

2026 ENTRY PACK

Decanter
WORLD WINE AWARDS
2026

The GLOBAL BENCHMARK *for* WINE QUALITY

Decanter World Wine Awards is the world's largest and most respected wine competition, trusted by trade and consumers alike. Judged by leading global experts, DWWA delivers prestige, trusted results and proven impact on sales and visibility.

With entry fees held at 2025 rates, reduced shipping costs and easy drop-off options, entering in 2026 is simpler and more rewarding than ever.

enter.decanter.com



An AWARD with INTERNATIONAL IMPACT

Aligned with **Decanter**, the world's leading wine media brand, Decanter World Wine Awards delivers the largest international reach of any wine competition.

Medal winners gain unrivalled exposure across Decanter's full media network, including print, digital, social media, video, global events and partnerships – connecting directly with trade and consumers worldwide.

942k

Decanter.com Global
Monthly Page Views

43k

Global Print
Circulation

93k

Total Newsletter
Subscribers

809k

Total Social
Reach

131k

Decanter
Readership

5k

Attendees to Decanter
Global Events





DEFINING *the* GLOBAL STANDARD *of* WINE QUALITY

Nearly 250 international judges come together each year with one goal: to define the global standard for wine quality.

From Masters of Wine and Master Sommeliers to trade buyers, journalists, educators and authors, each judge is a leading specialist in their field, bringing deep knowledge of regional typicity, vintages, styles and trends. Your wines are evaluated through a rigorous, internationally trusted process by the most influential voices, and palates, in the world of wine.

CO-CHAIRS

Leading the competition, Co-Chairs ensure consistency across all judging panels and guide the final selection of Best in Show and Top Value Gold winners, maintaining the highest standards of excellence.

RESIDENT CO-CHAIR

NEW FOR 2026, this role appoints one esteemed Regional Chair to join the Co-Chair committee. Rotating annually, the Resident Co-Chair brings dynamic perspectives and insights to the leadership team, ultimately elevating the competition's judging process.

REGIONAL CHAIRS

Overseeing their panels of expert judges, Regional Chairs bring invaluable expertise to the competition. They ensure consistency, resolve discrepancies, foster collaborative discussion and uphold the rigorous judging standards that define DWWA.

SENIOR JUDGES & JUDGES

Our senior judges and judges are selected for their outstanding industry expertise. Nearly half of our 200+ judges travel globally to lend their specialised knowledge and discerning palates, ensuring a diverse and objective assessment of each wine.

Explore the 2026 Co-, Resident and Regional Chairs on page 10 or online [here](#).

TheJUDGING PROCESS

The success of Decanter World Wine Awards lies in its unique judging process and expert-led panels. Wines are meticulously assessed in carefully curated flights, organised by country, region, colour, grape, style, vintage and price point, ensuring an unrivalled level of scrutiny and precision.

CELEBRATING QUALITY IN EVERY PRICE POINT

Understanding that price is a significant factor for wine consumers and trade, we emphasise quality across all price points in our judging process. By categorising wines into distinct price bands, we ensure that a £50+ wine is judged fairly against similar bottles, not alongside a £15 entry.

2026 PRICE BANDS

- A. Up to £14.99 (Value)
- B. £15 to £49.99
- C. £50 and above

STAGE

1

BRONZE, SILVER & GOLD

All wines entered in the competition are evaluated in categorised, regional flights in the initial stage of judging. Regional Chairs oversee their panels, address any scoring discrepancies and ensure consistency by re-tasting all Silver and Gold winners. The Co-Chairs conduct a final re-tasting of wines scoring 94 and above for final endorsement. This means that Silver winners are tasted at least twice, but up to three times, while Gold winners undergo a rigorous tasting process of three evaluations. This meticulous approach guarantees thorough assessment of each wine. Notably, winning entries in the Price Band A category can be marketed as 'Value' wines, such as Value Gold.



STAGE

2

PLATINUM

Gold awarded wines are re-categorised and re-tasted by a panel consisting of Regional Chairs and Co-Chairs. The wines are judged according to their origin. There is no limit to the number of Gold winners which could be promoted to Platinum.



STAGE

3

BEST IN SHOW

Best in Show is the ultimate accolade at Decanter World Wine Awards. In another re-tasting, the Co-Chairs evaluate all Platinum winners to determine and elevate the top 50 to 'Best in Show'. At this stage, the Co-Chairs also select the Top Value Gold wines of the competition.





why ENTER DWWA

- 1 BENCHMARK YOUR WINES GLOBALLY**
Evaluated by world-renowned judges, receive expert feedback and trusted ratings to position your wines for success internationally.
- 2 INCREASE WINE SALES**
A DWWA medal is a globally recognised mark of approval that drives consumer confidence, retailer demand and distribution opportunities worldwide.
- 3 REACH NEW GLOBAL AUDIENCES**
Maximise your wine's exposure through Decanter's extensive media reach, promoting medal winners across digital, print and social channels to a global audience.
- 4 UNLOCK MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES**
Leverage the prestige of a DWWA medal with promotion at trade fairs, events and through Decanter's media partnerships, plus exclusive advertising opportunities.
- 5 ENTER NEW MARKETS WITH CONFIDENCE**
Showcase your wines to key buyers, importers and distributors with the credibility of a DWWA medal. Gain exclusive access to the **DWVA Market Guide**, a platform designed to connect your awarded wines with buyers looking for new listings.
- 6 STRENGTHEN BRAND AWARENESS**
Enhance your brand visibility, consumer recognition and trust, reinforcing your presence in both established and emerging markets.

SHIPPING *your* WINE SAMPLES

CONSOLIDATED SHIPPING

Our recommended shipping option to avoid customs clearance delays and risk of missed delivery deadlines—ship your samples to the nearest depot in your country and we organise delivery to the UK, covering all duty fees.

NEW LOWER PRICING

£54 | \$74 | €66 per entry

Delivery deadline: 27 February

[LEARN MORE](#)

FAIR DROP-OFF

For exhibitors at participating trade fairs, hand deliver your wines to us during the fair and we organise delivery to the UK, covering all duty fees. Available to exhibitors at Barcelona Wine Week, Wine Paris and ProWein.

PRE-REGISTRATION RECOMMENDED

£32 | \$44 | €39 per entry

[LEARN MORE](#)

DIRECT DELIVERY

Arrange your own shipping direct to our UK warehouse, ensuring all associated shipping fees, customs duties and charges are covered.

£ shipping costs determined by your chosen carrier

Delivery deadline: 17 March

[LEARN MORE](#)

CONSOLIDATED SHIPPING DEPOTS AVAILABLE IN:

Australia	Japan
Austria	Macedonia
Brazil	New Zealand
Canada	Portugal
Chile	Romania
Croatia	Serbia
France	Slovenia
Germany	South Africa
Greece	Spain
Hungary	Switzerland
Italy	USA



DATES *and* DEADLINES

5
NOV

2026 ENTRIES OPEN

Consolidated shipping depots & UK warehouse open for sample delivery

27
FEB

Consolidated shipping sample delivery deadline

11
MAR

Consolidated shipping LATE ENTRY delivery deadline*

*ONLY for depots in France, Spain, Italy, USA, Australia & Chile

17
MAR

2026 ENTRIES CLOSE

Payment & direct delivery deadline to UK warehouse

PRICE PER ENTRY

£172 | \$236 | €209 per entry +20% VAT if applicable

Four sample bottles per entry

Payments made via bank transfer incur a surcharge of
+£15 | \$21 | €19 per total order

ACCEPTED FORMATS

- 75cl Bottles, except sweet & fortified wines which may be 25cl, 37.5cl or 50cl
- 1.5ltr Magnums (sparkling wines only)
- Alternative Packaging: Can, Bag-in-Box, Wine Pouch, Carton, Paper and PET

See our [rules of entry here](#) for more details

ENTER.DECANTER.COM

DWWA 2026 JUDGING & RESULTS

4-15 MAY

Judging
Weeks

17 JUNE

Results announced
on Decanter.com

5 AUG

DWWA magazine
on sale



CONTACT *us*

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

awards@decanter.com

+44 (0)7484 579415

ACCOUNT MANAGERS

Michela Nassiz

Italy, Slovenia, South Africa, Greece

michela.nassiz@decanter.com

+44 (0) 7773 818784

Laura Bianco

Spain, Portugal

laura.bianco@decanter.com

+44 (0) 7506 280979

Rupert Owen

USA, Canada, Champagne

rupert.owen@decanter.com

+44 (0) 7931 454376

Ana Chirila

France, UK, Switzerland, Germany,

Cyprus and Rest of World.

ana.chirila@decanter.com

+44 (0)7484 579415

Cesar Soler

Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil,

Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Ecuador,

Hungary, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay,

Moldova, Serbia, Czech Republic,

Romania

cesar.soler@decanter.com

+44 (0) 7929 364609

Kate Kriven

Australia, India, Japan, Kazakhstan,

New Zealand, Taiwan, Thailand,

Vietnam

kate.kriven@decanter.com

+61 416 924061

Sarah Shen

China

sarah.shen@winechina.com



Our 2026 RESIDENT, CO- and REGIONAL CHAIRS



2026 RESIDENT
CO-CHAIR
Caro Maurer MW



CO-CHAIR
Michael Hill Smith AM MW



CO-CHAIR
Ronan Sayburn MS



CO-CHAIR
Andrew Jefford



CO-CHAIR
Beth Willard



ALSACE
Thierry Meyer



ARGENTINA & REST
OF SOUTH AMERICA
Paz Levinson



ASIA
Dr Edward Ragg MW



AUSTRALIA
Huon Hooke



AUSTRALIA
Justin Knock MW



AUSTRIA &
SWITZERLAND
Stefan Neumann MS



CEE, BALKANS,
CROATIA & SLOVENIA
Caroline Gilby MW



CAUCASUS REGION,
CEE, BALKANS,
CROATIA & SLOVENIA
Simon J Woolf



CEE, BALKANS,
CROATIA & SLOVENIA
Wojciech Bońkowski MW



BORDEAUX
Matthew Stubbs MW



BORDEAUX
Alun Griffiths MW



BEAUJOLAIS,
SOUTHWEST &
REST OF FRANCE
Dominique Vrigneau



BURGUNDY &
CHAMPAGNE
Charles Curtis MW



CANADA
Barbara Philip MW



CENTRAL ITALY
Andy Howard MW



CHILE
Amanda Barnes MW



GERMANY
Regine Lee MW



GREECE, CYPRUS
& MALTA
Terry Kandyliis



LANGUEDOC-
ROUSSILLON
Justin Howard-Sneyd MW



LOIRE
Matthew Wilkin MS



NEW ZEALAND
Cameron Douglas MS



NORTHERN ITALY
Michael Garner



PIEDMONT
Michaela Morris



PORT & MADEIRA
Richard Mayson



PORTUGAL
Beatriz Machado



PROVENCE
Rod Smith MW



RHONE
Matt Walls



SOUTH AFRICA
Fiona McDonald



SOUTH & EASTERN
MEDITERRANEAN
Ana Jackson MW



SOUTHERN ITALY
Jason Millar



SPAIN
Almudena Alberca MW



SPAIN
Ferran Centelles



SPAIN
Pierre Mansour



TUSCANY
Michelle Cherutti-
Kowal MW



UK
Simon Field MW



USA & CENTRAL
AMERICA
James Tidwell MS



VENETO
Alessandra Piubello

TRUSTED *by* EXPERTS, VALUED *by* CONSUMERS

MAKE YOUR INVESTMENT IN WINE COMPETITIONS COUNT. CHOOSE DWWA 2026.

ENTER NOW

enter.decanter.com

