



## Supermarkets triumph in International Wine Challenge 2019

The leading UK supermarkets once more demonstrate their prominence in the wine retail arena with an impressive haul of medals – including 27 Golds – at the International Wine Challenge, the world's most influential wine competition.

### Leading retailers:

Of the leading retailers, Waitrose lists the highest number of award winners – an impressive 305 in total – while Marks & Spencer led the way with its own label wines with a total of 188 awards.

Waitrose stocks the most Gold medals, with 15 in total, two of which were for own label wines – the Waitrose Cotes de Provence Rosé 2018, which won the Provence Rosé Trophy, and its Palo Cortado "Torre del Oro".

### Overall supermarket medals

Supermarket	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Commended	Total
Waitrose	15	85	132	73	<b>305</b>
Aldi	4	29	44	34	<b>111</b>
Tesco	4	24	48	69	<b>145</b>
Marks & Spencer	3	34	73	78	<b>188</b>
Morrisons	1	25	47	78	<b>151</b>
Asda	0	22	61	92	<b>175</b>
Co-op	0	17	37	52	<b>106</b>

### Own label wines:

An impressive 11 Gold medals went to supermarket own-label wines, demonstrating the exceptional quality of the in-house buying teams.

Whilst Marks & Spencer won 186 awards in total, it was Tesco that topped the charts for supermarket own label Gold winners, bringing in four top gongs (along with 112 Silver, Bronze and Commended results). Gold medals went to its Tesco Amarone 2015 (£18.00) which also won the Amarone Trophy, Tesco Barolo 2014 (£16.00), its 10 yr Old Tawny (£12.50) and PX Sherry (£6.00).

The Waitrose Gold medal winners included:

- Waitrose Cotes de Provence Rosé 2018 £8.99
- Waitrose Pal Cortado "Torre del Oro" NV £11.99

Morrisons took Gold for their Rioja - The Best Marques de Los Rios Rioja Gran Reserva 2012 (£12.00), and Aldi also struck Gold with their Veuve Monsigny Champagne Rosé (£16.99).

#### Overall own label supermarket medals

Supermarket Own Label	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Commended	Total
Tesco	4	22	42	48	<b>116</b>
Marks & Spencer	3	33	72	78	<b>186</b>
Waitrose	2	15	14	9	<b>40</b>
Morrisons	1	24	42	71	<b>138</b>
Aldi	1	16	25	17	<b>59</b>
Asda	0	5	23	24	<b>52</b>
Co-op	0	5	8	10	23

#### Great Value Awards:

The supermarkets also came up trumps for the Great Value Awards, where nine of the 11 winners were supermarket own label wines.

Tesco once again came out on top with three of its own brand products scooping Great Value Awards, closely followed with Marks & Spencer and Aldi:

#### IWC Great Value Award winners

Wine Name	Vintage	Price	IWC Great Value Awards	Stockists
Tesco Finest Dessert Semillon	2015	£6.00	Sweet < £8	Tesco
Berry Brothers & Rudd Sauternes	2015	£14.25	Sweet < £15	Berry Brothers & Rudd
The Society's Fino	NV	£6.75	Fortified < £8	Wine Society
Marks & Spencer Very Rare Palo Cortado	NV	£9.00	Fortified £8 - £12	Marks & Spencer
Waitrose Palo Cortado "Torre del Oro"	NV	£11.99	Fortified £8 - £12	Waitrose
Alberto Nani Organic Prosecco Extra Dry	NV	£9.00	Sparkling < £12	Asda
Veuve Monsigny Champagne Rosé	NV	£16.99	Sparkling £12 - £20	Aldi
Abel Charlot Brut	NV	£17.00	Sparkling £12 - £20	Marks & Spencer
Tesco Chianti	2017	£5.25	Red < £8	Tesco
Morrisons The Best Marques de Los Rios Rioja Gran Reserva	2012	£12.00	Red £8 - £12	Morrisons
Casa Ferreirinha Papa Figos Red	2017	£10.99	Red £8 - £12	Wholefoods, Amazon
Cowrie Bay Sauvignon Blanc	2018	£7.49	White < £8	Waitrose
Tesco Finest Tingleup Riesling	2018	£8.50	White £8 - £12	Tesco
Exquisite Collection Clare Valley Riesling	2017	£6.99	White < £8	Aldi

Charles Metcalfe, Co-Chair of the IWC, commented:

"Most UK wine-drinkers buy their wine from supermarkets, and, with the results at this year's International Wine Challenge, it's obvious why.

"There are some wonderful wines in the aisles of UK supermarkets – especially in terms of fizz, Port, or Sherry, and often at very appealing price points. Gold or Silver medal wines are a clear indication of quality, and as demonstrated by the Great Value Awards, often extremely reasonably priced."

#### NOTES TO EDITORS:

For tasting notes, samples or photography, please contact [beth.terry@thisisphipps.com](mailto:beth.terry@thisisphipps.com)

#### The International Wine Challenge

In its 36<sup>th</sup> year, the International Wine Challenge (IWC) is accepted as the world's finest and most meticulously judged competition. The IWC assesses every wine 'blind' and judges each for its faithfulness to style, region and vintage. Each medal-winning wine is tasted on at least three separate occasions by a minimum of 12 different judges including Masters of Wine. Awards include medals (Gold, Silver, Bronze) and Commended awards. The IWC is committed to helping consumers discover great wine, and the medals displayed on winning bottles offer a trusted guarantee of quality.

For more information on the IWC and full results, please contact the IWC team at Phipps  
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