

## **Exceptional Indulgence: The Winners of the Craft Spirits Berlin Awards 2025**

*A Gathering of Excellence at the Prestigious Awards Ceremony at Säälchen*

Berlin, March 3, 2025 – The best handcrafted spirits honored at the annual Craft Spirits Berlin Awards prove that tradition and innovation can go hand in hand. Europe's most important competition for "Craft Spirits" is open exclusively to distilled beverages and alcohol-free alternatives that are rooted in true craftsmanship. Beyond that, creativity knows no bounds. This was on full display at the atmospheric awards ceremony on March 1, 2025, at Säälchen. Hosted by Berlin-based radioeins presenter Meryem Celik, the evening celebrated the winners on stage with enthusiastic applause and live music. At the following get-together, guests had the opportunity to sample the award-winning spirits firsthand.

The industry's creativity is truly impressive. Alongside classics such as fruit brandies, gin, rum, and vodka in outstanding quality, this year's competition also featured exciting innovations like a basil aperitif, a beer liqueur, and a whisky made from emmer. "Every year, we are amazed by the high quality and innovation of the entries from around the world," says organizer Theo Lighthart. "This time, we even saw products from Peru, Bulgaria, and the Orkney Islands." The spirits are judged by an international panel of sensory analysts, spirits experts, and hospitality professionals. Each product is blind-tasted and evaluated based on aroma, taste, balance, and typicity.

Now in their 14th year, the Craft Spirits Berlin Awards have long been regarded as a steppingstone to the international market. Their seal of approval inspires trust. "For small distilleries, breaking into retail and the hospitality industry can be challenging, even with outstanding quality," says co-organizer Dr. Thomas Kochan. "Winning an award at the Craft Spirits Berlin Awards increases a product's visibility and helps convince consumers."

The winners of this year's Craft Spirits Berlin Awards are:

### **Craft Spirit of the Year 2025**

(Spirit with the highest score in the competition)

Bärlauchgeist, Hausbrennerei Fridolin Baumgartner

### **Craft Distillery of the Year 2025**

(Distillery with the most medal points in the competition)

**Gold:** Säly Edelbrände & Gin, Tschagguns, Austria

**Silver:** Destillerie Zott, Ustersbach, Germany

**Bronze:** Hausbrennerei Fridolin Baumgartner, Vogtsburg, Germany

**World's Best Craft Distilleries** – This distinction is awarded to producers who have won three gold medals within three years. The winners are:

Destillerie Zott (Germany)  
Distillerie Studer (Switzerland)  
Edelbrennerei Mario Haider (Austria)  
Engel Naturbrennerei (Germany)  
Hausbrennerei Fridolin Baumgartner (Germany)  
Heiner's Destillate (Switzerland)  
Hofbrennerei Oberkorb (Germany)  
MOZERs SPIRIT (Germany)  
mühle4 Manufaktur edler Brände (Germany)

**Best in Class Awards** – These distinctions are given to the winning products in each category:

**Fortified Wine:** Vermouth Rosé, Gutemann Gute Brände  
**Pome Fruit:** Williams Christ High Spirits Edelbrand, Destillerie Zott  
**Stone Fruit:** Kriacherl Wildpflaumenbrand, Hofbrennerei Oberkorb  
**Berry Fruit:** Himbeerbrand, Hausbrennerei Fridolin Baumgartner  
**Wild Fruit:** Vogelbeere Wildfruchtbrand, Heiner's Destillate  
**Other Fruits:** Cuvée Sophie, Destillerie Zott  
**Vegetable Spirit:** Kartoffelbrand, Landbrennerei Maidhof  
**Grape, Pomace & Wine:** Traube imHolz Traubenbrand, Heiner's Destillate  
**Geist (Spirit):** Bärlauchgeist, Hausbrennerei Fridolin Baumgartner  
**Liqueur:** Mozers Hands-on Schwarzer Johannisbeer Likör, MOZERs SPIRIT  
**Herbal Spirits:** Aquavit aus dem Madeirafass, Varus Brennerei  
**Gin:** Rauhacht-Gin 2025, Brennerei Bosselmann  
**New Western Style Gin:** MOTs Distillers Cut Gin Kaffir-Lime, MOTs Distillery  
**Juniper & More:** In Gin Baden Navy Strength 103° Proof, Simon Alber Spirituosen  
**Grains & More:** Deputat Weizenkorn, Destillerie & Brennerei Heinrich Habel  
**Vodka:** Schnapseule Vodka, Schnapseule Bauernbrände  
**Whisky & Whiskey:** Tamm & Rukis 100% Rye Malt Whisky, Moe Distillery  
**Sugarcane:** Krum Weißer Rum, Erste Maennerhobby  
**Baijiu, Shochu & Soju:** Haru Soju, Haru Project  
**Agave & More:** Yaha-Yahui Organic Mezcal Batch No. 1, José Manuel Lopez Montano  
**Bottled Cocktails:** Coffeegrone, Esslingen Spirits Company  
**Spirits Unlimited:** Maracuja-Yuzu Spritz Aperitif Likör, MOTs Distillery  
**Fermented Products:** Soto Junmai Japanese Sake, Soto Sake  
**Non-Alcoholic:** Sparkling Quitte Alkoholfrei, Engel Naturbrennerei

**The complete list of all awards:**

<https://www.craftspiritsberlin.de/ergebnisse-2025/>

**Press photos Craft Spirits Berlin Awards 2025:**

<https://www.craftspiritsberlin.de/presse/>

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