- MILLE FLEURS**  
6009 Paseo Delicias, Rancho Santa Fe; (858) 756-3085
- MIRABELLE**  
Mirabelle Inn, 409 First St., Solvang; (805) 688-1703
- MIRÓ**  
Bacara Resort & Spa, 8301 Hollister Ave., Santa Barbara; (805) 968-0100 **Sommelier** Devaughn Williams **Wine strengths** California, France, Italy **Wine selections** 1,190 **Wine prices** Expensive **Corkage** \$35 **Cuisine** Basque/Catalonian **Menu prices** \$31-\$48
- MORTON'S, THE STEAKHOUSE**  
1895 S. Harbor Blvd., Anaheim; (714) 621-0101
- MORTON'S, THE STEAKHOUSE**  
74-880 Country Club Drive, Palm Desert; (760) 340-6865
- MORTON'S, THE STEAKHOUSE**  
1641 W. Sunflower Ave., South Coast Plaza Village, Santa Ana; (714) 444-4834
- MR. STOX**  
1105 E. Katella Ave., Anaheim; (714) 634-2994 **Wine director** Ron Marshall **Wine strengths** Bordeaux, California **Wine selections** 1,100 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$20 **Cuisine** Contemporary **Menu prices** \$19-\$38
- NOVO RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE**  
726 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo; (805) 543-3986
- OLIO E LIMONE RISTORANTE**  
11 W. Victoria St., Suite 17, Santa Barbara; (805) 899-2699
- O'NEILL'S BAR & GRILL**  
Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club, 26772 Avery Parkway, Mission Viejo; (949) 218-0865
- ONOTRIA WINE COUNTRY CUISINE**  
2831 Bristol St., Costa Mesa; (714) 641-5952 **Wine director** Massimo Navarretta **Wine strengths** Italy, California, Bordeaux **Wine selections** 500 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$25 **Cuisine** Regional **Menu prices** \$14-\$30
- OPAL RESTAURANT & BAR**  
1325 State St., Santa Barbara; (805) 966-9676

- ORANGE HILL RESTAURANT**  
6410 E. Chapman Ave., Orange; (714) 997-2910
- PACIFICA DEL MAR**  
1555 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar; (858) 792-0476
- PACIFICA SEAFOOD RESTAURANT**  
73505 El Paseo, Palm Desert; (760) 674-8666
- PARADISE GRILLE**  
2690 Via de la Valle, Del Mar; (858) 350-0808



- THE PARLOUR WINE BAR & BISTRO**  
216 N. Glendora Ave., Glendora; (626) 852-5522
- PATTY'S PLACE**  
500 E. Pacific Coast Highway, Seal Beach; (562) 431-4898
- PINOT PROVENCE**  
The Westin South Coast Plaza, 686 Anton Blvd., Costa Mesa; (714) 444-5900 **Sommelier** Giuseppe Vitiello **Wine strengths** California, France, Italy **Wine selections** 455 **Wine prices** Expensive **Corkage** No charge **Cuisine** French/Mediterranean **Menu prices** \$18-\$39
- PURPLE PALM**  
Colony Palms Hotel, 572 N. Indian Canyon Drive, Palm Springs; (760) 969-1800

- THE QUIET WOMAN**  
3224 E. Pacific Coast Highway, Corona del Mar; (949) 640-7440 **Sommelier** Lynne Anthony-Campbell **Wine strengths** California **Wine selections** 410 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$20 **Cuisine** American **Menu prices** \$24-\$34
- THE RANCH HOUSE RESTAURANT**  
500 S. Lomita Ave., Ojai; (805) 646-2360 **Wine director** Michael Denney **Wine strengths** California, France **Wine selections** 785 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$20 **Cuisine** Californian/continental **Menu prices** \$24-\$34

- RISTORANTE MAMMA GINA**  
73-705 El Paseo, Palm Desert; (760) 568-9898
- THE RITZ RESTAURANT**  
880 Newport Center Drive, Newport Beach; (949) 720-1800
- RUSTY PELICAN RESTAURANT**  
2735 W. Coast Highway, Newport Beach; (949) 642-3431
- RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE**  
2041 S. Harbor Blvd., Anaheim; (714) 750-5466
- RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE**  
2961-A Michelson Drive, Irvine; (949) 252-8848

- RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE**  
74-740 Highway 111, Palm Desert; (760) 779-1998
- RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE**  
3815 State St., Santa Barbara; (805) 563-5674
- RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE**  
6100 Topanga Canyon Blvd., Woodland Hills; (818) 227-9505

- SBICCA**  
215 15th St., Del Mar; (858) 481-1001
- SEAGRASS RESTAURANT**  
30 E. Ortega St., Santa Barbara; (805) 963-1012

- SEASONS 52**  
3333 Bristol St., Costa Mesa; (714) 437-5252

- SHADES RESTAURANT & BAR**  
Hilton Waterfront Beach Resort, 21100 Pacific Coast Highway, Huntington Beach; (714) 845-8444
- SLY'S**  
686 Linden Ave., Carpinteria; (805) 684-6666

- SOUTH COAST WINERY RESTAURANT & TASTING ROOM**  
3608 S. Bristol St., Santa Ana; (714) 957-1857
- SPAGHETTINI ITALIAN GRILL**  
3005 Old Ranch Parkway, Seal Beach; (562) 596-2199

- SPENCER'S RESTAURANT**  
701 W. Baristo Road, Palm Springs; (760) 327-3446 **Wine director** Jane Benjamin **Wine strengths** California, France, Italy **Wine selections** 475 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$25 **Cuisine** American **Menu prices** \$19-\$55

- SPLASHES**  
Surf & Sand Resort, 1555 S. Coast Highway, Laguna Beach; (949) 497-4477
- THE STEAKHOUSE**  
Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa, 32250 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage; (888) 999-1995

- STEAKHOUSE AT THE SPA**  
Spa Resort Casino, 401 E. Amado Road, Palm Springs; (760) 883-1060

- STONEHILL TAVERN**  
St. Regis Resort, 1 Monarch Beach Resort, Dana Point; (949) 234-3318 **Sommelier** Daniel Grajewski **Wine strengths** California, Burgundy **Wine selections** 700 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$25 **Cuisine** Contemporary American **Menu prices** \$30-\$55

- STONEHOUSE**  
San Ysidro Ranch, 900 San Ysidro Lane, Santa Barbara; (805) 565-1720 **Wine director** Jerry Lee **Wine strengths** California, Bordeaux, Burgundy **Wine selections** 1,190 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$25 **Cuisine** Regional **Menu prices** \$20-\$45

- STUDIO**  
Montage Resort & Spa, 30801 S. Coast Highway, Laguna Beach; (949) 715-6030 **Wine director** Troy Smith **Wine strengths** Bordeaux, Burgundy, California **Wine selections** 2,600 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$25 **Cuisine** French/Californian **Menu prices** \$46-\$53

- SULIVAN'S STEAKHOUSE**  
73505 El Paseo, Palm Desert; (760) 341-3560
- SUMMIT HOUSE RESTAURANT**  
2000 E. Bastanchury Road, Fullerton; (714) 671-4111

- SUZANNE'S CUISINE**  
502 W. Ojai Ave., Ojai; (805) 640-1961
- THE SYCAMORE INN**  
8318 Foothill Blvd., Rancho Cucamonga; (909) 982-1104

- TANNINS RESTAURANT & WINE BAR**  
27211 Ortega Highway, San Juan Capistrano; (949) 661-8466

- TAPS FISH HOUSE & BREWERY**  
101 E. Imperial Highway, Brea; (714) 257-0101
- THAI THIS LUNCH & DINNER**  
24501 Del Prado, No. B, Dana Point; (949) 240-7944

- TRADITION BY PASCAL**  
1000 N. Bristol St., Newport Beach; (949) 263-9400

- TRE LUNE**  
1151 Coast Village Road, Montecito; (805) 969-2646



- THE TWISTED VINE**  
127 W. Commonwealth Ave., Fullerton; (714) 871-1200
- VERSAI THE WINE BAR**  
18248 Imperial Highway, Yorba Linda; (714) 993-3676
- VILLA CREEK**  
1144 Pine St., Paso Robles; (805) 238-3000
- VINEYARD ROSE**  
South Coast Winery Resort & Spa, 34843 Rancho California Road, Temecula; (951) 587-9463
- VINTAGE PRESS RESTAURANTE**  
216 N. Willis St., Visalia; (559) 733-3033 **Wine strengths** California, France, Italy **Wine selections** 1,000 **Wine prices** Moderate **Corkage** \$18 **Cuisine** Continental/European **Menu prices** \$18-\$40

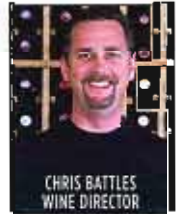
- VIVACE**  
Park Hyatt Aviara, 7100 Four Seasons Point, Carlsbad; (760) 603-6999

- WALT'S WHARF**  
201 Main St., Seal Beach; (562) 598-4433
- WEST STEAK & SEAFOOD**  
4980 Avenida Encinas, Carlsbad; (760) 930-9100

- WILDFISH SEAFOOD GRILLE**  
1370 Bison Ave., Newport Beach; (949) 720-9925

- WIND & SEA**  
34099 Golden Lantern, Dana Point; (949) 496-6500

- WINDOWS ON THE WATER**  
699 Embarcadero, Morro Bay; (805) 772-0677



- WINE GALLERY CAFÉ**  
2411 E. Coast Highway, Corona del Mar; (949) 675-3410 **Wine director** Jim Huston **Wine strengths** California, France **Wine selections** 715 **Corkage** \$20 **Cuisine** International **Menu prices** \$10-\$20

- THE WINERY RESTAURANT & WINE BAR**  
2647 Park Ave., Tustin; (714) 258-7600
- ZIN AMERICAN BISTRO**  
198 S. Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs; (760) 322-6300

- ZOV'S BISTRO**  
17440 E. 17th St., Tustin; (714) 838-8855

## Colorado

- A JAX TAVERN**  
The Little Nell, 685 E. Durant Ave., Aspen; (970) 920-9334

- ALPENGLOW STUBE**  
Keystone Resort, K-57, Keystone; (970) 496-4386 **Wine strengths** California, France **Wine selections** 550 **Wine prices** Expensive **Cuisine** Regional **Menu prices** Prix fixe \$92-\$99

- ANTICA ROMA**  
1308 Pearl St., Boulder; (303) 449-1787

- ATWATER ON GORE CREEK**  
Vail Cascade Resort & Spa, 1300 Westhaven Drive, Vail; (970) 476-7014

- BAROLO GRILL**  
3030 E. Sixth Ave., Denver; (303) 393-1040 **Wine director** Ryan Fletler **Wine strengths** Italy **Wine selections** 1,200 **Wine prices** Moderate **Cuisine** Italian **Menu prices** \$20-\$34

- BEANO'S CABIN**  
Beaver Creek Resort, Beaver Creek; (877) 354-0061 **Wine director** Willem Johnson **Wine strengths** California, France **Wine selections** 950 **Wine prices** Expensive **Cuisine** Contemporary **Menu prices** Prix fixe \$99-\$130