



PHIPPS

## International Wine Challenge 2023 names wines and winemakers of the year



Emilien Boutillat, Sparkling Winemaker of the Year 2023

The [International Wine Challenge](#), the world's most influential, impartial, and rigorously judged global wine competition, has announced the highest scoring wines of its 2023 competition along with its five Winemakers of the Year.

Following a series of intensive blind tastings by an international panel of experts, wines from nine countries earned a spot on the coveted list, which is comprised of International Trophy winners (wines named the best example of that variety) as well as the competition's five Champion wines (the ultimate accolade reserved for wines deemed the absolute finest in their category).

### France claims three Champion awards

France was the top performing country in this year's challenge, taking home more medals than any other nation.

- **Edouard Delaunay's Chambertin Grand Cru Rouge** was named **Champion Red Wine**, adding to the four trophies already under its belt.
- **French White Trophy, Michel Tissot & Fils' Château-Chalon Vin Jaune 2015** claimed **Champion White Wine** – a first for the Jura region.
- **Rare Champagne's Emilien Boutillat** was named **Sparkling Winemaker of the Year**. Impressing judges with its “Alluring nose, featuring aromas of fresh baked pastry, apple crumble and Sorrento lemons,” his **Rare Millésime 2008** was named **Champion Sparkling Wine**.

## Sherry stands out in Spain

Spain's reputation for world-class fortified wine was left in no doubt in this year's challenge.

- **Bodegas Fernando De Castilla** claimed **Champion Fortified Wine** with its **Oloroso Singular**.
- Elsewhere in Jerez-Sherry, **Marcos Alguacil** from **Bodegas Osborne** was named **Fortified Winemaker of the Year**, having received 12 medals as well as the **Amontillado Trophy** for his **Amontillado en Rama La Honda** which judges described as having “Aromas of grilled nuts, pistachios and chocolate-covered hazelnuts.”

## Austrian Sauvignon Blanc takes the top spot

Austria saw huge success with wins for Sauvignon Blanc, Riesling and Sweet Winemaker of the Year.

- **Weingut Schneeberger** won the **International Sauvignon Blanc Trophy** for a second time with its **Sauvignon Blanc Kittenberg Südsteiermark 2021**.
- **Winzer Krems Eg** claimed the **International Riesling Trophy** for its **Kremser Kreuzberg Riesling Kremstal Dac Reserve 2021** which judges described as “Concentrated with saffron, white flowers and mouth-watering acidity.”
- There was further success for winemaker **Hans Tschida** from **Angerhof Tschida**, who won **Sweet Winemaker of the Year** for the third year in a row making it the ninth time he has won this award since 2010.

## English producer wins newcomer award

English wine producer Lympstone Manor Estate won the highly coveted trophy for Best Wine in First Year of Production for its Triassic Pinot Noir 2020, proving that England can take on the rest of the world when it comes to red wine production.

**IWC Co-Chair Jamie Goode** commented: “Since every wine entered into the competition is judged blind, it is impossible to predict which wines will score highest when the results come out. It's great to see Austria beating Sauvignon Blanc-producing heavyweights to the top spot.”

### Wines judged “best in show” at the International Wine Challenge 2023:

France	Rare Champagne Millésime 2008	<b>IWC Champion Sparkling Wine 2023 - Daniel Thibault Trophy</b> , Champagne Trophy, Vintage Classic Blend Champagne Trophy
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France	Edouard Delaunay Chambertin Grand Cru Rouge 2020	<b>IWC Champion Red Wine 2023</b> , International Pinot Noir Trophy, French Red Trophy, Chambertin Trophy, Burgundy Red Trophy
France	Michel Tissot & Fils Château-Chalon Vin Jaune 2015	<b>IWC Champion White Wine 2023</b> , French White Trophy, Jura White Trophy
Germany	Weingut Hans Wirsching Iphöfer Julius-Echter-Berg Riesling Trockenbeereauslese 2021	<b>IWC Champion Sweet Wine 2023 - Alois Kracher Trophy</b> , German Sweet Trophy
Spain	Bodegas Fernando De Castilla Oloroso Singular	<b>IWC Champion Fortified Wine 2023 - Manuel Lozano Trophy</b> , Sherry Trophy, Oloroso Trophy
Argentina	Huentala Calizo Carmin Block 3 2020	<b>International Malbec Trophy</b> , Argentinian Red Trophy, Mendoza Malbec Trophy
Australia	Paragon Wine Estates Riddoch The Pastoralist Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon 2021	<b>International Cabernet Sauvignon Trophy</b> , Australian Cabernet Sauvignon Trophy
Austria	Winzer Krems Eg Kremser Kreuzberg Riesling Kremstal Dac Reserve 2021	<b>International Riesling Trophy</b> , Austrian White Trophy, Austrian Riesling Trophy
Austria	Weingut Schneeberger Sauvignon Blanc Kittenberg Südsteiermark 2021	<b>International Sauvignon Blanc Trophy</b> , Austrian Sauvignon Blanc Trophy
New Zealand	Giesen Single Vineyard Clayvin Syrah 2021	<b>International Syrah Trophy</b> , New Zealand Red Trophy, New Zealand Syrah Trophy
South Africa	Paul Cluver Seven Flags Chardonnay 2021	<b>International Chardonnay Trophy</b> , IWC Sustainable Trophy, South African White Trophy
England	Lympstone Manor Estate Triassic Pinot Noir 2020	<b>Best Wine in First Year of Production</b> , English Red Trophy

**IWC Winemakers of the Year 2023:**

France	Sparkling Winemaker of the Year	Emilien Boutillat, Rare Champagne
Chile	Red Winemaker of the Year	Rafael Urrejola, Viña Undurraga
New Zealand	White Winemaker of the Year	Natalie Christensen, Yealands Wine Group
Austria	Sweet Winemaker of the Year	Hans Tschida, Angerhof Tschida
Spain	Fortified Winemaker of the Year	Marcos Alguacil, Bodegas Osborne

The full list of Trophy and Champion winners at the 2023 International Wine Challenge released on 4<sup>th</sup> July can be found [here](#).

**ENDS**

**NOTES TO EDITORS:**

In its 39<sup>th</sup> year, the International Wine Challenge is widely acknowledged as the world's most rigorous, impartial, influential and global wine competition. The IWC assesses every wine 'blind' and judges each for its faithfulness to style, region and vintage. Trophies are awarded to the best wines in each category. The IWC is committed to helping consumers discover great wine, and the medals offer a trusted guarantee of quality.

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