

AUSTRALIA RECORD IMPRESSIVE YEAR AT DECANTER WORLD WINE AWARDS

Australia celebrates its best ever year for Platinum medals

17 June: Australia has continued its impressive run at Decanter World Wine Awards 2026 (DWWA), securing 85 top-tier medals across the competition – its second-highest haul of top tier medals.

Now in its 23rd year, DWWA is recognised as the world's largest wine competition and is widely regarded as the global benchmark for wine quality, combining unrivalled judging expertise, international reach and a rigorous, transparent tasting process.

Medals awarded at DWWA range from the top-tier 50 Best in Show, then Platinum and Gold (all scoring 95+ points) followed by Silver and Bronze. This year the 50 Best in Show medals represented just 0.3% of wines tasted.

Australia collected five Best in Show medals, 19 Platinum medals and 61 Gold medals, including one Top Value Gold recognising exceptional wines priced under £15.

South Australia led the medal haul, with a Best in Show award for **Pewsey Vale, Estate Riesling, Eden Valley 2025**. The state also secured nine Platinum medals for five Shiraz wines, one Cabernet Sauvignon, one Riesling, and two Chardonnays. The latter were both from **Sidewood** in the **Adelaide Hills** and awarded to **Owen's Chardonnay 2024** and **Mappinga Chardonnay 2024**.

DWVA Regional Chair for Australia, Huon Hooke, commented: 'Australia is often thought of as a hot country but the quality of 'cool climate' varieties such as Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and sparkling wine continues to defy the clichés'.

South Australia added 21 Gold medals, including the country's only Top Value Gold for **Wirra Wirra Church Block Grenache-Shiraz, McLaren Vale 2024**. In total, the state collected 311 medals.

Western Australia achieved 19 top-tier medals, including two Best in Show for **Deep Woods Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Margaret River 2023** and a first Best in Show ever for a wine from **Frankland River** awarded to **Ferngrove, The Orchid Collection Dragon Shiraz 2023**.

The state also received two Platinum and 15 Gold medals, with Margaret River accounting for both Platinum awards and 14 Golds.

New South Wales secured 35 medals overall, including a Best in Show for **Brokenwood ILR Reserve Semillon, Hunter Valley 2019**. **Orange** celebrated its first-ever Platinum medal with **Printhie, Swift Blanc de Blancs Brut 2011**, a sparkling 100% Chardonnay. **Printhie** also received a Gold medal for its **Swift Rosé Brut 2017**.

Tasmania earned 12 top-tier medals, including a Best in Show for **Dalrymple Vineyards, Single Site Pinot Noir, Pipers River 2024**. The state also received three Platinum medals, two of them for sparkling wines, including another top-tier award for **House of Arras**, which has consistently performed strongly in the category since 2021. Tasmania also collected eight Gold medals.

Victoria recorded 15 top-tier medals, including four Platinum. Producer **Morris** extended its run of Platinum medal wins to six consecutive years. **Mornington Peninsula** also celebrated its first-ever Platinum medal with **Southern Light Vineyards, Ghostgum Vineyard Pinot Noir 2024**. The state also celebrated 11 Gold medals.

DWWA Co-Chair, Ronan Sayburn MS, commented: 'The results of Decanter World Wine Awards are valuable because they provide both consumers and producers with a trusted and easily recognisable guide to quality in a crowded global wine market. With so many choices available, consumers often look for reassurance when selecting a bottle, and the DWWA medals help simplify the decision.'

Visit awards.decanter.com for a full list of winners.

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Notes to editors

Australia was awarded a total of 630 medals, comprising 5 Best in Show, 19 Platinum, 61 Gold, 304 Silver and 241 Bronze medals.

The following wines won Australia's Best in Show medals:

- Brokenwood, ILR Reserve Semillon, Hunter Valley, New South Wales 2019
- Dalrymple Vineyards, Single Site Pinot Noir, Pipers River, Tasmania 2024
- Deep Woods, Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Margaret River, Western Australia 2023
- Ferngrove, The Orchid Collection Dragon Shiraz, Frankland River, Western Australia 2023
- Pewsey Vale, Estate Riesling, Eden Valley, South Australia 2025

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About DWWA

Launched in 2004 and now in its 23rd year, Decanter World Wine Awards (DWWA) is the world's largest wine competition.

Run by Decanter, the world's leading wine media brand, DWWA benefits from a trusted global audience of both trade and consumers, setting it apart from other competitions.

Sustainability remains a key focus for DWWA, with ongoing initiatives to reduce waste. In 2026 more than 20,000 single-use plastic bags previously used for blind tasting were replaced with reusable cotton alternatives, while more than 1,000 cardboard boxes are reused annually.

About Decanter

Decanter is the world's leading wine media brand, reaching over 2 million users each month across print, digital and social channels. Renowned for authoritative tastings and expert commentary, Decanter has played a defining role in the global wine conversation since its launch in 1975.