



## Gold medals announced for the New Zealand Wine of the Year

Following three days of judging over 1200 wines, 75 gold medals have been awarded at the New Zealand Wine of the Year™ competition.

Chair of Judges Warren Gibson says it was particularly pleasing to see a spread of gold medals throughout the majority of the New Zealand's wine regions. The larger areas of Marlborough, Hawke's Bay and Central Otago again took out the lion's share of the awards, with multiple golds also given to the Gisborne, Nelson and Canterbury regions. Golds were also awarded to the Wellington and Auckland regions with Northland achieving strong silver medals.

Marlborough dominated the gold medal tally with close to 50% of the awards with a particular strength in the Sauvignon Blanc category. Central Otago was prominent in Pinot Noir, and Hawke's Bay dominated the full-bodied red category, while also fighting Marlborough for Chardonnay bragging rights. The aromatic white varieties were well divided between regions.

"The average quality of the wines was very high, with a strong return of both silver and bronze medals suggesting the current vintages of 2018 and 2019 are both good ones" said Mr Gibson.

In addition to the 75 gold medals, 235 silver medals and 456 bronze medals were awarded by a team of 29 judges. There was a total of 766 medals awarded across 15 classes, including the Provenance Class, in which wines were judged over three vintages.

The 75 gold medal winning wines are now vying for the Regional and Varietal trophies announced on 4 November.

The final act will be the awarding of the eight major trophies for the New Zealand Wine of the Year™ competition. These will be announced at the New Zealand Wine Awards on Saturday 16 November and include; New Zealand Wine of the Year™ Champion, Best Single Vineyard White Wine, Best Single Vineyard Red Wine, Best Open White Wine, Best Open Red Wine, Best Organic White Wine, Best Organic Red Wine and Best Wine of Provenance.

More information on New Zealand Wine of the Year™ can be found at <https://www.nzwine.com/nzwy/>

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[Attached photo; Chair of Judges Warren Gibson, and Deputy Chair Ben Glover]

### Notes to editor:

The New Zealand Wine Awards will be held on Saturday 16 November in Blenheim. The evening is a celebration of our industry and will recognise the New Zealand Wine of the Year™ winners, as well as



other industry achievements including Young Viticulturist of the Year, Young Winemaker of the Year the 2019 New Zealand Winegrowers Fellows, and the inaugural Cellar Door of the Year Award.

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**Gold medals by varietal**

Sparkling	<b>4</b>
Gewürztraminer	<b>2</b>
Pinot Gris	<b>5</b>
Riesling	<b>5</b>
Sauvignon Blanc	<b>14</b>
Chardonnay	<b>12</b>
Sweet Wine	<b>2</b>
Rosé	<b>4</b>
Pinot Noir	<b>12</b>
Merlot and Cabernet Plus	<b>6</b>
Syrah	<b>6</b>
Other Red / White	<b>3</b>

**Gold medals by region**

Auckland	<b>1</b>
Hawke's Bay	<b>18</b>
Gisborne	<b>3</b>
Martinborough	<b>1</b>
Marlborough	<b>36</b>
Nelson	<b>2</b>
Canterbury	<b>3</b>
Central Otago	<b>10</b>
South Island	<b>1</b>

**New Zealand Wine of the Year™ 2019 gold medals**

**Sparkling**

Petit Cordon by Maison Mumm Brut Marlborough, NV



Lindauer Special Reserve Blanc de Blanc, Gisborne NV  
Lindauer Special Reserve Vintage Brut, Gisborne 2017  
Tohu Rewa Méthode Traditionnelle Blanc de Blancs Marlborough, 2015

### **Gewürztraminer**

Wairau River Gewürztraminer, Marlborough 2019  
Askerne Reserve Gewürztraminer, Hawke's Bay 2018

### **Pinot Gris**

Mud House Pinot Gris, South Island 2019  
Wither Hills Pinot Gris, Marlborough 2019  
Russian Jack Pinot Gris, Marlborough 2019  
Brancott Estate Pinot Gris, Marlborough 2019  
Thornbury Pinot Gris, Waipara 2019

### **Riesling**

Lake Chalice The Falcon Riesling, Marlborough 2019  
Peregrine Riesling, Central Otago 2018  
Villa Maria Cellar Selection Riesling, Marlborough 2018  
Whitehaven Riesling, Marlborough 2018  
Mud House Single Vineyard The Mound Vineyard Riesling, Waipara Valley 2018

### **Sauvignon Blanc**

Saint Clair Wairau Reserve Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2019  
Pretty Paddock Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2019  
Seifried Sauvignon Blanc, Nelson 2019  
Saint Clair Pioneer Block 3 43 Degrees Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2019  
Aotea by the Seifried family Sauvignon Blanc, Nelson 2019  
Martinborough Vineyard Te Tera Sauvignon Blanc, Martinborough 2019  
Black Cottage Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2019  
Saint Clair Pioneer Block 20 Cash Block Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2019  
te Pa Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2019  
Tohu Awatere Valley Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2019  
Saint Clair Vicar's Choice Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2019  
Falconhead Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2019  
Giesen Single Vineyard Matthews Lane Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2015  
Craft Series 'Pride and Glory' Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2013

### **Chardonnay**

Church Road Grand Reserve Chardonnay, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Hawkesbridge Reserve Chardonnay, Marlborough 2018  
Stoneleigh Rapaura Series Chardonnay, Marlborough 2018  
Te Awa Single Estate Chardonnay, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Villa Maria Reserve Chardonnay, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Isabel Estate Chardonnay, Marlborough 2018  
Isabel Estate Wild Barrique Chardonnay, Marlborough 2018



Villa Maria Single Vineyard Ihumatao Chardonnay, Auckland 2018  
Kidnapper Cliffs Chardonnay, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Villa Maria Reserve Chardonnay, Marlborough 2017  
Craft Series 'The Pioneer' Chardonnay, Marlborough 2016  
Giesen Single Vineyard Fuder Clayvin Chardonnay, Marlborough 2015

#### **Sweet Wine**

Riverby Estate Noble Riesling, Marlborough 2018  
Forrest Botrytised Riesling, Marlborough 2018

#### **Rosé**

Whitehaven Pinot Noir Rosé, Marlborough 2019  
Leefield Station Pinot Rosé, Marlborough 2019  
Two Rivers Isle of Beauty Rosé, Marlborough 2019  
Wooing Tree Rosé, Central Otago, 2019

#### **Pinot Noir**

Saddleback Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2018  
Thornbury Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2018  
Anthem Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2018  
Grove Mill Pinot Noir, Marlborough 2018  
Putangi Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2018  
Eight Ranges Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2018  
Two Degrees Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2018  
Villa Maria Single Vineyard The Attorney Pinot Noir, Marlborough 2017  
Peregrine Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2017  
Grasshopper Rock Earnsclough Vineyard Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2017  
Spy Valley Handpicked Southern Valleys Pinot Noir, Marlborough 2016  
Villa Maria Single Vineyard Taylors Pass Pinot Noir, Marlborough 2015

#### **Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Blends**

Villa Maria Private Bin Merlot, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Saint Clair Pioneer Block 17 Plateau Cabernet Merlot, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Villa Maria Cellar Selection Merlot, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Mills Reef Reserve Cabernet Merlot, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Church Road Grand Reserve Merlot Cabernet Sauvignon, Hawke's Bay 2016  
Church Road One Merlot, Hawke's Bay 2016

#### **Syrah**

Vidal Reserve Gimblett Gravels Syrah, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Esk Valley Syrah, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Villa Maria Cellar Selection Syrah, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Ngatarawa Stables Reserve Syrah, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Villa Maria Reserve Gimblett Gravels Syrah, Hawke's Bay 2018  
Villa Maria Reserve Gimblett Gravels Syrah, Hawke's Bay 2014



NEW ZEALAND WINE  
PURE DISCOVERY

**Other Varieties White**

Villa Maria Cellar Selection Viognier, Hawke's Bay 2018

Left Field Albariño, Gisborne 2018

**Other Varieties - Red**

THE BONELINE Amphitheatre Cabernet Franc, Waipara 2018