



International Wine Competition

Terms and conditions of participation

ART. 1 OBJECTIVE

The VINUM International Wine Competition “BEST OF RIOJA 2024” aims to objectively document the current quality and development status of all wines from the Rioja-region, and their various styles. The competition seeks to support the local wine sector’s efforts to overcome current challenges on the national and international wine market. The aim is to highlight the quality of individual wines and reward those that have achieved optimum levels. The results should serve as a guide for wine consumers and wine professionals.

ART. 2 RESPONSIBILITIES AND STRUCTURES

The VINUM International Wine Competition “BEST OF RIOJA 2024” is a project by the wine magazine VINUM, Intervinum AG, Zurich, Switzerland, in cooperation with Marktree - Consultadoria de Marketing, Lda. The Intervinum AG is responsible for organising and running the tastings and will provide the infrastructure and staff. The tasting will take place according to the current OIV guidelines and is recognised accordingly. The Intervinum AG holds the exclusive authority to clarify any matters of dispute.

ART. 3 ACCEPTANCE AND SELECTION OF WINES

The competition is open to all wines from the region Rioja. Submissions can be submitted by any wine producer, viticultural cooperative or association of winemakers, producer groups or wine retailers (in independent coordination with the winemaker in order to avoid duplication of entries).

The following conditions must be met for approval:

- bottled wines coming from a single lot and with final labels (according to national regulations).
- the wines must be available on the market at the time of the announcement of the results - September 2024. Availability only in Spain is also accepted.
- Wines must have the designation of the country of origin or domicile where the vines were harvested and vinified.

ART. 4 THE SEVEN WINE CATEGORIES

Awards will be conferred in the following 8 categories:

Red wines

- Category 1: **Joven**
- Category 2: **Crianza**
- Category 3: **Reserva**
- Category 4: **Gran Reserva**

White wines

- Category 5: **Joven**
- Category 6: **Crianza**
- Category 7: **Reserva**

Rosé

- Category 8: **Vino Rosado**

At least 25 wines submitted are required for a category to be relevant for the competition. After registration, the classification of the category will be checked and adjusted if necessary. The producer is free to choose the vintages and grape varieties of the wines submitted.

Special awards/prizes:

- **Best Red Wine and Best White Wine 2024** – the highest scoring wine across categories 2-4 and 6-7
- **Best of Rioja Alta** – Top 5 wines with designation of origin ***
- **Best of Rioja Alavesa** – Top 5 wines with designation of origin ***
- **Best of Rioja Oriental** – Top 5 wines with designation of origin ***
- **Best Organic** – Top 5, the best certified organic wine

*** This special prize will be awarded if at least 35 wines of the same wine region are submitted. If this quota is not reached, the special prize will not be awarded.

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ART. 5 TASTING AND ASSESSMENT OF WINES

The tasting is the responsibility of the technical commission under the direction of the independent chief editors of VINUM. The technical commission supports the organisation of the tasting, assembles the tasting jury, contributes to the smooth running of the competition and monitors its implementation in accordance with the regulations. The tasting jury consists exclusively of nationally and internationally recognised, professionally qualified wine experts from the various sectors such as press, trade, production, consumption and gastronomy/HoReCA. The jury experts will be officially communicated.

All properly registered wines will be tasted individually according to the defined category. The tastings will take place blindly, under preservation of anonymity. The evaluation of the wines occurs in the form of points - according to the 100-point rating system - and a short commentary note. The best 10 wines in each category (final wines) are tasted in an additional round (final round) by a reduced panel of experts. By means of this final control tasting, the final podium positions per category as well as the special prizes are finally determined. In the case of differences in the scores between the jury tasting and the final tasting, the higher score will be considered as the final score. The decisions of the panel of experts are non-appealable.

ART. 6 APPLICATION AND TASTING

6.1. Inscription of the wines

Participants have to fill in the entry form for each wine and hereby confirm their agreement with the conditions of the competition. Each wine is assigned an identification number which is retained until the end of the competition.

The registration form includes for each wine:

- Name of the wine
- Address of the producer
- Origin and/or domicile of the wine
- Number of bottles produced
- Grape variety(ies), vintage, wine category, alcohol content, residual sugar content*** - mandatory information
- For organic wines: Proof of certification
- Sales price incl. VAT to private customers (As price applies the sales price to private customers/end consumers, incl. VAT.)

*** An incorrect or missing residual sugar declaration leads to the disqualification of the wine, because the grouping of the wines in the individual categories is made according to residual sugar content. The correct declaration is indispensable for reasons of fairness.

Enter online only at www.vinum.eu/bestofrioja2024

After online registration, each participant will receive a written confirmation of attendance. This confirmation is binding and serves as the basis for the invoice. Please make the transfer only after receipt of the invoice to the account number indicated there, stating the invoice number. VINUM reserves the right to cancel all incomplete or incorrectly submitted registrations, as well as to exclude from the competition those wine samples that do not fulfil the competition regulations.

6.2 Number of bottles and participation fees

For each registered wine, **three bottles** must be provided, regardless of the type of closure.

Participation fee	1 to 2 registered wines	75 €	per each wine
	3 to 4 registered wines	65 €	per each wine
	5 or more registered wine	60 €	per each wine

Plus 8.1% VAT, if required by law. Incurring bank charges will not be covered.
Payments made cannot be refunded under any circumstances, regardless of the reasons for the cancellation of the registration.

6.3 Deadlines and delivery addresses

Registration deadline **new 23.06.2024**
Deadline to deliver wines by **new 17.07.2024** (date of incoming-receipt)

International delivery to Germany

**Swisslogistik e.K.
Internationale Spedition VINUM-Verlag
«Best of Rioja 2024»
Max-Strohmeyer-Strasse 170
DE- 78467 Konstanz**

National delivery to Switzerland

**Intervinum AG
«Best of Rioja 2024»
Thurgauerstrasse 66A
CH-8050 Zürich**

Shipping is at the expense and risk of the participants. Wine samples sent cash on delivery will be rejected.
All wine samples that do not fully comply with the submitted entry form will be rejected.
The non-conforming wine samples will not be returned and will remain in the possession of VINUM. All wines not received by the closing date cannot be considered for the jury tasting.
Participation fees will still be charged due to the administrative effort involved.

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Jury-tasting 20. + 21. August 2024
Results announced from 25th September 2024 on

ART. 7 AWARDS SYSTEM AND ANNOUNCING RESULTS

7.1 Awards system

The award system is based on the international 100-point rating system. 30 to a maximum of 35 % of all registered wine samples will be awarded and officially communicated in accordance with USOE standards. The organisers reserve the right to increase or decrease the minimum number of points required, depending on the quality level of the wines submitted, in order not to exceed this quota.

The "BEST OF RIOJA 2024" grants the following diplomas to the awarded/awarded wines:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| - Diamant , <i>century wine</i> | > 99/100 points |
| - Big Gold-medal , <i>outstanding, belongs to the top of the world</i> | > 95 up to and including 98 points |
| - Gold-medal , <i>excellent</i> | > 90 up to and including 94 points |
| - Silver-medal , <i>very good</i> | > 86 up to and including 89 points |

At the end of the project, all registered and tasted wines will receive notification of the result achieved. All award-winning wines, i.e. wines with a score of 86 points or more, will receive specific feedback with the corresponding rating/score as well as a tasting description (online), a digital certificate (pdf) as well as digital web buttons (gold/silver). All non-award-winning wines, i.e. wines with 85 points or less, only receive general feedback stating that the wine in question has not been awarded a prize. The grading of non-award-winning wines is not communicated externally.

7.2 Reporting and publishing the results

The results of all the award-winning wines will be announced 25th September 2024 on.
An overview of the main promotional activities:

- International PR-campaign (German, English)
- **Special-Magazine «World of Rioja»**, appearance from 30.09.2024 on in Switzerland, Germany and Austria
- All results published on www.vinum.eu
- International promotion of results on VINUM's social media channels on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter
- International newsletter marketing campaign
- Promotion of results on media cooperation platforms (joint ventures) in Germany and Switzerland
- Certificates sent for all award-winning wines
- Direct marketing campaigns to partner institutions (specialist retailers, sommeliers, hotels and restaurants, educational institutions, hotel management schools, wine and gastronomy associations, etc.

Masterclasses: Special promotion "Weinfestival Basel 2024", from 01.-03.11.2024

- Exclusive **tasting zone** with a selection of the award-winning wines at the VINUM stand.
- **Masterclass-Seminar** with a selection of 10-12 the awarded wines
- Distribution of the special issue "WORLD OF RIOJA 2024" to all visitors, over 2'500 copies

ART. 8 FINAL PROVISIONS

By submitting an entry, entrants are expressly and unreservedly agreeing to these regulations. The results are final with no right of appeal. If the competition is unable to run smoothly for reasons beyond the event organiser's control, the event organiser may not under any circumstances be held responsible. The event organiser accepts no liability in the event of theft, loss, delay or damage during the delivery of sample bottles.

After the competition, the event organiser may use the sample bottles submitted for the competition for a charity campaign, for advertising purposes or for educational purposes. They will not be returned to producers.

The Vinum logo, featuring the word 'Vinum' in a white, cursive script on a dark background.

A project by © Intervinum AG
Zurich/Cologne, March 2024