



30 years of wine culture

With the aim of highlighting sommelier culture, Salon Gourmets is holding the 30th edition of the Tierra de Sabor Spanish Sommelier Championship, co-sponsored by Tarsus and Cuatro Rayas Winery.

With more than 60 sommeliers reaching the semi-final, this championship is one of the most acclaimed in the SG not only because it reinforces the role of the sommelier as an essential figure in the hospitality and oenology industry, but also because the winner will represent Spain at the World Sommelier Championship organised by the Association de la Sommellerie Internationale (ASI).

This edition will be sponsored by Tierra de Sabor, the quality label of Castilla y León foodstuffs, which has more than 6,000 products bearing this quality label. And as co-sponsors, Bodega Tarsus, located in Ribera del Duero with 70 hectares of its own vineyards where it grows tinta del país and cabernet sauvignon and Bodega Cuatro Rayas, synonymous with quality verdejo DO Rueda, its wines take care of the rural environment and the people who live there, in a balance between profitability, value and sustainability.

The championship consists of two phases: the semi-final which will take place on Wednesday 9 April on the Gourmets Stage (hall 6, Ifema Madrid) where the contestants must face a theoretical examination, a written wine tasting, product identification and a marketing and service test. In order to select the best to reach this semi-final, the regional associations organise qualifying competitions to select the most qualified sommeliers from each autonomous community during the months of February and March.

The top 3 advance to the grand final which is held the following day at the same location. In this case, the finalists have to demonstrate their skills in a quick test, an oral wine tasting and the correction of an erroneous menu, as well as assessing their ability to identify a drink and decant and serve a bottle of wine.

As a novelty this year, the technical committee of the competition will have new members who will join the former national champions who form part of the professional Jury. This year the Jury will be made up, among others, of Henar Puentes (Castilla y León), Álex Pardo (Madrid), Ferran Vila (Catalonia), Jon Andoni Rementeria (Basque Country), Manu Jiménez (Aragón), Josep Pelegrin (Catalonia) and Carles Aymerich (Catalonia).

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Wine, the sector with the largest representation

In addition to the presentations and wine tastings that will take place in the six halls -3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8- that Europe's most exclusive Fine Food and Beverages Fair will occupy, with Estrella Galicia as official beer. Visitors will be able to discover the 57 wine regions represented through 358 wines, 277 wineries and 22 varieties that will be present in the traditional Wine Tunnel / MAPA, discover the references that have received 90 points or more from the Gourmets Wine Guide Tasting Committee, which will be on display in the Best of the Guide (LMG) space, or find out about the latest news from wineries and companies belonging to the wine sector, which represents 35% of the exhibitors at this year's edition.

- 30th Sommeliers Spanish Championship Tierra de Sabor cosponsored by Tarsus and Cuatro Rayas Winery (Final) Thursday 10 April, 10:00 am to 15:00 pm. Gourmets Stage (hall 6 at Ifema Madrid)

**From 7 to 10 April 2025
at Ifema Madrid**

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