

## SPAIN ENJOYS HUGE SUCCESS AT THE DECANTER WORLD WINE AWARDS

Spain saw record number of wines tasted and unprecedented haul of Platinum and Gold medals at the 2022 Decanter World Wine Awards

7 June: Full results from the Decanter World Wine Awards 2022 have been released today (7 June) with Spain receiving a record-breaking number of Platinum and Gold medals in addition to big wins in the Best in Show category.

Now in its 19th year, the Decanter World Wine Awards (DWWA) is the world's largest and most influential wine competition, with unrivaled global reach. Judged by top wine experts from around the globe, DWWA is trusted internationally for its rigorous judging process.

As part of this process almost 250 expert judges, including 41 Masters of Wine and 13 Master Sommeliers, evaluated 18,244 wines from 54 countries at DWWA 2022, making it a record year for wines tasted.

Spain performed well in all categories and across a variety of regions and styles, but it was both its impressive 22 Platinum and 93 Gold medals that stood out in particular. The medals comprised a mix of red, rosé/rosado, white, fortified (including Sherry) and sparkling wines.

Notable Best in Show wines across Spain included the **Bodegas Mazas 2020** from Toro which won a Value Best in Show - offering exceptional value for money at less than £15.

Commenting on Value Best in Show wines, Co-Chair Andrew Jefford said, "The appeal of our Value Best in Show wines is always founded on the quality of their fruits. These are wines for swift drinking - which will, we hope, leave drinkers shivering with pleasure."

In other regions, Rioja produced two Best in Show wins with **Hacienda López De Haro, Classica Rosado 2009** - the first rosé from Rioja to win a Best in Show which judges described as "a rewardingly layered, mouthfilling and satisfying aged wine." This was alongside a red from the region, **Bodegas Cornelio Dinastía, Imperial Autor 2018**. Commenting on the region, judges said, "The aesthetic evolution over the last



few years in Spain's greatest wine region leaves its winemakers with more style alternatives than ever before - and fortunate drinkers with a range of different translations of these propitious soils and skies."

The final two Best in Show were awarded to **Albet i Noya, El Corral Cremat Brut Nature 2011** from Penedès in Catalonia, a region described as "in full ferment at present, with a huge range of ground-breaking wines finding their way to market" and **Lustau, 30 Years Old V.O.R.S Palo Cortado NV** from the Sherry region.

Sherry also saw outstanding results in the Platinum category with six out of the country's unprecedented 22 Platinums awarded to a range of styles, including Palo Cortado, Amontillado, Oloroso and Cream. Spain's Platinum haul also includes four Value Platinum medals (less than £15), including **Asda's Extra Special Palacio de Vivero Verdejo 2021** from Rueda at less than £9.99, and award-winners from 13 regions across the country.

Two notable Gold medal wins were from Lanzarote producer El Grifo for **Lías Malvasía Volcánico 2019** - a first Gold medal for a non-fortified wine from the island, and also for the fortified **Canari NV**.

Decanter World Wine Awards Co-Chair, Sarah Jane Evans MW, said: "The Decanter World Wine Awards is something really special. We pay huge attention to the wines we have. Each one we approach like one of the family in the sense that we really care for it, study it and then rate it as it is now. You know that what you're doing is having a big discussion about who's going to enjoy it later."

Visit <u>awards.decanter.com</u> 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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## **Note to editors**

Spain was awarded a total of 2088 medals, with 6 Best in Show, 22 Platinum, 92 Gold, 789 Silver and 1179 Bronze.

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

- Bodegas Mazas, Toro 2020
- Hacienda López De Haro, Classica Rosado, Gran Reserva, Rioja 2009
- Lustau, 30 Years Old V.O.R.S NV, Palo Cortado, Sherry NV
- Bodegas Cornelio Dinastía, Imperial Autor, Rioja 2018
- Albet i Noya, El Corral Cremat Brut Nature, Penedès 2011

# **About DWWA**

Launched in 2004 and now in its 19th 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.