



TOKYO  
WHISKY & SPIRITS  
COMPETITION

## Tokyo Whisky & Spirits Competition TWSC2021 Western Spirits Division Results



### Superior Gold Award

### 17 Japanese and International Entries

Remote judging sessions held to determine winners

The Tokyo Whisky & Spirits Competition, operated by the TWSC Executive Committee, is Japan's first whisky and spirits competition. Launched in 2019, and now in its third year, the Western spirits division featured 444 entries from inside and outside of Japan. The rigorous judging process was conducted entirely blindly, resulting in 17 Superior Gold winners, 85 Gold winners, 183 Silver winners, and 91 Bronze winners.

## Results

For the first round of judging, entries were divided into spirits categories such as whisky, brandy, rum, gin, vodka, and tequila, as well as by country/region, primary ingredient, and maturation length. Items that scored above a certain threshold then advanced to a second round of judging before a special panel of 15 judges. The highest 17 scores from that second round were awarded Superior Gold. The below 17 entries have been awarded Superior Gold.

※The full list including 85 Gold winners, 183 Silver winners, and 91 Bronze winners is available on the official TWSC homepage.

### < Whisky >



### < Other Spirits >



#### 【From left】

- Arran 1997 11 Years Old Sherry Cask for Kawachiya (Scotch Whisky/Single Malt)
- Ichiro's Malt Chichibu The First Ten (Japanese Whisky/Single Malt)
- Ichiro's Malt Chichibu Malt Dream Cask for Dandy Lion Bar (Japanese Whisky/Single Malt)
- Komagatake 2014 6 Years Old Single Cask No.1834 (Japanese Whisky/Single Malt)
- The Yamazaki Single Malt Japanese Whisky 18 Years Old (Japanese Whisky/Single Malt)
- Mars Malt Le Papillon Kujakucho (Japanese Whisky/Single Malt)
- Writers' Tears Japanese Cask Finish (Irish Whiskey/Blended)
- Ken's Choice American Dream Barrel The Independence 13 Years Old (American Whiskey/Tennessee)
- Kavalan 10th Anniversary Earth Silver Wine Cask (Taiwanese Whisky/Single Malt)
- Kavalan 10th Anniversary Sky Gold Wine Cask (Taiwanese Whisky/Single Malt)
- King Car 40th Anniversary Selected Wine Cask (Taiwanese Whisky/Single Malt)
- Kavalan Solist Amontillado Sherry (Taiwanese Whisky/Single Malt)
- Tiffon Grande Champagne Tres Vieille Reserve (Cognac)
- Appleton Estate 21 Years Old (Rum)
- El Fogonero Anejo (Tequila)
- Akitasuginin (Gin)
- jinjinGIN (Gin)

## Award Trend Commentary 【Mamoru Tsuchiya · TWSC Executive Committee Chair】

This year's Superior Gold awards went to 17 entries, 12 of which were whisky, and 5 other spirits. Within whisky, 5 bottles are Japanese whisky, 4 bottles are from Taiwan's Kavalan, and Scotch, Irish, and American showed one bottle each. Asia has made a powerful showing, with 9 out of the 12 whisky bottles from Japan and Taiwan. For gin, both Superior Gold winners are Japanese, coming out on top of gins from anywhere else in the world. I would like to extend my thanks to the 202 judges who provided their opinions during the rigorous judging process.

※Mamoru Tsuchiya is Japan's foremost whisky critic. For interview requests, please send inquiries to the representatives listed below.

## Coronavirus Countermeasures

### 7000 mini bottles. Remote judging again this year!

To prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus, like last year, the judging process was held remotely. Office staff re-bottled entries into 20ml mini-bottles, then sent them along with specified glassware and instructions to taste the samples in an assigned order. Judges then conducted their judging of 4-8 items per flight at home or their workplaces. Last year's judge pool was reduced to 37 judges for whom 2000 mini bottles were prepared, but this year samples were sent to 202 judges in over 7000 mini bottles.



【Re-bottling into mini bottles】



【Mini bottles shipped with instructions for tasting order】



【Tasting using specified glassware】

## 【TWSC2021 Information】

- **Official Homepage** <http://tokyowhiskyspiritscompetition.jp/>
- **Judges** 202 judges such as famous bartenders from throughout Japan, Masters of Whisky, Whisky instructors, Spirits industry importers, sellers, and makers, and industry publication writers
- **Categories** 134 categories broken down by spirits (whisky, brandy, rum, gin, vodka, tequila, and other spirits), country/region, primary ingredients, and maturation length
- **Entries** Western spirits division: 444 entries, Shochu division: 255 entries
- **Organizer** Tokyo Whisky & Spirits Competition Executive Committee
- **Executive Committee Chair** Japan Whisky Research Centre President Mamoru Tsuchiya
- **Planning/Operation** Japan Whisky Research Centre
- **With Support From** Japan Tequila Association / R.U.M. JAPAN Association / Japan Vodka Association / Association Japonaise de Cognac / Japan Pisco Association / Japan Spirits & Liqueurs Makers Association / Japan Wines and Spirits Importers' Association / Women's Association for Japanese SAKE & WINE lovers / Cheese Professional Association / Hotel Barmen's Association / Embassy of Ireland / U.S. Agricultural Trade Office, American Embassy / Embassy of Armenia / Welsh Government Japan Representative Office / Embassy of Canada / Embassy of Jamaica / Scottish Development International / Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office / Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany / Embassy of México / National Tax Agency / Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

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