

Sommelier INDIA

THE WINE MAGAZINE

Sommelier India WINE magazine contributing writer embarks on MW course

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SI contributing writer, **Sonal Holland** is all set to become India's first Master of Wine. Her application into the first year MW Education Programme has been accepted, and she will be required to travel to Austria for a residential seminar; London and Hungary for Course days and Bordeaux for Tastings and winery visits. "I am also planning to undertake my own personal travel to other regions to optimise learning opportunities," she says. Readers can look forward to hearing how she gets along in her studies from her column in Sommelier India, "Diary of an MW Student".

If you are interested in pursuing this internationally recognized qualification for wine trade professionals, you can learn more about it at the Hong Kong International Wine & Spirits Fair. Masters of Wine, Jeannie Cho Lee and Debra Meiburg are co-anchoring a session introducing the Institute of Masters of Wine education programme at the HKTDC Wine & Spirits Fair on November 4.



The session will include an overview of the Institute, an introduction to the theory and practical elements of the education programme and examination, and a tutored tasting to demonstrate the MW approach to assessing and analysing wine. You will also have the opportunity to discuss professional development with Jeannie and Debra, both of whom are based in Hong Kong.

Jeannie who often receives enquiries from Asian wine students about the Master of Wine programme, says, "I hope our tasting and introduction will offer a glimpse of both the benefits and challenges to be gained by embarking on this wonderful journey."

Debra described studying to become a Master of Wine as a "life-changing odyssey" and called it "the most thrilling, rewarding - and occasionally frustrating - experience of my career".

The Institute of Masters of Wine is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to promoting the highest educational and professional standards in the global wine trade. It was founded in London in 1955 and now has an international membership of 289 Masters of Wine based in 23 different countries. There are currently four Masters of Wine resident in Asia. Along with Jeannie Cho Lee and Debra Meiburg in Hong Kong, Lisa Perrotti-Brown who is based in Singapore also qualified as a Master of Wine in 2008. In 2010, Ned Goodwin became the first Master of Wine based in Japan.

Besides our own Sonal Holland, more than 270 students from 25 countries are currently studying in the Institute's education programme, which prepares candidates for the annual MW Examination.

The session takes place in Wine Tasting Area 3, Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre. November 4 from 5 pm to 6.30 pm. Registration costs HK\$ 200 and places must be pre-booked via the following [link](#)