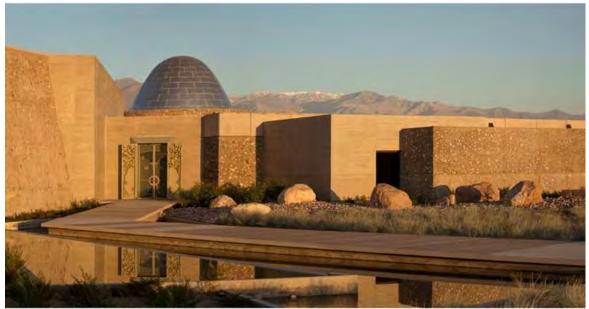# World's Best Vineyards 2020
The global list of the Top 50 wine tourism destinations revealed

Zuccardi Valle de Uco has been voted the World's Best Vineyard and Best Vineyard in South America for the second year running

World's Best Vineyards has revealed the 50 best wine tourism destinations in the world in the first-ever virtual vineyard awards on 13 July with Argentina's Zuccardi Valle de Uco taking the top spot for the second year running. Bodega Garzón in Uruguay came in 2nd place for a consecutive year and Domäne Wachau in Austria jumped 16 places to take the 3rd spot. The 2020 Top 50 vineyards represented 18 countries and included first-time winners from India, Bulgaria and Japan.

The World's Best Vineyards list seeks to raise the profile of wine tourism and despite the difficult circumstances that the travel industry has faced this year, the organiser William Reed and 2020 host partner Sonoma County Winegrowers wanted to recognise the efforts of wineries around the globe. The announcement of the Top 50 hopes to encourage travel to these outstanding destinations as doors begin to open again to visitors.

In an opening speech during the virtual ceremony, founder Andrew Reed praised the wine industry for its quick adaptability to current restrictions on travel: "It is testament to this amazing community of winemakers and wineries that your flexibility and speed of response has allowed

you to adapt your business model to survive, and even thrive!" Reed also highlighted how as the world comes out of lockdown, vineyards must be ready to re-engage with customers.

The World's Best Vineyards list also seeks to recognise the diversity across established and emerging wine tourism destinations. Overall there were 17 new destinations in this year's Top 50. **Château Mercian Mariko Winery** marked a first-time entry for Japan coming in at number 30 and Best Vineyard in Asia. Other continent winners included **Zuccardi Valle de Uco** (1st and Best Vineyard in South America); **Domäne Wachau** in the Wachau region of Austria (3rd and Best Vineyard in Europe); **Robert Mondavi Winery** in Napa, California (5th and Best Vineyard in North America); **Rippon** in New Zealand (13th and Best Vineyard in Australasia); **Delaire Graff Estate** in South Africa (14th and Best Vineyard in Africa).

KRSMA came in at number 46 and marked a first-time win for India

Karissa Kruse, President of Sonoma County Winegrowers shared: "We were looking forward to welcoming guests to Sonoma County, the most sustainable winemaking region in the world, but we were thrilled to be able to carry on with the unveiling of the Top 50. This year's virtual announcement is a reflection of the ways in which wineries around the world, and not least our own here in Sonoma Country, have so skilfully adapted to the current situation. Many wineries in Sonoma County are once again opening their doors to visitors and we look forward to another great season."

Kruse also announced the highest ranking vineyard in Sonoma County, **Francis Ford Coppola Winery**. The winery is every bit as immersive as Coppola's unforgettable films and features an extensive array of attractions from a landscaped park to restaurants, swimming pools with poolside cabanas, a cinema, a film gallery, bocce courts and a performing arts pavilion.

Results:

Position	Vineyard name	Country	2019 position
1 The World's Best Vineyard & The Best Vineyard in South America	Zuccardi Valle de Uco	Argentina	1
2	Bodega Garzón	Uruguay	2
3 & The Best Vineyard in Europe	Domäne Wachau	Austria	=19
4	Montes	Chile	=6
5 & The Best Vineyard in North America	Robert Mondavi Winery	United States	12
6	Bodegas de los Herederos del Marqués de Riscal	Spain	9
7	Château Smith Haut Lafitte	France	16
8	Quinta do Crasto	Portugal	4
9	Antinori nel Chianti Classico	Italy	18
10	VIK Winery	Chile	14
11	Catena Zapata	Argentina	5
12	Fürst von Metternich-Winneburg'sche Domäne Schloss Johannisberg	Germany	21
13 & The Best Vineyard in Australasia	Rippon	New Zealand	8
14 & The Best Vineyard in Africa	Delaire Graff Estate	South Africa	=39
15	Weingut Dr. Loosen	Germany	10
16	Ridge Vineyards Monte Bello	United States	NEW
17	Craggy Range	New Zealand	11
18	González Byass - Bodega Tio Pepe	Spain	NEW
19	Château Pichon Baron	France	NEW
20	Opus One Winery	United States	=19
21	Ceretto	Italy	NEW
22	CHÂTEAU MARGAUX	France	22
23	Bodegas Salentein	Argentina	=26
24	Penfolds Magill Estate	Australia	13
25	Henschke	Australia	NEW
26	Bodega Bouza	Uruguay	44
27	Clos Apalta	Chile	=6
28	Champagne Taittinger	France	NEW
29	Champagne Billecart-Salmon	France	NEW

30 & The Best Vineyard in Asia	Château Mercian Mariko Winery	Japan	NEW
31	Château d'Yquem	France	NEW
32	Bodegas RE	Chile	32
33	Château Mouton Rothschild	France	=39
34	d'Arenberg	Australia	29
35	Viña Errázuriz	Chile	17
36	GAJA	Italy	NEW
37	DOMAINE SIGALAS SA	Greece	35
38	Château Oumsiyat	Lebanon	NEW
39	Wine Cellar Villa Melnik	Bulgaria	NEW
40	Viña Casas del Bosque	Chile	=30
41	BODEGAS VIVANCO	Spain	24
42	Familia Torres	Spain	28
43	VIU MANENT	Chile	23
44	Maison Ruinart	France	46
45	Domaine Marcel Deiss	France	NEW
46	KRSMA Estates	India	NEW
47	Stag's Leap Wine Cellars	United States	NEW
48	Château Heritage	Lebanon	49
49	Quinta do Noval	Portugal	NEW
50	Trapiche	Argentina	NEW

More information, including details about the Academy Chairs can be found on www.worldsbestvineyards.com and on social @worldsbestvineyards on Facebook and Instagram and @wbestvineyards on Twitter.

For more information on how to become involved in the competition, or to enquire about sponsorship opportunities, please email Georgia Isaacs on Georgia.Isaacs@wrbm.com.

Media enquiries:
Please contact Bettina Hepburn and Johara Chambers at Phipps Relations;
WBV@thisisphipps.com / 0207 759 7400

Voting process:
The World's Best Vineyards list is based on nominations from a Voting Academy made up of more than 500 leading wine experts, sommeliers and travel correspondents from across the globe. To ensure the Academy is representative, the world is divided into 18 geographical regions. Each region has an Academy Chair who has been selected for their expert knowledge of the international wine and tourism scene. These Academy Chairs are responsible for recruiting 36 experts in their region. They vote for 7 vineyards in preferential order and at least 4 of which must be from outside their home region. There is no pre-determined checklist of criteria – each vote is a nomination for a vineyard experience that they deem to be amongst the best in the world. The experience can include tours, tasting, ambiance, wine, food, staff, view, value for money, reputation, and accessibility.