



Air New Zealand Wine Awards 2016

The Air New Zealand Wine Awards is the premier wine competition in New Zealand recognising excellence in winemaking. The competition is owned and organised by New Zealand Winegrowers and is only open to New Zealand wines.

Medal Guide



TROPHY MEDAL

A Trophy is the highest accolade a wine entered into the Air New Zealand Wine Awards can receive. Among the Gold Medal wines, the judges select a special few Elite Gold Medal wines which are deemed to be the cream of the Gold Medals in each class, and only these are put forward to be considered for a Trophy. The judges then hold a 'taste off', and vote for which of these Elite Gold Medal winners is the best wine in each category. This Champion is awarded the Trophy.

Trophies are awarded for Champion Wine of the Show, Reserve Wine of the Show, Champion Open White Wine, Champion Open Red Wine,

Champion Exhibition White or Sparkling Wine, and Champion Exhibition Red Wine as well as the 13 individual variety trophies - Sparkling; Gewürztraminer; Pinot Gris; Riesling; Sauvignon Blanc; Chardonnay; Other White Styles; Rosé; Sweet Wine; Pinot Noir; Merlot, Cabernet and Blends; Syrah; and Other Red Styles.

The wine voted to be the best wine of the entire competition is also awarded the Champion Wine of the Show Trophy, and the runner-up wins the Reserve Wine of the Show Trophy.

ELITE GOLD, GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE MEDALS

Each wine entered into the Air New Zealand Wine Awards is tasted blind by a panel of three senior judges and two associate judges. The wines are served in anonymous glasses so that judges do not know what wine is in the glass. The judges score each wine using a time-honoured 20 point system developed in Australia. Each wine is

assessed for colour and clarity (3 points), aroma and bouquet (7 points,) and taste and general impression (10 points). The three senior judges' scores are averaged and medals are awarded to wines whose scores attain the medal standard.



Outstanding quality
(19 and above out of
20 points)



Excellent quality
(18.5 - 18.99 out of
20 points)



Very good quality
(17-18.49 out of
20 points)



Good quality
(16 -16.99 out of
20 points)

