



TOKYO
WHISKY & SPIRITS
COMPETITION

Tokyo Whisky & Spirits Competition
TWSC2021 Western Spirits Division
Best of the Best Announcement

TWSC2021 Western Spirits Division Best of the Best

The #1 Single Malt selected from 118 bottles!

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. Of these, 118 entries were single malt whiskies. "Best of the Best" is awarded to the #1 single malt from these 118 entries from around the world. After the standard TWSC judging, the highest-scoring 14 items are listed. A special team of 15 tasters is then assembled to decide the winner.

Results

Pushing past Scotch and Japanese whiskies
A single malt from Taiwan's Kavalan Distillery wins 1st place again this year

[1st] Kavalan 10th Anniversary Sky Gold Wine Cask

[2nd Place – 10th Place]



- [2nd] Ichiro's Malt Chichibu Malt Dream Cask for DANDYLION BAR
- [3rd] Kavalan Solist Amontillado Sherry
- [4th] Kavalan 10th Anniversary Earth Silver Wine Cask
- [5th] King Car 40th Anniversary Wine Cask
- [6th] Komagatake 2014 6 Years Old Single Cask No. 1834
- [7th] Mars Malt Le Papillon Kujakucho
- [8th] Suntory Single Malt Whisky Yamazaki 18 Years Old
- [9th] Ichiro's Malt Chichibu The First Ten
- [10th] The Arran 1997 11 Year Sherry Cask for Kawachiya

※Only Top 10 Shown, including Best of the Best

Best of the Best Judging Process

The process begins with the creation of list of the highest-scoring 14 single malt whiskies within the TWSC2021 Western Spirits Division. Then, a special tasting team of 15 judges is assembled to decide the Best of the Best. Like the standard judging round, entries are divided into mini bottles, and blind tasting is conducted remotely. Judges rate each items up to a maximum of 100 points, then scores are tallied. The entry with the highest average score is crowned 2021's "Best of the Best."

What is TWSC?

In recent years, whisky and spirits have attracted unprecedented levels of attention. In Japan, 2016-18 saw the birth of several distilleries throughout the country, marking the start of the "Japan Craft Distillery Era." This phenomenon is not limited to Japan: it is also observed in Scotland, Ireland, Europe, the US, Canada, and even in Asian countries such as Taiwan and India.

Whisky and spirits from throughout the world congregate in Japan, and Japan domestically produces high quality whisky and other spirits. Thanks to winning awards at spirits competitions held in the UK and the US, "Japanese Whisky" and "Japanese Spirits" are internationally recognized categories. However, up until now, these competitions were "the world rating Japan" rather than "Japan rating the world." With the goals of further improving Japanese liquor and supporting drinking culture, TWSC was first held in 2019, garnering international attention by judging spirits here in Japan.

The rigorous judging process requires ratings be given based on blind tasting, where judges are not informed of the name of each spirit. Each entry is given a score of up to 100 points by 11-14 judges, and the final result is the average of the judges' scores.

[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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