



## FRANCE CHARTS HIGH AT 20<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF DECANTER WORLD WINE AWARDS

*France receives over a fifth of all medals in 2023 edition of the world's greatest wine competition*

7 June: Decanter World Wine Awards (DWWA) today releases full results in its 20th year, celebrating continued growth before a trusted global audience of both consumers and trade.

A record number of 18,250 wines were judged from 57 countries – up from 54 countries in 2022. The judging panel's 236 experts (including 53 Masters of Wine and 16 Master Sommeliers) represent 30 different nations. Signifying that DWWA is now internationally back after the pandemic, almost half of the judges had travelled from abroad to join the process.

Victories for France include receiving 21% of the total medals awarded in 2023, whilst acquiring eight of the competition's top accolade, Best in Show, plus a higher total medal count across all categories year on year. France was awarded 26 Platinum medals out of just 125 globally and an impressive 155 Gold.

Only 50 wines across the entire competition were awarded Best in Show, with Alsace receiving the region's first medal since 2020 for **Gustave Lorentz, Vieilles Vignes Riesling, Grand Cru Altenberg-de-Bergheim 2019**. After missing out last year, Provence picked up Best in Show for **Château D'Esclans, Côtes de Provence 2021**, "emerging above its peers thanks to its impeccable grain and nuance," the judges commented.

Headliner Bordeaux had a successful year with two Best in Show medals. One to **Château De Rochemorin, Pessac-Léognan 2020** and the other to the sought-after appellation of Pomerol for **Château Fayat 2020**. On this, judges commented: "When our judges tasted this particular Pomerol, from one of the best balanced of recent Bordeaux vintages, it was obvious that the wine's achievement met the hopes which cluster around the appellation name."

Bordeaux showed a steady rise in quality with 25 Gold medals – up 5 from 2022 and 8 from 2021. Predominantly red wines, **Château De Sours, Quarry De Sours, Bordeaux Blanc 2021** championed the corner for Bordeaux whites.

Languedoc-Roussillon showed noteworthy improvements across the region, achieving 36 more medals compared to 2022, including five Platinum medals and a Best in Show for **Domaine Clavel, Des Clous, Languedoc Pic Saint Loup 2020** – only the second for this sub-region in the history of the DWWA. Judges noted: "Pic St Loup is the leading appellation of Eastern Languedoc."



Champagne results were up collectively in the top three award categories too with **Collery's Non-Vintage Blanc De Blancs Brut Grand Cru** and **Moët & Chandon's 1999 Grand Vintage Collection Extra-Brut** awarded Best in Show medals alongside six Platinum and an impressive 25 Gold medals (up from 11 in 2022). A wide range of Vintage Champagnes achieved top results with 2012 being the most awarded, while **Perrier-Jouët's Non-Vintage Blason Rosé Brut** was this year's highest scoring rosé Champagne, awarded 96 points and a Gold medal.

Melon de Bourgogne from the Loire triumphed with six varietal wines awarded Gold medals, but the region in its entirety saw success with a total of 24 Gold medals awarded after just 10 in 2022 and three in 2021.

France's mountainous Mediterranean island, Corsica, received its first-ever Gold for rosé, **Les Vignerons D'Aghione, Casanova Costa D'Oru, l'île de Beauté 2022**.

2023 saw the launch of an Alternative Packaging category and of the 31 wines awarded, France received two Bronze medals. Showing improvements in quality wine in different formats, these were for a bag in box red from Southwest France and a Vin de France rosé in aluminium can.

The competition also unveiled a Value Gold Top 10 List (wines under £15). France achieved three best value wines – more than any other country.

Decanter World Wine Awards Co-Chair Andrew Jefford commented:

"France has had an excellent year. Particular regional strengths came from the Loire, with a record-breaking 24 Golds – more than double last year's total; and from Bordeaux, where a great run of recent vintages helped propel the region to 25 Golds, plus two of our Best in Show wines, too. Languedoc-Roussillon put on an impressive turn of speed, with 36 more awards than last year, and it was great to see both Alsace and Provence back in our Best in Show selection."

Visit [awards.decanter.com](https://awards.decanter.com) for a full list of winners.

## ENDS

The Decanter World Wine Awards Co-Chairs and key spokespeople are available for interviews. Please use the contact details below to arrange.

For more information contact:

[Samantha@pantheracommunications.com](mailto:Samantha@pantheracommunications.com)  
[Thomas@pantheracommunications.com](mailto:Thomas@pantheracommunications.com)



### **Notes to editors**

France was awarded a total of 3,185 medals comprising eight Best in Show, 26 Platinum, 155 Gold, 1,215 Silver and 1,781 Bronze medals.

The following wines won France's Best in Show medals:

- Château De Meursault, Clos Des Epenots, Pommard 1er Cru, Burgundy 2021
- Château De Rochemorin, Pessac-Léognan, Bordeaux 2020
- Château D'Esclans, Côtes de Provence, Provence 2021
- Château Fayat, Pomerol, Bordeaux 2020
- Collery, Blanc De Blancs Brut Grand Cru, Champagne NV
- Domaine Clavel, Des Clous, Languedoc Pic Saint Loup, Languedoc-Roussillon 2020
- Gustave Lorentz, Vieilles Vignes Riesling, Grand Cru Altenberg-de-Bergheim, Alsace 2019
- Moët & Chandon, Grand Vintage Collection Extra-Brut, Champagne 1999

### **About DWWA**

Launched in 2004 and now in its 20th year, the Decanter World Wine Awards (DWWA) is the world's largest and most influential wine competition.

Decanter - the world's leading wine media brand - has a trusted relationship with an international audience of both consumers and trade that sets DWWA apart from other competitions. Sustainability is a key focus for the DWWA team. All plastic and cardboard is collected and recycled, while every bottle is crushed and remelted, ready to be remade into usable glass within 30 days. All leftover wine is also collected, recycled and sold back into the national grid as gas.

### **About Decanter**

Decanter is the world's leading wine media brand with a total monthly reach in excess of 2 million via its print, digital and social channels. It has a unique place in the world wine market, with authoritative tastings and highly knowledgeable expert contributors making it a must-read, both online and in its high-quality monthly print magazine. Decanter was launched in 1975, making it one of the publishing world's enduring success stories.