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Italy and Spain Dominate 2024 Red Wine Awards

Italy and Spain Shine in the “50 Great Red Wines of the World 2024” by Wine Pleasures

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In a testament to their continued dominance in the global wine scene, Italy and Spain emerged as the top contenders at the "50 Great Red Wines of the World 2024" competition, organized by Wine Pleasures. This prestigious event, known for its rigorous blind tastings, saw Italian wines securing top positions, with three Barolos each earning an impressive 98 points. Additionally, eight more Italian wines achieved scores

exceeding 95 points, further solidifying Italy's reputation for producing wines of exceptional quality.

Spain also made a remarkable impact, with gold medals awarded to wines from Montsant, Ribera del Duero, and Utiel-Requena. These accolades underscore Spain's strength in crafting fine wines that are recognized and celebrated on an international stage.

The diversity of the competition was highlighted in the silver medal category, where wines scoring between 90 and 94 points included entries from Austria, France, and South Africa, in addition to the dominant Italian and Spanish wines. This broad representation emphasizes the global excellence and variety in winemaking.

The evaluation process was conducted by a panel of three expert judges who undertook a meticulous two-day blind tasting of 103 wines. Without knowing the origin or price of the wines, the judges ensured that their assessments were based purely on quality and flavor. Criteria such as barrel aging duration and sugar levels played crucial roles in the evaluation, with wine prices ranging from €9 to €360.

Among the standout wines that captivated the judges were Italy's Barolo DOCG Paiagallo from Casa E. di Mirafiore and Spain's Peraj Ha'abib 2022 from Celler de Capçanes, both earning an extraordinary 98 points. The Italian Barolos, including those from Borgogno and Fontanafredda, showcased the region's mastery in producing red wines with superior aging potential, often extending beyond 24 months.

Italy and Spain not only excelled in the gold medal category but also dominated in the silver medal range, which included wines priced from as low as €4.40 to as high as €366. This wide price spectrum demonstrates that top-tier quality is accessible across different budget levels, catering to a broad audience of wine enthusiasts.

The success of these countries at the "50 Great Red Wines of the World 2024" highlights their sustained commitment to excellence in winemaking. Italy's Barolo, with its robust and complex character, remains a beacon of quality, while Spain's diverse regions continue to produce wines that reflect both tradition and innovation.

In addition to this competition, Wine Pleasures has announced its upcoming event, the "Wine Pleasures International B2B Workshop 2024," scheduled to take place from October 21-23, 2024, at the Altafulla Mar Hotel in Tarragona, Spain. This workshop will bring together buyers and winery representatives to explore export opportunities and strengthen business relationships.

For those interested in delving deeper into the world of award-winning wines, a full list of medalists and further details on the upcoming B2B workshop can be found on the official Wine Pleasures website.

The "50 Great Red Wines of the World 2024" competition has once again showcased the brilliance of Italian and Spanish wines, reaffirming their status as leaders in the global wine industry. As these nations continue to innovate and uphold their rich vinicultural traditions, the world of fine red wine remains as vibrant and diverse as ever.