

KOREA WINE CHALLENGE 2023



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Introduction

The Korean wine market has been growing at an unprecedented rate. For the past three years, wine has held the No. 1 position over a beer in the imported liquor market of Korea. In line with this, Korea's most prominent wine competition, KWC, saw its biggest year, with 911 wines in 2022.

All wines will be 100% blind tasting with no price or producer information provided. Wine Review will appropriately manage each wine's service temperature and air exposure at the judges' tasting time. Korean consumers trust KWC's results with respect for its judging process and world-class judges. Therefore, passing through the preliminaries and finals and winning the competition means that the wine suits Koreans' palates.

We invite all winemakers interested in the Korean market to join KWC2023, the 19th annual event. Wines already distributed in Korea are eligible to participate in this competition, and wines from overseas wineries are planning to export to Korea. We look forward to your active participation







Benefits from an unrivaled magazine

■ About Wine Review

Wine Review is a wine magazine promoted through print, digital and social media channels. It is the longest-serving wine magazine in Korea, printing 10,000 copies every month and distributing them nationwide. It is the most effective publicity tool in the fast-growing Korean wine market and is a purchasing guide for wine consumers. To deliver specific and refined wine information to domestic wine consumers, Dr. Hoon CHOI, the publisher leading Wine Review for 23 years, is still the editor.



Also, as the host of the Korea Wine Challenge, an international wine competition that celebrates its 19th in 2023, Wine Review selects and promotes carefully selected award–winning wines to Korean wine consumers. Through a competition held for two weeks in June every year, Wine Review announces the best wines of the year selected through blind tasting by a panel of judges composed of the best incumbent sommeliers in Korea.

Wine Review delivers authoritative wine content and various event reviews to domestic wine consumers through its paper. In this regard, Wine Review can help customers achieve effective publicity according to their intended advertising direction. For articles that require quick exposure to domestic wine consumers, in addition to promotion through paper, we are supporting them to be promoted to consumers through our business network through online Wine Review, Wine review Instagram, and Naver Wine Review blog.

You can contact the Wine Review Marketing Team by e-mail or phone to inquire about the promotion. E-mail: marketing@winereview.co.kr Telephone: 82-2-394-7284







■ Benefits of award-winning wine

■ AWARD BENEFITS

- All KWC wine results are hosted on the KWC website and WINE REVIEW, the only magazine specializing in wine published in print and online in Korea.
- KWC award-winning wines are promoted through WINE REVIEW pages by providing free advertising in WINE REVIEW according to the color of the medals awarded.
- In WINE REVIEW, we plan and continuously promote various KWC particular articles and KWC tasting events to increase Korean consumers' interest in the award-winning wines.
- 1. We provide one free advertisement of WINE REVIEW per medal for each award-winning wine. (October 2023 issue May 2024 issue)
 - TROPHY / BEST OF COUNTRY: ONCE, ONE FULL PAGE
 - GOLD MEDAL: ONCE. A HALF PAGE
 - SILVER / BRONZE MEDAL: ONCE, A QUARTER PAGE
- 2. Planning a KWC feature article or event allows one to promote the wines that fit the article's topic.
- We promote award-winning wines to be exposed to consumers as much as possible by using Wine Review SNS such as online Wine Review, Wine Review blog, and Wine Review Instagram.
- You can promote by purchasing the official image and official sticker of the award medal.
- We continuously plan various themed tastings for KWC award-winning wines.
- National tour tastings for Wine Review readers
- Tasting event on the theme of not-yet imported award-winning wines















The excellence of the judges

■ Korea's top-notch incumbent sommelier judging panel



KWC competitions depend on the quality of the judges and their seriousness.

The results of KWC are unique and meaningful because they were selected by the best incumbent sommeliers in Korea, who have the same food culture as their background, through a dignified persuasion process.

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- Dr. Hoon CHOI, Publisher of Wine Review -

As wine culture matures, wine consumers increasingly recognize the role of the sommelier in Korea. In the Korean market, which is undergoing a significant transition where the level of wine consumers is rapidly increasing, the influence of KWC judges has become more critical. The authority of the award–winning wines selected by KWC also shines due to the expertise of the judges.

At KWC2022, 50 expert judges participated in the preliminary and final rounds. The value of KWC award–winning wine is right here. The results presented as Trophies, Gold, Silver, and Bronze awards reveal aspects of wines that are commonly highly regarded while satisfying the different palates of experts. Therefore, when encountering a wine with a KWC medal sticker, Korean consumers buy it confidently and take on a new taste challenge.

■ The judging process

The competition adopted a 100-point scoring system.

Judges give a default score of 50 points to all wines entering the contest as a courtesy for the effort of sending a bottle of wine for the competition. Criteria used to choose award–winning wines included 6 points for 'color and appearance,' 12 points for 'aroma and bouquet,' 20 points for 'flavor and finish,' and 12 points for 'harmony and balance.

- 1) In the preliminaries, the four panelists assign their scores but seek consensus while persuading each other. KWC pursues results that incorporate empathy through consensus among judges.
- 2) Another four panelists re-tasted the wines in the final round except for the 30% eliminated in the preliminaries.
- 3) The top 40% of the total entries will win Gold, Silver, and Bronze based on the final round score. So, all Gold, Silver, and Bronze are therefore tasted twice at minimum. This rigorous process ensures that each wine is reviewed thoroughly.
- 4) On the last day of the finals, five panels for each category re-tasted and chose the ultimate accolade of 'Trophy'. Red, White, Rosé, Sweet, Sparkling, and Fortified, the top 20 finalists, were selected for every six categories.
- 5) Based on the final score, we award 'Best of country' medals to the best wines with the highest score from the top 10 countries in the number of entries.























Rule of entry

■ Criteria for entry

- 1. Wines must be commercially available.
- 2. The exhibitor is advised to decide on the total number of wines it wishes to enter into the contest and provide 4 bottles of each wine for the judging process.
- 3. The organizer holds no liability for shipping and delivery of wines, which is solely the responsibility of the entrants. Samples submitted after the delivery deadline will be excluded from KWC judging.
- 4. Temporary labels are permitted but should match the wine information on the final label. Please give notice before photographing the bottle if a temporary label is used.

■ How to register KWC2023





1) Sending Your Entry Form

- Online registration is available through KWC official website or e-mail, until 9th June 2023.
- Please proceed with online registration UNLESS there is a particular reason.
- * KWC Homepage: www.koreawinechallenge.com
- X E-mail: info@koreawinechallenge.com
- Or you can download the registration form from KWC official website. After filling it out, you can send it by E-mail.

* Reminders when sending the application

- 1. Applicants are asked to fill in all fields marked with an asterisk in the application form for which the juries should evaluate the wine. Your input ensures that wines are grouped correctly, reasonably, and consistently for tasting.
- 2. To check the price trend of award-winning wines, we ask you to indicate the unit price per bottle in USD FOB terms
 This information will be confidential and will not be divulged outside the Administration Office of Korea Wine Challenge.
- 3. Please ensure to mention it if you have a current importer in Korea. Please also note if you are looking for business partners to establish an importer in Korea.

Rule of entry



2) Participation Fee

Number of exhibits	Overseas	국내 (VAT별도)			
1–3 wines	U\$220 per wine	1종당 23만원			
4–8 wines	U\$190 per wine	1종당 20만원			
9–15 wines	U\$170 per wine	1종당 18만원			
More than 16 wines	U\$150 per wine	1종당 16만원			

■ Payment Information

- There are two ways to send the money: Bank transfer or Paypal.
- The overseas participants must pay all banking charges incurred when sending the participation fee.
- The participants in Korea must pay a value-added tax of 10% of the participation fee upon paying it.
- Payment by credit card is not available.

■ Bank Detail

The sender must bear all bank costs relating to bank transfers.

- Payment Beneficiary: IRE(Institute for Resources Evaluation)
- Bank: Woori Bank
- Account Number: 1081-200-425893
- Swift Code : HVBKKRSE
- Address: 410A Gloria town, 75, Pyeongchangmunhwa-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea (Zip Code: 03009)



3) Sending Your Wines

- The wine to be entered into this competition must be delivered to the administration office of KOREA WINE CHALLENGE by 9th June 2023 at the latest.
- You must send in 4 bottles of each wine.
 Those are used for the preliminary round, final, photographing, and spares for corked wine during the qualifying period.

■ Shipping Address

- Company name: IRE (Institute for Resources Evaluation)
 Address: 410A Gloriatown, 75, Pyeongchangmunhwa-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul,
 Republic of Korea (Zip code: 03009)
- Phone number: +82) 2-394-7284

■ Consignment Terms

Box remarks: You have to mark each wine box, 'KOREA WINE CHALLENGE 2023 sample - not for sale', and a copy of the registration form should be included in the package. It is necessary to compare the information about the wine you entered at the time of registration with the wine we received to ensure it matches exactly.



It is to compare the wine in the box with the registration form when receiving the wine.

- Bottle remarks: Each wine bottle must display the label, 'KOREA WINE CHALLENGE 2023 sample not for sale' on the bottle's backside, opposite the front wine label.
- When an overseas winery sends wines, you should consign on DDP (DELIVERED DUTY PAID) BASIS: All costs to deliver the samples to Korea Wine Challenge must be covered by participants including all costs and fees associated with transportation, customs clearance, license for the delivery of the goods, warehouse fees. All documents for air transportation must be filled in and declared correctly. If these expenses are not paid in full, Korea Wine Challenge may not receive the wine sample.

KWC2023 Category

Old World Wine								
1 France Bordeaux Red Wine 2 France Pinot Noir 3 France Rhône Style Wine 4 France Languedoc Red Wine 5 France Southwest Red Wine	BOR FPN FRH FLD FSW	11 Italy Sangiovese Based Wine 12 Italy Corvina Based Wine 13 Italy Barbera Based Wine 14 Italy Nebbiolo 15 Italy Nero d'Avola Based Wine	ITSVB ITCVR ITBB ITNV ITNDV	21 Italy White Wine 22 Spain Tempranillo Based Wine 23 Spain La Mancha Red Wine 24 Spain Blended Red Wine 25 Spain Cava	IWH STEMP SLMR SMVR SCV	 31 Israel White Wine 32 Greece Red Wine 33 Greece White Wine 34 Georgia Red Wine 35 Georgia White Wine 	ISWH GRR GRWH GGAR GGAW	41 Old World Sweet White Wine OWSWTW 42 Old World Sweet White (more than 46g/L) OWSWTW2
6 France Blended Red Wine 7 France Champagne 8 France Chardonnay 9 France Sauvignon Blanc 10 France White Wine	FMVR FCHAM FCH FSB FWH	16 Italy Primitivo Based Wine 17 Italy Other Local Variety Red Wine 18 Italy Blended Red Wine 19 Italy Moscato d'Asti 20 Italy Prosecco	ITPRM ITETCR ITMVR ITMDA ITSPRP	26 Spain White Wine 27 Portugal Red Wine 28 Portugal White Wine 29 Germany Riesling 30 Israel Red Wine	SWH PTR PTWH GERIS ISR	36 Old World White Wine 37 Old World Mono Grape Red Wine 38 Old World Blended Red Wine 39 Old World Sparkling Wine 40 Old World Sweet Red Wine	OWH OWMG OWMVR OWSPK OWSWTR	

	New World Wine									
1 2 3 4 5	Argentina Medoza Malbec AG	6MB 12 6MDZ 13 6MVR 14		CCS CCM CPN CSH CMVR	21 22 23 24 25	USA Chardonnay USA White Wine New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc New Zealand Pinot Noir Canada Icewine	USCH USWH NZSB NZPN CICE	31 32 33	New World Sweet White Wine	NWSWTR NWSWTW NWSWTW2
6 7 8 9 10	Australia Cabernet-Shiraz AU Australia Shiraz Based Wine ASI Australia Pinot Noir API Australia Chardonnay ACI Australia White Wine (except for Chardonnay) AW	PN 18 CH 19	Chile White Wine (except for Chardonnay) USA Cabernet Sauvignon Based Wine USA Pinot Noir	CCH CWH USCS USPN USMVR		New World Chardonnay New World White Wine (except for Chardonnay, New World Mono Grape Red Wine New World Blended Red Wine New World Sparkling Wine	NCH NWH NWMG NWMVR NWSPK			

Otti	CI VVII	103
Rose Wine		R

1	Dry Rose Wine	ROSED
2	Sweet Rose Wine	ROSES
3	Fortified Wine	FORT
4	Natural Red Wine	NATR
5	Natural White Wine	NATW
6	Orange Wine	ORG

■ How we defined categories

- Exhibited wines are categorized and tasted during the event. The categories are based on the country of origin, style, grape variety, and region. The KWC Administration further categorizes them into young and aged wines or by maturation method depending on the exhibit situation.
- When filling out the entry form, choosing the correct category for your wine is crucial to ensure that it is grouped correctly and evaluated based on its unique characteristics.
- In response to the 2022 entry status, we added some new wine production regions to be further divided this year. In 2022, we introduced the natural wine category, and in 2023, we added orange wine as a new category. The categories may change again next year based on the entries received this year.

