PRESS RELEASE
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16th Meiningers International Spirits Award ISW in 2019: BOAR Gin named Gin of the Year // Gin secures its top position in the competition // Best spirits acknowledged in a variety of categories

Of all the spirits, the gin category had the most submissions at the 16th Meiningers International Spirits Award (ISW) this year, thus securing the trendy beverage’s position at the very top of the competition ranking once again in 2019. Over a period of two days, the jury of 67 experts tasted 168 different distillates in a blind test. The best performer in this category and thus Gin of the Year 2019 is BOAR Gin. The family-run BOAR Distillery based in Bad Peterstal in the Black Forest won over the professional tasters.

Nearly 1,000 spirits were tasted and evaluated at ISW 2019. At this year’s competition, 24 spirits received a special award, which is presented to outstanding products in each of the categories.

‘During the two-day tasting in 2019, the international ISW tasters once again concentrated on an extensive and wide variety of different spirits from all over the world. One thing is certain: the level of quality of the spirits sampled was extremely high throughout. It was ultimately very close at the top and even the subtlest differences had a decisive influence in the final evaluation. We would like to congratulate all the distillers on their products, many of which impressed us again this year,’ says Director Degustation Christian Wolf, taking stock of the 2019 event.

An overview of the key results

Distilleria Sibona, Italy, was named Distiller of the Year 2019, securing eight Gold and three Silver medals for its top-notch distillates and liqueurs again this year.

This year’s title Spirit Importer of the Year 2019 went to Schlumberger Vertriebsgesellschaft, Meckenheim. Eight Gold and six Silver medals were awarded to the distillates and specialities marketed by Schlumberger in Germany, including sake and Lustau Vermut White, which was named Vermouth of the Year 2019.
Spirit of the Year 2019 went to Coeur du Breuil Liqueur au Calvados Pays d'Auge, an apple liqueur from Chateau du Breuil in France, which is available in Germany through Diversa Spezialitäten GmbH, Rheinberg.

The title Brand Spirit of the Year 2019 was awarded to Malteser Aquavit from Denmark, distributed in Germany through Eggers & Franke GmbH, Bremen.

Spirit Discovery of the Year 2019 went to Hausham an die Lantenhammer Destillerie GmbH this year for its Raritas Zirbenholzgeistlikör.

Camus XO Elégance is Brandy of the Year 2019, available in Germany through Vranken-Pommery Deutschland in Berlin.

Whiskey of the Year 2019 International is Old Particular Strathclyde Sherry Finish 12 Years Old by Douglas Laing (in Germany through Bremer Spirituosen Contor). Whiskey of the Year 2019 National is Black Forest Wild Whiskey by Wild, Gengenbach.

All other special awards can be found at MEININGER ONLINE as well as in spirits magazine BRANNT - MAGAZIN FÜR SPIRITUOSENKULT, which will be published at the end of August (www.meininger.de/de/brannt).

About the MEININGER VERLAG:

The publishing company Meininger Verlag was established in Neustadt an der Weinstrasse in 1903. One of Germany's oldest specialist publishing companies, it is now being run in the fourth generation of the family by Andrea Meininger-Apfel and Christoph Meininger. In particular, the company specialises in the wine and beverage sector, with its wine portfolio making it the European market leader. Meininger has successfully made a name for itself internationally with the Grand International Wine Award MUNDUS VINI. Alongside its well-known trade journals, the company also organises trade fairs, industry events and conventions. The Meininger Verlag portfolio also includes FINEST SPIRITS, the trade fair for premium spirits with an international festival character.

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