



MARCH 11-14, 2015

CHARDONNAY DU MONDE® 2016

March 09 - 12, 2016

THE 2015 RESULTS

Available on:
www.chardonnay-du-monde.com

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Chardonnay du Monde®

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PRESS RELEASE

BEST CHARDONNAY OF THE WORLD 2015: A UNIQUE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS LIST

The 22st annual Chardonnay du Monde® wine competition was held March 11–14, 2015 at Château des Ravatsys, the wine estate of the Pasteur Institute at Saint-Lager, Burgundy (France).

The **Chardonnay du Monde®** international competition recognizes the world's best Chardonnay wines by awarding them with reliable and **representative medals**. This competition is based on a single conviction: distinctive marks of quality are the **key to real differentiation** and therefore enhancing the value of the awarded wines in this highly competitive market where the array of products becomes more vast each day. Award-winning wineries can use this recognition for sales purposes by placing medal stickers on their bottles.

This event is unique in terms of its scope, its method and its ambition:

- **International in scope and a seldom reached diversity:** 826 wine samples, 41 countries, 300 international expert judges.
- **A strict method with the focus on quality:** compliance with international competition standards, rigorous selection of expert judges, and the use of scientific criteria for tasting, and secure processing of computer results.
- **Optimal tasting conditions:** sensory isolation, number of samples limited to 17 per panel, expert judges do not add

up their scores allowing them to focus on evaluating the wines, and wines are tasted at an appropriate pace.

As part of these Quality Assurances, all new judges must participate in a one-day training session before being admitted to the tasting panels. For each judge, this session includes sensory profile determination, Chardonnay aromas identification and various exercises to familiarise themselves with methods used in international wine judging competitions.

Chardonnay du Monde® has progressively distinguished itself from other international competitions thanks to **quality standards that are much stricter than the norm** and by remaining faithful to its founding principles, which have driven its success over the years: **diversity, quality and high standards**.

After four days of judging, the **panels awarded medals to 275 participants**.

Medals Distribution

Gold medals	56
Silver medals	196
Bronze medals	23

2015 GENERAL TRENDS

■ **An unique geographical diversity:** with 41 countries and 826 wines entered, Chardonnay du Monde® is the strongest concentration of chardonnay wine ever realized. It is the most significant and legitimate qualitative competition for the distinction of best Chardonnay of the World. The 2014 vintage effect implies a lesser involvement of some regions and countries. There was also strong participation from South Africa, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Spain, Italia, Hungary and Switzerland.

The country winning the most medals

■ **The good place of France is noted:** The Burgundy Region win 6 gold medals, the Languedoc-Roussillon (8 gold medals) and the Champagne (11 gold medals) were rewarded by numerous and beautiful medals. Many sparkling Chardonnay were in competition: Champagne and sparkling wines from Burgundy, gains very

beautiful medals. Germany, Belgium, Canada, Spain, Macedonia, Russia, Serbia and Switzerland received also very good notes.

■ **Within Europe:** Switzerland, Italia and Spain stood out for their numerous medalled wines.

■ **Central Europe:** The Bulgaria, Czech Republic and Slovakia gains in 2015 beautiful medals.

■ **Outside Europe:** Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile and South Africa confirmed their successes of earlier years.

There was a high level of diversity in terms of the sensorial qualities of the wines

Each wine distinguished at Chardonnay du Monde® was judged for its individual quality. A favourable view is granted to the wines showing

good typicity and intense Chardonnay aromas. Oakiness is considered a plus when it is discreet and harmonious, but this quality was marked down when it masked varietal aromas.

■ **Expert-judge gave severe notations** for the wines whose flavours of chardonnay are masked by too much wood and Sauvignon flavours; they thus privileged the Chardonnay expression.

■ **The presence of sugar** at a few grams per litre has a tendency to improve scores. This tendency, already noted in previous years, was confirmed this year with a number of successes for off-dry wines. Wines made from partially dried or late harvested grapes and those made by selective cryo-extraction received particularly good marks.

■ **Dry wines were judged successful** when they displayed harmony in the form of elegant acidity, with aromatic complexity.



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PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES



International expert judges trained: a unique level of quality and rigor for the evaluation of the Chardonnay wines of the world

More than 250 international expert

judges were admitted to evaluate the wines in competition after a specific training. In 2015, in collaboration with the **University of Burgundy**, a new training cycle has been delivered. Now, Chardonnay du Monde® tasters,

already annually evaluated, have a new tool, a custom-designed training, to refine their inter-individual evaluation method and thus deepen their sensory analysis skills.

TOP 10* BEST CHARDONNAY DU MONDE® 2015

Country	Product	Winery
South Africa	Groot Constantia Chardonnay 2013	Groot Constantia Wine Estate
Australia	DB Reserve Chardonnay 2013	De Bortoli Wines
Switzerland	Genève AOC – Chardonnay de Peissy Élevé en fût de Chêne 2012	Cave Les Perrières
Brazil	Casa Valduga Leopoldina Gran Chardonnay Do Vale dos Vinhedos 2013	Casa Valduga Vinhos Finos Ltda
France	Champagne Bertrand-Lapie Millésimé Brut 2009	Earl Bertrand-Lapie
France	VMQ Duc de Raybaud Chardonnay Blanc de Blancs Brut	Les vins Breban
Canada	Royal de Maria Canada's Icewine Specialits Winter Harvest Chardonnay 2007	Royal de Maria Wines
France	Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune – Clos de la Chaise Dieu Monopole – Château de Santenay 2012	Sa Château de Santenay
France	Côtes de Gascogne IGP – Family Réserve Domaine de Pellehaut 2012	Scv Beraut
France	Côtes de Gascogne IGP – Domaine du Tariquet 2014	Scv Château du Tariquet
France	« Pays d'Oc IGP – Jean Claude Mas » « Le Coteau » « Chardonnay 2014 »	Les Domaines Paul Mas
Hungary	Nyakas Pince Budai Chardonnay 2014	Nyakas Pince Zrt
France	Pays d'Oc IGP – Maison du Sud Chardonnay 2014	Jeanjean Sa

* Some wines are rigorously equal thus the TOP 10 2015 includes 13 wines.

The Top 10 ranking

At the 2015 Top 10 : South Africa (Groot Constantia Wine Estate), Australia (De Bortoli Wines), Switzerland (Cave Les Perrières), Brazil (Casa Valduga Vinhos Finos), Canada (Royal de Maria Wines) and Hungary (Nyakas Pince Zrt). France obtains seven Gold Medals: two for

sparkling Chardonnay - one Champagne (Champagne Bertrand-Lapie) and one VMQ (Les vins Breban), one for Burgundy wine (Château de Santenay), two for Pays d'Oc wines (Domaines Paul Mas and Jeanjean) and two for Côtes de Gascogne wines (Scv Beraut and Château du Tariquet). One South African chardonnay wine is at the top of the

Top 10 list (Groot Constantia Chardonnay 2013). **Admission to the Top 10** of Brazil and Hungary for the first time.

The 2015 Top 10 propose the diversity of the expressions of Chardonnay wines through still wines, wines with residual sugars and Sparkling wines.

All results awarded by country and by medal are available at www.chardonnay-du-monde.com



Signe Extérieur de *Qualité*

Chardonnay du Monde® competition is organised by the Association Forum Œnologie, with participation from the Revue des Œnologues, the Institut Paul Bocuse (Ecully near Lyon) which acts as the sensory performance assessment centre for the expert judges. Secure computer processing of results is ensured by The Services Actions Qualité company.