



MARCH 8-11, 2016

CHARDONNAY DU MONDE® 2017

March 7-10, 2017

THE 2016 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 2016: A UNIQUE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS LIST

The 23rd annual Chardonnay du Monde® wine competition was held March 8-11, 2016 at Château des Ravatys, 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:** 782 wine samples, 39 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 20 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 259 participants**.

Medals Distribution

Gold medals	63
Silver medals	196

2016 GENERAL TRENDS

■ **An unique geographical diversity:** with 39 countries and 782 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.

There was also strong participation from South Africa, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, France, Spain, Italy and Switzerland.

The country winning the most medals

- **The good place of France** is noted with 30 gold medals. **Many sparkling Chardonnay were in competition:** Champagne and sparkling wines from Burgundy gains very beautiful medals. Canada, Spain and Switzerland received also very good notes.

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

■ **Central Europe:** Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary and Romania gains in 2016 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 liter 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 700 international expert judges were admitted to evaluate the wines in competition after a specific training. In 2016, 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® 2016

Country	Product	Winery
Canada	Kalala Chardonnay Icewine – Okanagan Valley BC VQA 2013	Kalala Organic Estate Winery
Czech Republic	Chardonnay, Vyber z Bobuli 2011	Vinarstvi Josef Valihrach
France	Pouilly-Fuissé Domaine du Bois Rosier 2013	Les vins Georges Dubœuf
Austria	Chardonnay Ausbruch Essenz Burgenland 2001	Hammer Wein Rust
France	Champagne Gruet Chardonnay Brut 2012	Champagne Gruet
South Africa	Kleine Zalze Vineyard Selection Chardonnay 2015	Kleine Zalze Wines
Spain	Vina de la Tierra de Castilla « la Doncella » de las Vinas 2015	World Fruit Company SI (Bodegas Familia Conesa)
France	Chablis Premier Cru Vaillons 2014	Bordet Jean-François
France	Champagne Paul Goerg Premier Cru Millésimé Brut 2005	Ch. & A. Prieur – Champagne Paul Goerg
Switzerland	Valais AOC Chardonnay Réserve 2012	Domaine des Muses
Australia	Franklin Tate Estates – Traditional Margaret River Chardonnay 2015	Cellarmasters
France	Pays d'Oc IGP Cap Cette Chardonnay 2015	Les Costières de Pomerols
Chile	Valle de Colchagua – Santa Tierra Estate Chardonnay Reserva 2015	Vina Casa Silva
New Zealand	Saint Clair Pioneer Block 11 Chardonnay 2014	Saint Clair Family Estate

* Some wines are rigorously equal thus the TOP 10 2016 includes 14 wines.

The Top 10 ranking

At the 2016 Top 10: South Africa (Kleine Zalze Wines), Australia (Cellarmasters), Austria (Hammer Wein Rust), Canada (Kalala Organic), Chile (Vina Casa Silva), Czech Republic (Vinarstvi Josef Valihrach), France, New Zealand (Saint Clair Family Estate), Spain (World Fruit Company) and Switzerland (Domaine des Muses).

France obtains five Gold Medals: two for Champagne Chardonnay wines (Champagne Gruet, Champagne Goerg), two for Burgundy wines (Pouilly-Fuissé Domaine du Bois Rosier Georges Dubœuf, Chablis 1^{er} Cru Vaillons Bordet Jean-François) and one Pays d'Oc wine (Les Costières de Pomerols).

One Canadian Chardonnay wine is at the top of the Top 10 list. Admission

to the Top 10 of New Zealand for the first time. Highlight, confirming the trend of previous years, we observe in the Top 10 a significant proportion of oak-aged wines and wines over 5 years of age.

The 2016 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.