

SPECIAL WINE ISSUE

NORTHBAY
biz

NAPA • MARIN • SONOMA

Autumn
Magic

INSIDE: CLINE FAMILY • MARGRIT MONDAVI
WINE VISION • TERROIR • VINEYARD VIGNETTES
COOMBSVILLE • FOOD & WINE • DOWN UNDER
2016 HARVEST FAIR GUIDE (PAGE 44)

SPECIAL WINE ISSUE 2016

\$9.95

Work/Life/People



Team California (four on left) with Team Oregon (four on right) will face off in Best Bottle next spring.

Bring Your Best

The *Amazing Race*. *Survivor*. *The Bachelor*. *Master Chef*. *Chopped*. Competition-based reality programming offers viewers a chance to live vicariously, experiencing victories and defeats of favorite contestants while also armchair coaching and critiquing performances along with friends and relatives. But why should sports, romance and food have all the fun?

Best Bottle, which is filming now, pits two teams of winemakers against each other to see who can top the table. Each season will focus on different winegrowing regions, with the first to showcase teams hailing from

California and Oregon. Led by the always entertaining **Jean-Charles Boisset**, Team California includes North Bay winemakers Fabiano Ramacci (Mora Estate) and Jason Court (Evidence Wines), as well as Paula Harrell (P. Harrell Wines, based in the greater Bay Area). Team Oregon is led by Don Lange.

As the season unfolds, contestants will be eliminated, one-by-one, until a showdown in the last episode, during which a panel of celebrity judges will taste each final winemaker's best bottle of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. In a twist, the viewing audience will be able to purchase the finalist wines in

advance, judge for themselves and vote for a separate Viewers' Choice award.

Creators and executive producers Scott Krauger and Robert Richards are in negotiations for network broadcast and already secured a partnership with Sony Entertainment for streaming and video on demand. They anticipate full episodes to air starting in April 2017 with a finale in June. In the meantime, you can follow Best Bottle on social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) or sign up for the newsletter at www.winebestbottle.com.