



## Italy tops EVOO World Ranking for second consecutive year

**Italy has once again topped the Extra Virgin Olive Oil (EVOO) World Ranking for another year, keeping Spain in second place in the country category. Greece was ranked third overall, while the USA managed to leapfrog Portugal into fourth place.**

Created by the World Association of Journalists of Wine and the Spirit in 1997, the rankings are compiled from the combined results of 31 recognized international blind tasting competitions during the year that access the quality and taste of extra virgin olive oil.

Winning an incredible 1,576 awards across 28 contests, Italy scored 67,553.67 points—over 11,500 points more than Spain—to finish ahead of all 34 countries and regions participating in the EVOO World Ranking 2019. China scored 649 points, placing it 19th, and Taiwan was 32nd with 35 points.

"Rincón de La Subbética" from Spanish producer Almazaras de La Subbética was ranked number one in the Top Ten EVOO 2019, as it continued its run as one of the world's most awarded olive oils—winning 32 awards in 2019. Spain's eight entries dominated the top ten, while Italy and Portugal managed to have one entry apiece.

Flying the flag for Italy in sixth place was "TreFòrt" from Paolo Bonomelli Boutique Olive Farm on the shores of Lake Garda in northern Italy, winning 23 awards in 18 contests. While Portugal's "Gallo Novo Colheita 2018-2019" from Gallo Worldwide - Victor Guedes was ranked eighth.

Each contest is ordered by importance and assigned a score, with the International Olive Council's Mario Solinas competition in top place. It is closely followed by the New York Olive Oil Competition (USA), TerraOlivo (Israel), EVO International Olive Oil Contest (Italy) and OLIVINUS (Argentina). At present, the China International Olive Oil Competition, now in its 14th year, is among the five lowest ranked contests.

The score assigned to the contest is multiplied by the score of the award (1st = 8.00 pts), so a final result is obtained by each EVOO in each competition. Throughout the year, each new score is added to the grand total in order to determine the overall winner.

Incidentally, if an extra virgin olive oil scores more than 160 points during the year, then it is also awarded the title "EVOO of the Year". In 2019, 320 varieties from around the world accomplished this, with both Italy and Spain boasting 100 entries each.

Italy has 533 recognized varieties of olives, the highest rate of biodiversity in the world in this sector, and Italian varieties of extra virgin olive oil are said to contain the highest levels of a beneficial acid called oleic acid, one of the key nutrients in the healthy Mediterranean diet.

The international TAICHI project is spreading information about the health benefits of using extra virgin olive oil for cooking to Mainland China and Taiwan.

Co-funded by the EU and promoted by the two main consortia of Italian olive growers, Italia Olivicola and UNAPOL, the TAICHI project offers consumers all the information they need to understand olive oil through its website, various social media platforms and OurOliveOil APP – available in the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#).

### Sources:

<http://www.evooworldranking.org/>

To find out more about the TAICHI project, visit [OurOliveOil.com](http://OurOliveOil.com)



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