



SOMMELIERUNION
AUSTRIA



Rules of conduct for the Competition „Best Sommelier of Austria”

- The „Best Sommelier of Austria” (BSA/BSÖ) competition is financed by the Sommelier Union Austria (SUA).
- SUA is a non-profit, self-funded association that works with partners and sponsors who contribute to its financial requirements.
- SUA serves as the official organiser of the BSÖ competition and appoints an external International Technical Committee (ITC) responsible for conducting the event.
- SUA guarantees complete neutrality in the evaluation by the jury as well as in the planning and execution of the competition.
- The responsibilities of the International Technical Committee are defined in a formal contract. They include the organisation and oversight of all tasks: tastings, product selection, jury coordination, written examinations, and the preparation, implementation and evaluation of the competition.
- The competition consists of a quarter-final, a semifinal and the final round.
- The semifinal and final are open to the public.
- The quarter-final written examination is based on ASI Certified I. Its correction is carried out by an independent ASI Diploma team (provided a current ASI test is available).
- The semifinal written examination is prepared and evaluated by the ITC.
- Austrian trainers of competing candidates are not permitted to act as judges or serve in any jury function.
- International candidates may participate as guest competitors.
- International trainers serving on the ITC may not judge their own candidates.
- International candidates are not eligible for the title “Best Sommelier of Austria”.
- The podium (Top 3) is reserved exclusively for Austrian candidates, regardless of point standings.



- The best international participant will be officially named as such, though their ranking may not exceed fourth place.
- The title „Bester Sommelier Österreichs“ may only be awarded to the same person once.
- The BSA podium winners qualify for the national selection process to determine Austria’s representatives at the next Competition „Best Sommelier of Europe, Africa and Middle East“ and „Best Sommelier of the World“.
- Candidates must be Austrian citizens or have worked in Austria for at least three years.
- Minimum age for participation is 18 years
- A notary will attend the final to ensure proper conduct and compliance with all rules.
- The jury’s decision is final.

Austria, October 2025