



ITALY TRIUMPHS AT 20TH YEAR OF DECANTER WORLD WINE AWARDS

At the Decanter World Wine Awards 2023, Italy has been at the top of the Platinum medal chart and has produced some surprises, both in traditional and emerging regions

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.

Italy triumphed with seven wines awarded medals in the competition's top 50 Best in Show, whilst topping its 2022 Platinum medal count with 28 wines awarded out of just 125 globally.

Tuscany topped the charts with three Best in Show, six Platinum and 21 Gold medals, representing Italy's best regional performance, and one of the best regional performances across the entire competition.

Piedmont stood out with the region's best DWWA showing since 2020, with numbers of Best in Show and Platinum medals up against last year. Two Best in Show medals went to Barolo wines, while five Platinum medals bettered one in 2022 and two in 2021.

Veneto's consistent quality performance across the last three years of the competition resulted in one Best in Show – for **Vigneti Villabella, Fracastoro, Amarone della Valpolicella Classico Riserva 2012** – five Platinum and 15 Gold medals. Judges commented: "Wines made from attic-dried fruit, like the Veneto's Amarone, reward the drinker."

Showing incredible results with six Platinum medals (all for white wines), 2023 was Alto Adige's second best performance ever in this 97-point category. Exceeding the Platinum count of better-known Northern regions, results show a marked increase in quality with 2022 seeing just one Platinum for the region, and three the year before.

Campania and Sicily were the stars of the South. Campania was awarded two Platinum medals, one of these to the heroic viticultural coast of Costa d'Amalfi for **Marisa Cuomo, Fiorduva 2021**. Campania was also awarded a Value Gold (under £15) which made the competition's new Top 10 Value list.



Sicily holds the only Best in Show of the South for **Mecori, Duo, Etna 2021**. A further Platinum plus three Golds saw Etna, Marsala and Sicilia Nero d'Avola represented. Over to Sardinia, five Gold medals were awarded, marking the region's best DWWA performance since 2019.

The native varieties and styles of Colli Orientali scored the big wins for Friuli-Venezia Giulia, with a white Pinot Bianco-Friulano blend and red Schioppettino each securing a Platinum medal. The sub-region saw further success in the Gold category with four of the region's six Golds awarded 95 points.

Le Marche showed year-on-year consistency with one Platinum and three Gold medals, while Lombardy was awarded four Golds, including a second-ever win for sweet red Moscato di Scanzo.

After a two-year hiatus each, Liguria picked up a Gold for **La Baia Del Sole, Sarticola Vermentino, Colli di Luni 2022** and Basilicata for **Cantina Il Passo, Alberi in Piano, Aglianico del Vulture Superiore 2019**.

2023 saw the launch of an Alternative Packaging category with Italy achieving the best results, securing 12 wines of the 31 awarded. This included two Silver medals (of four in total), with bag-in-box being the most successful format.

Decanter World Wine Awards judge and Italian Programs Director at Wine Scholar Guild, **Andrea Eby**, commented:

"I really love the fact that at Decanter you sit around this table, and you have this collegial conversation with people... you're always judging with people that are specialists in that area or that field."

Visit 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.

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Notes to editors

Spain was awarded a total of 2,780 medals comprising seven Best in Show, 28 Platinum, 88 Gold, 955 Silver and 1,703 Bronze medals.

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

- Damilano, Lecinquevigne, Barolo, Piedmont 2019
- Fattoria Villa Saletta, 980 AD, Toscana, Tuscany 2018
- Mastrojanni, Vigna Loreto, Brunello di Montalcino, Tuscany 2018
- Mecori, Duo, Etna, Sicily 2021
- Paolo Manzone, Meriame, Barolo, Piedmont 2019
- Ruffino, Romitorio Di Santedame, Chianti Classico Gran Selezione, Tuscany 2019
- Vigneti Villabella, Fracastoro, Amarone della Valpolicella Classico Riserva, Veneto 2012

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.