



# PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## GOCV SHOWS SUPPORT FOR THE WSET

The Wine & Spirit Education Trust are delighted to announce that the **Gran Orden de Caballeros del Vino** have enthusiastically joined the ranks of their valued Corporate Patron scheme. In addition to their Bronze level corporate patronage status, they have also announced that they will be awarding a Scholarship at the WSET's Awards & Graduation Ceremony on 23<sup>rd</sup> January at London's Guildhall.

The Gran Orden de Caballeros del Vino was founded in 1984, an order established to give recognition to those persons in the UK trade who have shown exceptional endeavour in promoting the quality wines of Spain, five years later the GOCV extended their scope to the Spanish nationals in order to encompass industry members who prove commitment to the criteria required of the Gran Orden.

**Nick Room, Chairman of the GOCV**, declared; "I am constantly astounded by the high level of ambition, commitment and all round thirst for knowledge shown by those coming through WSET programmes and Nicholas has the makings to go very far", adding, "Philip Rowles, and all of the Caballeros and generic body, Wines of Spain would like to take this opportunity to thank Ian Harris for engaging with us over this opportunity to broaden the exposure and reach of the Gran Orden and we look forward to reporting back as we progress through 2012 with Nicholas aboard".

**Ian Harris, WSET's Chief Executive** stated; "Our continued efforts and vision to ensure that the WSET is the leader in its field means we have not only been able to maintain the valuable support of our existing patrons, but this has also placed us in a position where we are attracting interest from new parties, and all with the same vision, that of excellence in product knowledge and delivery"; also stating that, "We are delighted that the Gran Orden de Caballeros del Vino have joined the fold and we look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship."

The inaugural Gran Orden de Caballeros del Vino Scholarship is to be awarded to Nicholas Jackson of Sotheby's who successfully completed the WSET Level 3 Award in Wines and Spirits (formerly the Advanced Certificate) with a distinction. Nicholas said; "It is amazing to think that two years ago I knew little to nothing about wine", adding, "I then attended my first tasting with the Cambridge University Wine Society of Hospices de Beaune and it just blew me away. After that I immediately started my amazing WSET journey".

### EDITORS NOTES.....

#### **Wine & Spirit Education Trust**

The Wine & Spirit Education Trust is the largest global provider of qualifications in the fields of wines and spirits. WSET qualifications are formally recognised by the UK Government and have a strong reputation worldwide. WSET courses are currently available in **55 countries** and in **15 languages** and in the last academic year (2010/11) **35,737** people sat a WSET exam. For more information about the WSET, our qualifications and where to study, please visit:

[www.WSETglobal.com](http://www.WSETglobal.com)

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