

Spanish Wine Scholar®

The most advanced
and comprehensive
certification on the
wines of Spain



- ★ Intermediate Level Course
- 🕒 100 Hours of Study
- 📍 Study Online or In-Person
- 🏆 Earn your Spanish Wine Scholar® (SWS) Certification

Embark on a journey deep into the heart of Spain with the Spanish Wine Scholar® Program (SWS), the quintessential offering from Wine Scholar Guild — the international authority on authentic wines of place.

The Spanish Wine Scholar® program sets the industry standard as the most in-depth and comprehensive certification program devoted entirely to the rich and diverse wines of Spain.

Tailored specifically for dedicated wine aficionados and industry professionals, SWS provides the keys to understanding the rich historical context, cultural traditions, diverse landscape, viticulture and winemaking practices that make Spanish wine so distinct.

Completion of the program doesn't just reward you with a certificate; it confers upon you the sought-after SWS post-nominal initials, symbolizing intermediate-level proficiency and industry-wide respect.

With the Spanish Wine Scholar® program, you're not just learning; you're enriching your understanding and appreciation of Spanish wine.

ABOUT WSG

-  **10,000+** Graduates
-  **150+** Expert Educators
-  **130+** Partner Schools
-  **35+** Countries
-  **6,500+** Community Members



Why choose the Spanish Wine Scholar[®] (SWS) Program?

Set off on a curated journey through the most revered wine regions of Spain. SWS students learn and benefit from:

- ✓ Comprehensive coverage of all major Spanish wine regions, grape varieties and wine styles
- ✓ Intermediate-level proficiency into the viticultural, winemaking and production methods of Spanish wine
- ✓ Thorough understanding of the Spanish appellation, classification and labelling systems
- ✓ Region-specific wine knowledge to complement more general wine studies
- ✓ Interactive learning through online modules and/or expert-led teaching sessions
- ✓ Globally recognized certification communicating proficiency and expertise on the wines and wine regions of Spain
- ✓ Use of the SWS post-nominal to enhance your resume, CV or professional profile

WHO IS THE SPANISH WINE SCHOLAR[®] (SWS) PROGRAM FOR?

Hospitality and wine industry **professionals** aiming for expertise

Sommeliers seeking a competitive edge

Passionate wine **enthusiasts**, aficionados and collectors

Students of wine

Avid **travelers**

Life-long learners craving deeper knowledge of Spanish wine styles and regions

Why Study Spanish wine?

Spain is an exciting and dynamic wine producing country. Home to some of the oldest wine styles in the world, it has worked hard to preserve the best of its viticultural legacy while entering the modern world of wine with a strong and unique voice.

Wine drinkers around the world continue to discover what the Spanish have known for centuries—inspiring and intriguing wines are produced here. By exploring Spanish wine, students gain a deeper appreciation for wine in general.

BY THE END OF THE COURSE STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO

Explore in-depth, the **major wine regions** and **appellations** of Spain

Explain the characteristics of **grape varieties** and **wine styles** from each region

Explore and **explain** the influence of **climate, geography, topography** and **terroir** on Spanish wine

Explore and **explain** the influence of **viticultural, winemaking** and **production practices** on the wines of Spain

Explore and **explain** the influence and significance of **history** and **culture** on the evolution of Spanish wines

Explain intelligently and **with authority** about Spanish wines in any context



How is the curriculum presented?

In order to give students a working knowledge of the extensive material at hand, the Spanish Wine Scholar® course presents each wine region as an integrated whole by exploring the impact of history, geography, geology, topography, climate, soil, viticulture, winemaking, legislation, classification and culture on the wines of Spain. No topic is discussed in isolation.

REGIONS DISCUSSED INCLUDE:

GALICIA
ASTURIAS & CANTABRIA
CASTILLA Y LEÓN
RIOJA
PAÍS VASCO
NAVARRA
ARAGÓN
CATALUÑA
VALENCIA
BALEARIC ISLANDS
MURCIA
CASTILLA-LA MANCHA
MADRID
EXTREMADURA
ANDALUCÍA
CANARY ISLANDS



Are there any pre-requisites?

The Spanish Wine Scholar® program is an intermediate-level study course conferring a professional, industry recognized SWS post-nominal. It is recommended to have a solid, general wine background before embarking on this course of study.

If you are interested in a beginner-level course, please refer to our Spanish Wine Essentials course.



What's included?

From a comprehensive study manual to interactive online modules, expert instruction and an engaging student community, every element is meticulously designed to foster a profound understanding and appreciation of Spanish wine culture.

STUDY GUIDE

Shipped to your address, the beautifully designed study guide, rich with photographs, detailed maps, illustrations and infographics contains all the information you need to know. Immediate access to the digital e-book is provided upon registration.

ONLINE STUDY MODULES

Access online e-learning activities designed to enrich the study guide and support different learning styles.

EXPERT EDUCATORS

Learn from the most notable names in the industry — expert educators and wine professionals accredited by Wine Scholar Guild.

STUDENT COMMUNITY

Network with the other students taking the Spanish Wine Scholar® course, form a tasting group and build your wine network.

FINAL EXAM

Your course includes a 100-question multiple-choice exam based on the study guide, covering all the wine regions of Spain.

CERTIFICATE

Upon passing, receive your coveted Spanish Wine Scholar digital certificate and lapel pin. Completion of the program confers upon you the sought-after SWS post-nominal initials, intermediate-level proficiency on the wines of Spain. Add this reputed credential to your professional profile, resume or CV.



How much study time is recommended?

This certification has a minimum requirement of 100 hours of study time, including approximately 20 hours spent in the classroom, viewing online review lectures or e-learning modules depending on the study format selected.



How is the exam structured?

Whether taken online or in the classroom, your course includes a 100-point multiple-choice exam. Passing score is 75.

Candidates scoring 85-90 pass with "Honors". Candidates scoring 91-100 pass with "Highest Honors".

There is no wine tasting component to the exam.

Have more questions? Check out our **Exams FAQ** for more details.

Have a different question? Feel free to **contact us**.

Study options



Choose from online or classroom formats based on your schedule and preferred learning style. Rest assured that the final exam and certification remain consistent across all formats.

	ONLINE Independent Learning	ONLINE Educator-Led Learning	IN-PERSON Classroom Learning
Format	Study at your own pace, from anywhere at any time.	Study from anywhere, anytime with the addition of 12 live educator-led lectures.	Study in-person at one of our 130 Course Providers around the world.
Educator Support	Interact with WSG Educators via the online community.	Interact with WSG educators via live sessions and online community.	Receive in-person classroom support from WSG-certified educators.
Length of Study	12 months from date of enrollment to take the exam.	1 live course weekly for 12 weeks with 12 months from date of enrollment to take the exam.	Schedule and length of term vary by Course Provider.
Wine Tasting	Maximize learning with a list of recommended wines to sample on your own.	Maximize learning with a list of recommended wines to sample on your own.	Enjoy tutored wine tastings in the classroom.
Study Manual (Print & E-Book)	✓	✓	✓
Interactive online learning modules and quizzes	✓	✓	✓
Live Course Instruction	✗	✓	✓
Online Student Community	✓	✓	✓
Final Exam	✓	✓	✓
Certificate, Lapel Pin and Use of Post-Nominal Upon Passing	✓	✓	✓
Start Date	Coming in 2026	See Online Schedule	Varies by Provider
Price	\$945	\$1095	Varies by Provider