

Wine Standards Guide to UK Wine Scheme Certification: Sparkling Wines

Wine produced in the UK is categorised using a set of hierarchical schemes. This system is known as the UK Quality Wine Schemes and has been put forward to the UK Government by Wine Great Britain (Wine GB).

The schemes are administered by Wine GB, post bottling analysis is carried out by an accredited laboratory (ISO 17025), and the schemes are enforced by the Food Standards Agency (Wine Standards). It is important to remember that whilst there is no requirement to participate in these schemes, they do enable the wine producer to use certain labelling terms which they would **not** be able to use otherwise.

Classification	Information
<p>PDO</p> <p>Protected Designation (of) Origin</p>	<p>This is the top category of sparkling wine in the UK. This wine has been produced within the criteria stated in the PDO specification laid out by Wine GB.</p> <p>This is the top category of wine in the UK. This wine has been produced within the criteria stated in the PDO specification laid out by the Wine GB for sparkling wine.</p> <p>Only 6 vine cultivars are permitted for PDO sparkling: Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier, Pinot Noir Precoce, Pinot Blanc and Pinot Gris No hybrid vine varieties are permissible. 100% of the grapes used must come from within the stated demarcation (England or Wales).</p> <p>Use of the protected term 'English' or 'Welsh' is permitted on labels. PDO status is sometimes a minimum entry requirement for international competition and may help promote the wine.</p> <p>This wine will undergo two tests at Campden BRI at application stage – chemical post-bottling analysis and organoleptic no-fault tasting test.</p>
<p>PGI</p> <p>Protected Geographical Indication</p>	<p>Often regarded as the most flexible category for quality wine in the UK. This wine has been produced within the criteria stated in the PGI specification laid out by Wine GB for sparkling wine.</p> <p>88-90 vine varieties may be used for sparkling wine. Hybrid vine varieties are permitted i.e., Seyval Blanc</p> <p>Use of the protected term 'English Regional' is permitted on labels.</p> <p>This wine will undergo two tests at Campden BRI at application stage – chemical post bottling analysis and organoleptic no-fault tasting test.</p> <p>85% of the grapes must come from the stated demarcation (England or Wales). Remaining 15% can come from Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland. No EU grapes can be used.</p>

