

## COMPETITION

# 259 MEDALS AWARDED AT THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL GRENACHE WINES COMPETITION

Held from 11 to 15 April 2018 in the Terra Alta region of South Catalonia, the sixth International Grenache Wines Competition saw the awarding of 259 gold and silver medals, following a blind tasting of 839 wines.

Prize list 2018: [www.grenachesdumonde.com/palmares](http://www.grenachesdumonde.com/palmares)

### 2018, A RECORD-BREAKING EVENT

With 839 wines presented, 25% more than in 2017, and from six different countries (France, Italy, Spain, Lebanon, the United States and Australia), the International Grenache Wines Competition in 2018 broke a new record in terms of participation, underscoring the event's rise to that of its current status as a leading international event. This year the panel of judges comprising 75 specialised journalists, wine merchants, sommeliers and wine experts from ten different countries: France, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Slovenia, the Netherlands, China and South Korea, awarded 259 gold and silver medals.

### THE INTERNATIONAL GRENACHES GALA EVENT

The International Grenache Wines Competition also provides a good forum for the sharing of experiences and knowledge through the numerous technical conferences arranged for the wine professionals attending. The event also enjoys more widespread attendance through the International Grenaches Gala Event bringing together all those passionate about Grenache. Held in the Church in the Old Town of Corbera, the 2018 event thus united many enthusiasts for an exceptional dinner prepared by the six hands of three Michelin-starred chefs: Fran López (Villa Retiro), Jeroni Castell (Les Moles) and Vicent Guimerà (L'Antic Molí).

### NEXT EVENT TO BE HELD IN ROUSSILLON

In 2019, the International Grenache Wines Competition will be returning to Roussillon, as Philippe Bourrier and Fabrice Rieu, respectively President of the Interprofessional Council of Roussillon Wines (CIVR) and President of the Competition, announced at the International Grenache Wines Gala event. This signifies going the full circle as the very first three events were held in Roussillon. Dates for the next event: 17 and 18 April 2019.



### THE INTERNATIONAL GRENACHE WINES COMPETITION

Launched in Perpignan in 2013 at the initiative of the CIVR and itinerant since 2016, the International Grenache Wines Competition is an annual competition open to all wines with a geographical indication mainly based on Grenache, without restriction in terms of colour, origin or nationality. In this spirit, all wine types can be presented: dry wines, dessert wines, natural sweet wines and sparkling wines.

[www.grenachesdumonde.com](http://www.grenachesdumonde.com)

### GRENACHE, A SIGNIFICANT GRAPE VARIETY

Covering 184,735 hectares of vineyards across the world, Grenache Noir represents 4.01% of the world's grape varieties, making it the seventh most widespread grape variety worldwide. With 51% of the surface area it occupies situated in the south of France, 38% in Spain (the country of its origin) and 3% in Italy, it is the emblematic grape of the Mediterranean, especially as Algeria and Tunisia are included on the prize list. In France, where it represents 11% of French National vineyards, it is the second most planted grape variety. Grenache Blanc (88<sup>th</sup> international grape variety) and Grenache Gris (192<sup>nd</sup> international grape variety) grapes may be of secondary importance, but the wines produced from these two varieties are highly rated.

Source: The University of Adelaide - Wine Economics Research Centre, Database of Regional, National and Global Winegrape Bearing Areas by Variety, 2000 and 2010. Figures 2010