



DONNAFUGATA

PRESS RELEASE

Ben Rye wins the “Mayors’ Choice” 2010

For the fourth time in nine editions, the Passito di Pantelleria Ben Ryé ranked highest at the international Wine Cities competition.

With the highest ratings in absolute amongst all the wines that were tasted, Donnafugata's Ben Ryé 2008 won the **Gran Medaglia d'Oro** (*Grand Gold Medal*) at the international Mayors' Choice competition (*La Selezione Sindaco*), continuing to write the history of this prestigious award (www.selezionedelsindaco.it).

It's the fourth time that Ben Ryé Passito di Pantelleria made from Zibibbo (Moscato d'Alessandria) grapes, has won the grand prize at the Wine Cities-sponsored competition, this year in its ninth edition.

This year the Wine City chosen for the event was Brindisi, which from May 21 to 23 hosted more than 80 judges from all over the world who tasted 1,300 wines from all the Italian regions and many European countries, for a total of 400 wineries located in the more than 240 communities belonging to the “Wine Cities” circuit.

“Every award added to the many our Ben Ryé has won fills us with pride and satisfaction”, says **José Rallo**. “The Mayors' Choice, for premium wines, is a competition unique of its kind because it features joint participation of the winery making the premium product and the community in which its vineyards are located. So this award is important not only for Donnafugata but also for Pantelleria, the volcanic island lying between Sicily and Africa where heroic viticulture is practiced, with vines even 100 years old cultivated on terraced, windswept plots overlooking the sea”.

Other vintages of Ben Ryé, “Son of the Wind”, whose elegance, modernity and outstandingly Mediterranean character won them the Grand Gold Medals in previous edition of the Mayors' Choice are, in reverse order, the 2007 in 2009, the 2004 in 2006 and the 2000 in 2002.

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