

# AIR NEW ZEALAND WINE AWARDS 2009

The Air New Zealand Wine Awards is the premier wine competition in New Zealand recognising excellence in winemaking. The competition is owned and organised by New Zealand Winegrowers and is only open to New Zealand wines.

## MEDAL GUIDE

### TROPHY MEDAL

This is awarded to the top wine in each variety. Once the elite gold and gold medals have been decided for each variety judges hold a taste-off to decide the ultimate category winner. Trophies are awarded for Champion Wine of the Show, Champion Sustainable Wine, Champion Open White Wine, Champion Open Red Wine, Champion Exhibition White or Sparkling Wine and Champion Exhibition Red Wine as well as the 13 individual variety trophies - Sparkling, Gewurztraminer, Pinot Gris, Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Other White Styles and Rosé, Medium Sweet or Sweet Wine, Pinot Noir, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon or Merlot/Cabernet Blend, Syrah, Other Red Styles.



### ELITE GOLD, GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE MEDALS

A wine wins a medal when it reaches the medal standard, determined by the score it receives from each of the three senior judges. Each wine is given an averaged score from the three judges who assess the wine out of 20 points, based on the following system:

- Colour and clarity - 3 points
- Aroma and bouquet - 7 points
- Taste and general impression - 10 points



Outstanding quality  
(19 and above out of  
20 points)



Excellent quality  
(18.5 - 18.99 out of  
20 points)



Very good quality  
(17-18.49 out of  
20 points)



Good quality  
(16 -16.99 out of  
20 points)

### PURE MEDALS

In line with the New Zealand wine industry's commitment to sustainability, a 'pure' range of medals have been added to the Air New Zealand Wine Awards. These new medals acknowledge medal-winning wines that are grown and produced sustainably, organically and/or bio-dynamically, and are accredited by an independent programme at the time of production and the granting of the awards.



Outstanding quality  
Sustainable wine  
(19 and above out of  
20 points)



Excellent quality  
Sustainable wine  
(18.5 - 18.99 out of  
20 points)



Very good quality  
Sustainable wine  
(17-18.49 out of  
20 points)



Good quality  
Sustainable wine  
(16 -16.99 out of  
20 points)

