**Success when Sweden’s best wines were chosen**

More than 800 wines competed in 38 different classes, setting a new record when the Vinordic Wine Challenge took place in Stockholm in April. Gold, silver and bronze winners were named for each different type of wine, and you can find the most affordable wines in Sweden here.

FOR the fifth year in a row, a jury of professionals has named the best wines to buy in Sweden. The Vinordic Wine Challenge is the only EU-accredited wine competition in Sweden, a vital fact which guarantees neutrality. This year’s competition beat all previous records. The number of entries was up by more than 25 per cent.

Quite clearly, this is a very important competition for anyone wanting to make their name known on the Swedish wine market. To be granted EU status, all wines have to be sampled blind on equal terms by a qualified jury of people with an established reputation on the market. This accreditation is also necessary for the winners to use the honor correctly in their marketing in accordance with international requirements.

This competition is run in partnership by Vinordic and Allt om Vin magazine. This year’s jury was made up of sommeliers Susanne Berglund Krantz, Ulf Engelhardt, Åsa W Karlson and Jan Rosborn, together with wine journalists Igor Arvidsson, Gunilla Hultgren Karell, Claes Löfgren and Magnus Waern.

Judging this year’s lineup was a mammoth task for the jury. Fast decisions were the order of the day, not long, drawn-out guesswork. The price is stated, and all the testers judge is whether the wine tastes better or worse than its price would imply, on the basis of a set scale of points.

“This is an exciting and revealing way in which to sample wines”, says Bengt-Göran Kronstam, Chairman of the jury. “In the international arena, wine competitions are based solely on the flavor of the wine and no attention is paid to how much they cost. Our opinions are much more definite, and makes clear the thing on which consumers base their decisions in the long run: which wines offer the best value for money”.

First, a winner is selected from each price category in its class in the competition. These winners then go through to the final, where they go head-to-head against one another. On this basis, gold, silver and bronze medals are awarded in each respective class. As a result, a simple, budget wine can hold its own against a rich luxury wine.

One clear trend is that the number of wines from the to-order range, wines which the suppliers of Systembolaget (the Swedish Alcohol Retail Monopoly) choose themselves and which are available to order in all shops at no extra charge, fare extremely well when competing with wines from the regular stock list. In this year’s competition, the wines available to order took home almost a third of all the awards.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Best Value Vinordic Wine Challenge 2011  The following wines have won the "Best Value" award in its price category in the Vinordic Wine Challenge 2011, Sweden's only EU-accredited wine competition. |  |

Sparkling wines

Gold

Best value: SEK 76–100/75 cl

2008 Lachèze Brut

No. 7420/Winepartners Nordic SEK 99

Silver

Best value: SEK 101-149/75 cl

2007 Graham Beck Blanc de Blancs Brut

No. 6505/Prime Wine SEK 149

Bronze

Best value up to SEK 75/75 cl

JP CHENET Brut

No. 77189/Stellan Kramer SEK 75

Best value: SEK 150 and above/75 cl

Kronovalls Vinslott Tirage 2000

No. 77025/Kiviks Musteri SEK 169

Champagnes

Golds

Best value: SEK 700 and above/75 cl

1998 De Saint Gall Cuvée Orpale Grand Cru Blanc de Blancs

No. 83304/Janake Wine Group SEK 850

Silver

Best value: SEK 401-700/75 cl

1999 Lanson Gold Label Brut

No. 74155/Chris-Wine SEK 429

Bronze

Best value: SEK 301-400/75 cl

Louis Roederer Brut Premier

No. 7602/Vinunic SEK 349

Best value up to SEK 300/75 cl

2004 Palmer Blanc de Blancs

No. 7553/Oenoforos SEK 289

Best value: SEK 700 and above/75 cl

2000 Comtes de Champagne Brut Blanc de Blancs

No. 77287/Fondberg & Co SEK 1 350

White wines bag-in-box

Gold

Best value: SEK 200 and above/3 liters

2009 Beringer Sonoma Chardonnay

No. 6453/Treasury Wine Estates SEK 149/1.5 l

Silver

Best value: SEK 170–199/3 liters

2010 Mad House Riesling

No. 6474/Multibev SEK 197

Bronze

Best value up to SEK 169/3 liters

2010 Foot of Africa Chenin Blanc

No. 27003/Vinunic SEK 169

White wines bottle

Gold

Best value: SEK 250 and above/75 cl

2005 Trimbach Cuvée Frédéric Emile

No. 72943/Ward Wines SEK 344

Silver

Best value: SEK 70-79/75 cl

2010 Penfolds Rawsons Retreat Riesling

No. 16406/Treasury Wine Estates SEK 75

Bronze

Best value: SEK 80-99/75 cl

2010 Penfolds Koonunga Hill Chardonnay

No. 6463/Treasury Wine Estates SEK 85

Best value up to SEK 59/75 cl

2010 Viña Maipo Chardonnay

No. 6671/Concha y Toro Sweden SEK 59

Best value: SEK 60-69/75 cl

2010 Graham Beck Chardonnay Viognier

No. 15515/Prime Wine SEK 69

Best value: SEK 100-129/75 cl

2010 Penfolds Thomas Hyland Chardonnay

No. 6023/Treasury Wine Estates SEK 109

Best value: SEK 130-249/75 cl

2010 Oak Valley Chardonnay

No. 2047/Carovin SEK 149

Rosé wines

Gold

Best value: SEK 80 and above/75 cl

2010 Albia Rosé

No. 72641/Wine World SEK 89

Silver

Best value up to SEK 59/75 cl

2010 Puycheric Syrah Rosé

No. 2209/Arvid Nordquist SEK 59

Bronze

Best value: SEK 60-79/75 cl

2010 Two Oceans Shiraz Rosé

No. 6460/Philipson Söderberg SEK 63

Sparkling rosé wines (inc. champagnes)

Gold

Best value: SEK 90 and above/75 cl

Henriot Brut Rosé

No. 81422/Mondo Wine SEK 469

Silver

Best value up to SEK 89/75 cl

Jaume Serra Brut Rosado

No. 7876/Fondberg & Co SEK 65

Red wines bag-in-box

Gold

Best value: SEK 170–199/3 liters

2010 Killawarra Shiraz Cabernet

No. 6823/Treasury Wine Estates SEK 199

Silver

Best value: SEK 200 and above/3 liters

2010 Café Culture Pinotage

No. 2369/Arvid Nordquist SEK 259

Bronze

Best value up to SEK 169/3 liters

2010 Umbala

No. 2072/Oenoforos SEK 154

Red wines bottle

Gold

Best value: SEK 100-129/75 cl

2008 Markowitsch Pinot Noir

No. 99980/Fondberg & Co SEK 129

Silver

Best value up to SEK 59/75 cl

2009 Campos de Luz

No. 2718/Apricot SEK 49

Bronze

Best value: SEK 80-99/75 cl

2008 Parallèle 45 Côtes du Rhône

No. 22800/Nigab SEK 99

Best value: SEK 60-69/75 cl

2010 Mauro Primitivo

No. 32364/Oenoforos SEK 60

Best value: SEK 70-79/75 cl

2008 A Mano Primitivo

No. 2308/Vinunic SEK 79

Best value: SEK 130-249/75 cl

2009 Crozes-Hermitage Les Launes

No. 2800/Ward Wines SEK 136

Best value: SEK 250 and above/75 cl

2006 Pipers Brook Vineyard Pinot Noir

No. 83366/Carovin SEK 269

Naturally sweet wines

Gold

Best value: SEK 150 and above/75 cl

1992 Moulin Touchais

No. 75034/Giertz Vinimport SEK 299

Fortified wines

Gold

Best value: SEK 100-149/75 cl

2006 Moscatel de Setubal (JM da Fonseca)

No. 8117/The Wine Agency SEK 59/37 cl

Silver

Best value up to SEK 99/75 cl

Tio Pepe

No. 8225/Nigab SEK 99

Bronze

Best value: SEK 150 and above/75 cl

Pineau de Laborie

No. 76125/Arvid Nordquist SEK 107/37 cl