



NZ Spirits Awards 2020

CATALOGUE OF RESULTS



Distilled Spirits Aotearoa and Spirits New Zealand thanks the 2020 entrants and judges and would like to acknowledge the following partners and supporters for their contribution



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MESSAGE FROM DISTILLED SPIRITS AOTEAROA AND SPIRITS NEW ZEALAND

This is our second year of the New Zealand Spirits Awards, and once again we can call this event a resounding success. We are moving from strength to strength, establishing a world-class distilled spirits competition in New Zealand.

New Zealanders have always been able to find a wide range of premium imported classical spirits on bottle store shelves, and they are now also finding an increasing number of New Zealand-made local products with local flair. The New Zealand Spirits Awards aims to benchmark our local products against overseas imported spirits. Consumers can benefit from knowing they are drinking a gold medal New Zealand-born spirit, aligned with global quality.

Distilled Spirits Aotearoa and Spirits New Zealand have been working together to jointly raise the profile of spirits in New Zealand. The global passion for distilled spirits and cocktails has been sweeping the world but has only recently taken off in New Zealand. Five years ago there were only an estimated 33 distilleries in New Zealand, and now there are approximately 90. Distilled Spirits Aotearoa was launched in September 2018 as an initiative by small New Zealand-based distilleries to bring together our distilled spirit community and promote a strong, sustainable distilling

business. Spirits NZ represents the ten largest global and New Zealand-based spirits manufacturers, importers, and distributors in New Zealand. Both industry bodies are working together, large and small, to ensure that everyone, including suppliers and support services such as glass and label makers, botanical and raw material suppliers, bars and restaurants benefits from the raised interest in these complex beverages.

Many of our peer spirits competitions overseas have been delayed or cancelled due to the COVID-19 situation. We were extremely fortunate in that our potential judge pool in New Zealand is strong and of world standard. Our talented judges this year have been very generous in their flexibility to adapt to changing dates and donate their time to three days of intensive sensory work-out.

Finally – this event would not have been possible without our generous sponsors, who share our passion for our spirits. Thank you.

We are extremely proud to bring you this latest round of world class medal winning spirits available on the New Zealand market.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue James".

Dr Sue James

Chairperson
Distilled Spirits Aotearoa (NZ) Inc



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Brewer".

Robert Brewer

Chief Executive
Spirits New Zealand Inc



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD JUDGES

In just its second year, we are thrilled to see New Zealand Spirits Awards grow and provide an outstanding variety of entrants with the largest number of exhibits to date. It has been great to experience all that New Zealand spirits have to offer – this is a fantastic showcase for our talented New Zealand distillers.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank our fellow panel judges that we have had the pleasure in getting to know and work alongside this year; lending their time to contribute to New Zealand's spirits industry. We were so lucky to be surrounded by like-minded people with such unique backgrounds, skill sets and experience!

Notably, we'd also like to thank the organisers who gave their time and hard work to keep the spirits pouring and without whom the whole judging process wouldn't be possible.

Lastly, thank you to Antony Michalik, Dr Sue James, Robert Brewer, Kane Stanford and the team at Avenues Event Management for putting on another great event for New Zealand Spirits Awards. It's been a privilege to be involved and we can't wait to be back next year!

2020 JUDGING PANELS

Light Spirits Panel

	Name	Organisation
Head Judge	John Saker	Writer
Head Judge	Ray Letoa	Roxy Cinema
Judge	Alex Bazeley	Moore Wilson's
Judge	Fritz Kuckuck	Independent Distiller
Judge	Helen Kraal	Deathstar Enterprises Ltd
Judge	Joanne Hort	FEAST Lab, Massey University

Dark Spirits Panel

	Name	Organisation
Head Judge	Alex Ricketts	The Last Word
Head Judge	Michael Fraser-Milne	Whisky Galore
Judge	Alastair Walker	Caretaker
Judge	Keith Tibble	Eurovintage
Judge	Mikey Ball	Ballin' Drinks
Judge	Tash McGill	Writer
Judge	Riki Carter	Wellington Culinary Events Trust

Other Spirits Panel

	Name	Organisation
Head Judge	Charles Gillet	The Last Word
Judge	James Mackenzie	Independent Distiller
Judge	Maria Grau	Independent Distiller
Judge	Yvonne Lorkin	Dish Magazine

2020 MEDAL RESULTS

Gin

Double Gold

Broken Heart Gin
Dancing Sands Wasabi Strength Gin

Gold

2Scientists – The Cuckoo
Broken Heart Angel's Share Gin
Bureaucrats Gin "The Doyenne"
Curiosity Gin – Negroni Special
imagination Dry Gin
Juno Spring Seasonal Gin
Rifters Original Dry Gin
Roots Marlborough Dry Gin
The National Distillery Company Hemp Gin 45% ABV

Silver

1919 Classic Gin
2Scientists – Damn, Father Gin
Bombay Sapphire
Broken Heart Pinot Noir Gin
Broken Heart Quince Gin
Bureaucrats Gin "The Bureaucrat"
Christian Drouin Le Gin
ClemenGold Gin
Curiosity Gin – Curious Dry
Curiosity Gin – Curiously Junipery
Curiosity Gin – Ruby
Dancing Sands Barrel Aged Gin
Denzien Coastal Gin
Denzien Te Aro Dry Gin
Exhibit A
Fords London Dry Gin
Four Pillars Rare Dry Gin
Gin & Bare it Optical Illusion Blue Gin
Gin & Bare it "Original"
Gin & Bare it "Maniototo" plains of blood Sloe Gin
Good George Small Batch Gin
Hastings Distillers Albertine Gin

Hastings Distillers East Block 200
imagination Rhubarb & Raspberry Gin
Island Gin – Navy Strength
Juno "Emily" 200ml
Juno Autumn Seasonal Gin
Juno Extra Fine Gin 700ml
Juno Summer Seasonal Gin
Lavender Hill – Lavender Infused Gin
Little Biddy Gin – Cask Aged
Monkey 47 Dry Gin
Roku Gin
Savoury Allsorts Gin
Scapegrace Black
Scapegrace Classic
Scapegrace Gold
Seppeltsfield Road – Australian "House" Gin
Southward Blood Orange Gin
Southward Mountain Gin
Southward Wave Gin
Star of Bombay
The Botanist Gin
The National Distillery Company – Adorn Gin 42% ABV
Thomson Victor Gin Kaffir Lime
Thomson Victor Gin
Waitoki Washhouse Gin

2020 MEDAL RESULTS

Gin Continued...

Bronze

1919 Summer Pink Gin
Black Barn Syrah Barrel Aged Gin
Blush Rhubarb Gin
Bureaucrats Gin Black Doris Plum
Championz Gin
Curiosity Gin – Recipe #23
Dancing Sands Dry Gin
Denzien Winter Smoke
Fenton Street Gin – The Vintner
Fenton Street Gin – The Novelist
Glendalough Wild Botanical Gin
Island Gin – Original
Juno "Jean" Gin 200ml
Juno Monica's Gin 750ml
Juno Navy Strength Gin 200ml
Juno Winter Seasonal Gin
Lavender Hill Saffron Gin
Little Biddy Gin – Black Label
Little Biddy Gin – Classic
Method & Madness Gin
Peninsula Gin
Seppeltsfield Road – Barossa Dry Gin
Southward Distilling Smoked Rosemary Gin
The National Distillery Company – Verdigris Gin 44% ABV
White Sheep Co – Milk & Honey Gin



Vodka

Gold

42 Below Feijoa
42 Below Passion
Copperhead Road Pure Heart Premium Vodka

Silver

Aquifer Vodka 40% ABV
Broken Heart Vodka
Burnt Hill Vodka
Haku Vodka
Spiritual Exceptional New Zealand Vodka

Bronze

42 Below Pure
Absolut Elyx
Broken Shed Vodka
Grey Goose
Medoff Classic Vodka
Russkaya Vodka
Stolichnaya elit Vodka
Tito's Vodka
White Sheep Co – Milk Vodka
Vesta Coffee Vodka

Botanical & Other Spirits

Gold

1800 Coconut
1800 Silver
Herradura Ultra Anejo
Jose Cuervo Tradicional Reposado

Silver

Jose Cuervo Tradicional Silver
Altos Plata
Altos Reposado
Grenada Bay Absinthe
Herradura Anejo
Herradura Plata
Herradura Reposado

2020 MEDAL RESULTS

Liqueur

Gold

De Kuyper Kwai Feh Liqueur

Sovrano Coffee Liqueur

Silver

2 Scientists – Damn, Son

Barlovska Pure Feijoa Liqueur

Barlovska Rewarewa Spiced Honey Liqueur

Curiosity Gin – Pinot Barrel Sloe

De Kuyper Butterscotch Schnapps

Koakoa Limoncello Cream

L'Opera

Reefton Distilling Co – Blueberry Liqueur

Sovrano Limoncello Original

Sovrano Orangello Original

St-Germain Elderflower Liqueur

Tangelo Liqueur

Bronze

Cointreau

Damson Plum & Blackberry Gin Liqueur

De Kuyper Blue Curacao

De Kuyper Peach Tree Liqueur

Jagermeister

Koakoa Honeycello

Koakoa Orangepello

Lavender Hill – Limoncello

Sovrano Limoncello Cream

The Damson Collection Damson Gin Liqueur

Rum

Gold

Appleton Estate 21YO

Havana Club 7

Helmsman Rum

Mount Gay Eclipse

Silver

Appleton Estate Rare Blend 12YO

Appleton Estate Signature Blend

Bacardi Ocho

Black Collar Rum

Black Collar Spiced Rum

Black Magic Rum

Black Tears Spiced Rum

Broken Heart Spiced Rum

Grenada Bay Cherry Rum

Havana Club 3

Lunatic and Lover Botanical Rum – Silver Batch No. 1

Russell Rum – Lightly Spiced

Brandies

Double Gold

Martell XO

Gold

Dolin Vermouth Rouge

Metaxa 12 Star

Remy Martin VSOP

St Remy Cask Finish

Silver

Martell Cordon Bleu

St Remy Chardonnay Cask Finish

St Remy XO

Bronze

St Remy Brandy VSOP

2020 MEDAL RESULTS

Whisky

Gold

BenRiach 21YO
Johnnie Walker Green Label
Jura 10
Lagavulin 16YO
Talisker 10YO
The Glenlivet Nadurra Oloroso

Silver

Beam Suntory Legent Whiskey
BenRiach 10YO Curiositas
BenRiach 10YO
BenRiach 12YO Sherry Wood Finish
BenRiach Birnie Moss
Bruichladdich Classic Laddie
Bruichladdich Islay Barely II
Bruichladdich Port Charlotte 10
Caol Ila 12YO
Chivas Ultis
Cragganmore 12YO
Glendronach Original 12YO
Glendronach Parliament 21YO
Glenglassaugh Evolution
Glenglassaugh Torfa
Glenglassaugh Revival
Glenkinchie 12YO
Johnnie Walker 18 YO
Johnnie Walker Blue Label
Johnnie Walker Double Black Label
Johnnie Walker Gold
Oban 14YO
Old Forrester 1870 Original Batch
Redbreast 12YO
Smooth Ambler Contradiction
The Cardrona Single Malt Whisky "Just Hatched" Dramfest 2020
The Glenlivet 18YO
Thomson Whisky Rye & Barley
Thomson Whisky South Island Peat Single Malt

Waiheke Whisky Bog Monster
Waiheke Whisky Cantankerous
Wild Turkey 86.8
Wild Turkey Rare Breed
Woodford Reserve Masters Collection American Oak
Woodford Reserve Masters Collection Chocolate Malted Rye

Bronze

1919 Distilling Kirikiriroa Release
Batch10 Manuka Smoked Whisky
Canadian Club 12YO
Chivas 18YO
Dalwhinnie 15YO
Divergence Single Malt NZ Whisky – Virgin French Oak
Dunedin DoubleCask Single Malt 40%
Glendronach NAS Portwood
Glendronach Revival 15YO
Jim Beam Black
Jura 18YO
Jura Journey
Jura Seven Wood
Oamaruvian 100 Proof 50%
Oamaruvian Revolution 46%
Slane Irish Whisky
Teeling Dublin Pot Still
Teeling Single Grain
Teeling Single Malt Irish Whisky
Teeling Small Batch Irish Whisky
The Cardrona Single Malt Whisky "Just Hatched" Single Sherry Cask
The Cardrona Single Malt Whisky "Just Hatched" Solera
The Dalmore 12YO
The Glenlivet Nadurra Peated
Thomson Whisky French Oak & Manuka Smoke
Thomson Whisky Two Tone
Waiheke Whisky Moss
Waiheke Whisky Sweetwater
Waitui Whiskey 6YO
Woodford Reserve Distillers Select
Woodford Reserve Double Oaked

2020 SUMMARY OF ENTRIES

Total entries: 261 Total entrants: 51

Category	Number of entries	Double Gold	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Gin	91	2	9	47	24
Vodka	19		3	5	10
Botanicals and other spirits	11		4	7	
Liqueurs	27		2	12	10
Rum	17		4	12	
Brandies	10	1	4	3	1
Whisky	86		6	35	31

MEDALS

Entries were scored on their own merit, and Medals were awarded based on the following ranges:



Entries that receive a Gold medal from all judges on a panel earn a Double Gold award.

2020 LIST OF ENTRANTS

1919 Distilling	Auckland
2scientists	Thames-Coromandel
Barlovska Craft Liqueurs	Wellington
Batch10 Spirits	Auckland
Beam Suntory	Auckland
Begin Distilling Ltd	Taranaki
Black Collar Distillery	Northland
Blush Gin Limited	Auckland
Broken Heart Spirits	Otago
Broken Shed Ltd	Otago
Bureaucrats Gin Ltd	Wellington
Burnt Hill Vodka	Auckland
Cardrona Distillery	Otago
Copperhead Road Distillery	Bay of Plenty
Dancing Sands Distillery	Tasman
Denzien Urban Distillery	Wellington
EDC Eastern Drinks Company Limited	
Elemental Distillers Ltd	Marlborough
Exhibit A	Auckland
Fenton Street Distillery	Taranaki
Good George Brewing	Waikato
Grenada Bay Distillery	Wellington
Hancocks	Auckland
Hastings Distillers Ltd	Hawkes Bay
Island Gin Distillery	Auckland

2020 LIST OF ENTRANTS

Kiwi Spirit Distillery	Tasman
Lammermoor Distillery Ltd	Otago
Lavender Hill	Auckland
Lion	Auckland
Lunatic And Lover Botanical Rum	Auckland
Lyttelton Distillery Company Ltd	Canterbury
Pernod Ricard	Auckland
Q-Liquid Limited	Auckland
Reefton Distilling Co	West Coast
Rifters Gin	Otago
Seppeltsfield Road Distillers	South Australia
Southward Distilling	Wellington
Spiritual Vodka Ltd	Auckland
The Dam Fine Gin Company	Hawke's Bay
The National Distillery Company	Hawke's Bay
The New Zealand Whisky Collection	Otago
The Spirits Workshop Limited	Canterbury
The White Sheep Co	Waikato
Thomson Whisky New Zealand Ltd	Auckland
Tickety-Boo Liquor	Auckland
Tirau Ltd Trading As Koakoa Limoncello & The Bond Store	Wellington
Uriel Ventures Ltd.	Bay of Plenty
Villa Italia	Northland
Waiheke Whisky	Auckland
Washhouse Distillery Ltd	Auckland
Wilson & Lawrence Limited	Wellington

