



## 2026 ATLANTIC SEABOARD WINE ASSOCIATION® WINE COMPETITION

### GUIDELINES AND REGISTRATION

1. The states that qualify for this competition are Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia.
2. For grape wines (see entry categories and descriptions section), a varietal wine must contain at least 75% of that grape. Blending of non-varietal category grapes/juice is permitted, but the non-varietal component must not exceed 25% of the total blend. Interspecific blending is permitted but must be entered into the proper category. Entries above 4% residual sugar are considered sweet and are to be entered into the appropriate category. All non-grape based wines must be entered into the appropriate category.
3. All fruit/juice (grapes, honey, fruit, etc.) must originate within the 17-state region described as the Atlantic Seaboard in paragraph 1 above. Wines made from sources imported from outside of the 17-state region are not allowed.
4. An unlimited number of entries is allowed. Wineries may enter more than one wine per classification category. Each entry will consist of three (3) 750ml bottles submitted for evaluation. In the case of wines in 375ml bottles, four (4) bottles will be required in the entry. Wines bottled in 500ml bottles require only three (3) bottles.
5. Registration fees are \$85 per entry. Pre-registration is mandatory. To register, fill out the registration form and mail it with the proper fees to:

Atlantic Seaboard Wine Association  
3105 Ellenwood Dr.  
Fairfax, VA 22031

Checks should be made payable to ASWA. Payment may also be made by credit card via our website but still mail or scan and e-mail the registration form. Registration should be received prior to the shipment of entries. **The deadline for receiving registrations is July 21, 2026.** Be sure to give the alcoholic level of the wine on the application form. Additional copies are available on the ASWA website: [www.aswawines.org](http://www.aswawines.org).

6. All wines will be judged according to their relative merits within their category using a modified Davis 20-point system. There will be bronze, silver and gold medal awards along with Best of Category. Also, a Best of Show winner will be determined. This wine will be clearly superior in its category and have an enological excellence that surpasses all other wines in the competition.
7. It is the responsibility of the entrants to ship or deliver their entry wines in good condition. The wines should be shipped **AFTER JUNE 1, 2026** to the following address:

Wine Traditions Ltd,  
7608-J Fullerton Road  
Springfield, VA 22153

A copy of the registration form previously submitted with the fee should accompany the wine shipment in order to avoid possible errors and to ensure that all wine has been pre-registered as required. Please also mark shipping containers “**Attention: ASWA Wine Competition.**”

8. **Please** forward the tracking number of shipped wine so that we can ensure proper delivery and/or pick-up. (We have found that some recently shipped packages are possibly not attempted to be delivered, and no door tags are left; hence after a period of time, the packages are returned to sender. If we have the tracking number, we can avert this situation.)
9. All entries must arrive at Wine Traditions Ltd. **NO LATER THAN JULY 26, 2026**, to ensure proper classification and processing for the competition. All entries arriving after that time may not be eligible for the competition.
10. All entered wines must be available for sale to the general public by the producing winery. Experimental lots of wine are not permitted.
11. Media releases of all winning wines will be made immediately following the competition and posting on the ASWA social media accounts.
12. The remaining wines after the competition will be poured in various public marketing and educational programs throughout the year.
13. By placing an entry into the competition, it infers that all the above criteria are met for that wine.