



THE INSTITUTE OF  
MASTERS *of* WINE

## **Institute of Masters of Wine Now on Twitter**

Those with a serious interest in the art, science and business of wine can now keep up to date with news from the Institute of Masters of Wine on Twitter.

Followers of the Institute's new <http://twitter.com/mastersofwine> feed will receive regular updates on its education, examination and events programmes, which are delivered internationally every year.

Founded in 1955, the Institute is the membership organisation for Masters of Wine and delivers the education programme which prepares wine trade professionals for the annual Masters of Wine Examination. In keeping with its founding principles, its aim is to promote the highest educational and professional standards within the world of wine.

Today, the membership of the Institute comprises 280 Masters of Wine who are based in 23 countries around the world. They are active in all aspects of the wine industry and include winemakers, importers, buyers, retailers, consultants, journalists, educators, sommeliers and senior industry executives.

In addition to its education and examination programmes, the Institute organises annual events which are open to its members, students, the wider wine trade and, usually, private individuals. These offer outstanding professional development opportunities and insights into winemaking at the highest level. They include tastings, seminars, debates, visits to wine producing regions and master classes with the world's leading wine producers.

The Institute's international symposium, held every four years, provides an independent forum for thought leadership in the wine industry. Its seventh symposium, Forging Links, held in Bordeaux at the end of June this year attracted 300 delegates from 31 different countries and involved leading figures from the wine industry from 17 different countries as speakers.

Dr. Josef Schuller MW, Chairman of the Institute said: "The Institute has a global vision for excellence in wine which it shares with individuals and organisations across the world. We will now be keeping this community up to date with our news and events via Twitter."

Ends (09.07.10)

## **Notes to Editors:**

### **Media Contact**

Nathaniel Anderson

Communications Manager, The Institute of Masters of Wine

T: +44 (0)207 621 2830

E: [nanderson@mastersofwine.org](mailto:nanderson@mastersofwine.org)

### **The Institute of Masters of Wine**

Founded in 1955, The Institute of Masters of Wine is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to promoting educational and professional excellence across the global wine trade.

The Institute has 280 members (Masters of Wine, normally abbreviated to MW after a member's name) based in 23 countries. Masters of Wine are active in all aspects of the wine industry and include winemakers, importers, buyers, retailers, consultants, journalists, educators, sommeliers and senior executives.

The Institute's education programme encourages a cross-disciplinary approach to understanding wine and communicating that knowledge at the highest level. It prepares students for the Masters of Wine examination.

The annual Masters of Wine examination takes place concurrently in London, Napa and Sydney, over a four-day period, usually during the month of June. There are three practical papers, each with 12 wines. Candidates are required to blind taste and identify wines of varying quality levels and origins. In four theory papers, candidates need to demonstrate, through essays, knowledge of a wide range of subjects including winemaking, grape growing, business and social issues. Students must also write a 10,000-word dissertation on a subject of their choice. Only after passing all parts of the examination and completing their dissertation can someone be admitted to the membership of the Institute and use the title Master of Wine.

The Institute is privileged to work with a distinguished group of individuals, businesses and organisations which share its values and recognise the importance of promoting the highest standards of educational achievement and professional conduct within the wine community. In particular, its international community of corporate supporters plays a vital role in assisting the delivery of the Institute's worldwide education, examination and events programmes. Each supporter helps to fund a specific area of activity, which is usually aligned with their own corporate objectives, and their contributions help to ensure that the Institute continues to uphold the tradition of excellence which it has established since its foundation in 1955. The Principal Supporters of the Institute are AXA Millésimes and the Austrian Wine Marketing Board, while its longest standing supporter is the Madame Bollinger Foundation.

More information about the Institute and its activities, including biographies of the Masters of Wine, can be found at the Institute's [www.mastersofwine.org](http://www.mastersofwine.org) website.