

Candia Cellars Wins Gold Medal (91 Points) at the 2026 Orange County Commercial Wine Competition

This distinguished recognition places Candia Cellars among top-performing wineries, reinforcing its reputation for producing high-quality, award-winning wines.



Santa Rosa, California Jun 12, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Candia Cellars, a boutique winery known for its commitment to craftsmanship and premium winemaking, proudly announces that its 2025 Barrel Fermented Sauvignon Blanc has been awarded a Gold Medal with an outstanding score of 91 points at the prestigious 2026 Orange County Commercial Wine Competition.

The Orange County Commercial Wine Competition, held annually in California, is one of the most respected wine competitions in the United States. Wines are evaluated through a rigorous **blind tasting process** conducted by panels of experienced judges, including certified sommeliers, winemakers, and industry professionals. The competition attracts entries from across the country and internationally, making it a benchmark for excellence in commercial winemaking.

A score of **91 points** falls within the **Gold Medal category (90–95 points)**, signifying exceptional quality, balance, and overall appeal. This rating reflects the wine's superior craftsmanship, refined flavor profile, and strong market potential.

The award-winning wine, **2025 Barrel Fermented Sauvignon Blanc**, is sourced from **Chalk Hill, Sonoma County**, and crafted using traditional barrel fermentation techniques. This process enhances the wine's complexity, texture, and depth, resulting in a refined expression with subtle oak influences and a smooth, elegant finish. With an alcohol content of **14.1% ABV**, the wine exemplifies both structure and sophistication.

"We are honored to receive this recognition at such a respected competition," said Patty Candia, CEO at Candia Cellars. "This award is a testament to our dedication to quality and our passion for creating wines that stand out on a global stage."

This achievement marks a significant milestone for Candia Cellars as it continues to grow its presence in the premium wine segment and build trust among consumers, distributors, and industry professionals.

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