

GREAT TASTE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

GREAT TASTE REGISTRATION

1. Entry into Great Taste is electronic via a dedicated portal at www.gff.co.uk/gta. A paper version of the Entry Form is available for those unable to gain computer access. Please contact the Organisers who will post a hard copy of the entry form.
2. All entries should be entered by ONE person who has access to the USERNAME & PASSWORD.
3. A correct EMAIL address for one point of contact should be given for all Great Taste correspondence. A secondary email address can be given should more than one person require information about entries.
4. It is the responsibility of all entrants to ensure that the domain name **gff.co.uk** is added to a safe senders list to avoid missing important Great Taste information.
5. It is the responsibility of all entrants taking part in Great Taste to provide correct information and spellings of company names, product names, contact details and most importantly ONE email address where all Great Taste related instructions will be sent.
6. A VAT receipt will be emailed to you on completion of your online transaction. This is the ONLY receipt you will receive.
7. Great Taste is open to food producers, importers, distributors, and independent retailers of speciality food and drink products.
8. Entries from retailers, importers and distributors are NOT eligible unless the name of the food producer is included on the entry form.
9. All entries must be commercially available at the time of entering i.e. sold through independent retailers, local markets, online or a multiple retailer.
10. Producers should be aware of the judging dates (March-mid June 2017) when considering which products to enter. To enter products that are not available during this period contact the Great Taste team to arrange a possible time for alternative judging.
11. Products not judged between March-mid June 2017 will not be eligible for major awards, i.e. Golden Fork, Top 50 Foods.
12. Marinades, rubs and spice mixes (Category 1807) may only be entered into Great Taste if they can be tasted with the addition of only ONE added ingredient, e.g. chicken or rice. Please note that Meal Kits are no longer eligible for entry into Great Taste.
13. No products can be accepted into Great Taste that require specialist equipment to taste, e.g. pastries or bread requiring steam oven cooking, coffee pods that need specialist machines etc.
14. No fresh vegetables, salad leaves, fruit or herbs or baby food can be accepted for entry into Great Taste.
15. All products must be made to the same standard and recipe as the foods available commercially. Different batches made specifically for Great Taste judging will be disqualified. If a product is entered as a seasonal blend this blend must be identified in the description/product name.
16. Only entries fit for human consumption will be judged.
17. Great Taste closes for entry when the total number of entries reaches the entry cap.
18. Only members of the Guild of Fine Food can enter Great Taste during Members' Fortnight at the reduced rate. Membership must be valid up until the end of January 2017, or new members should be signed up by Friday 13 January 2017 latest.
19. Food Groups, networks or PR companies entering products on behalf of a client or clients MUST enter EACH product under the COMPANY NAME of the producer. The contact email should be for the person who is coordinating delivery of the samples for judging.
20. Product descriptions must be correct when we reach the entry cap and close. There will be no opportunity to edit the product description after entry period closes. Only in extreme circumstances will amendments to entries be made, and only at the discretion of the Great Taste Organisers.
21. Great Taste Organisers reserve the right to refuse entry of a product if it is deemed inappropriate or not in the true spirit of the awards.
22. No entry will be accepted AFTER the the entry cap is reached.
23. Products may only be entered in ONE category per year. It is not permitted to enter the same product in multiple categories.

PAYMENT

24. A payment, in full, is required when entering online. Entry fees not paid in full before the entry cap is reached will result in products not being judged.
25. There will be NO REFUND given if a product needs to be WITHDRAWN from the judging process after an entry has been paid for. However, if you contact the office BEFORE we close for entry, we can accept an alternative product in its place.
26. The entry cost into Great Taste is kept to a minimum to attract genuine small producers and new artisan producers.
27. Mass produced & manufactured products are not encouraged and a higher entry fee is charged to products entered by multiple retailers.



PACKAGING

28. All products must be submitted for judging in their RETAIL PACKAGING, where possible. The retail packaging must state the Use By date and all ingredients and allergens.
29. All products are judged blind, exclusively on taste and flavour.
30. All products are DECANTED from original packaging prior to judging, to ensure blind-tasting.
31. ONE flavour equals ONE entry. If multipacks are entered it must be made clear which flavour is to be tasted from the pack, or the product may be withdrawn. This includes multipack yoghurts, chocolates, macaroons, meringues etc.

DELIVERY

32. A delivery date will be allocated and emailed to each entrant between March and mid-June 2017. For operational reasons the Guild may choose to allocate split deliveries to a company with a large numbers of entries.
33. It is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure the prompt and safe delivery of all products by the requested date for delivery. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
34. Exceptions will be given only for products that are unavailable at the time of delivery due to seasonality.
35. Please use the supplied box label on all parcels to state clearly if product(s) need to be refrigerated or frozen and every entry MUST carry a Use By date.
36. It is the entrants' responsibility to ensure that all products are packed, transported and delivered in a condition fit and safe for consumption by the judges.
37. Any products arriving in a damaged or unsafe condition will be disqualified. This includes any product requiring refrigeration with no prior notification or poor labelling.
38. If a delivery slot is missed, an attempt will be made to judge products arriving after the allotted delivery date. However, this will be at the discretion of the Organisers.

JUDGING

39. Judging will take place between March and mid June 2017. Judging locations will include Dorset, London and Wales (these are correct at the time of printing and may be subject to change). The main judging venue is in Dorset. Please do not assume that your products will be judged at a location closer to your business.
40. The Organisers will take great care to ensure safe-keeping of all entries throughout the judging process. However the Organisers, their employees and associates cannot be held responsible for this safe keeping.
41. The Organisers will make every effort to cook and prepare your product(s) following the label guidelines, or specific instructions. It is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure that relevant information is sent with the product.
42. No products can be returned to entrants unless prior arrangement has been made with the Organisers for collection immediately after the last session of judging on the day on which it is judged.
43. All 3-star products will be recalled and re-judged in July 2017 to form the Top 50 Foods list and the 2017 Trophy winners.

RESULTS

44. The results will be available online in August 2017.
45. An email alert from the Organisers will be sent out to each entrant as soon as the 2017 results have been edited and are ready to go live on the portal.

46. It is the entrants' responsibility to look up their results and judges' feedback on the Great Taste portal.
47. The 2017 Top 50 list will be announced during August 2017.
48. The Golden Fork Trophy winners will be selected from the Top 50 Foods list and announced at the Great Taste Golden Fork Awards Dinner in London in September.
49. Award certificates will be posted and all winning foods will be listed online.
50. Products that have been awarded 2- or 3-star may be displayed at the London Speciality & Fine Food Fair 2017 – further information will be provided on this post-results.
51. The Organisers may share winning entrants' telephone numbers or email addresses with carefully selected partners for the purposes of stocking winning products.
52. The Guild of Fine Food may share Great Taste winners' details and positive quotes from judges with relevant media contacts for promotional purposes only. If you do not want your company details shared with third party organisations, please contact the Guild of Fine Food to make this clear. Non-personally identifiable order data for all entrants will be sent to Google Analytics.

JUDGES AND FEEDBACK

53. No specific information relating to the identity of any of the judges involved in sampling and judging will be revealed at any time.
54. Judges' comments relating to each product are available to the company entering the product. Some judging comments for award-winning products may be used in PR by carefully selected retail and media partners.

LABELS AND LOGOS

55. Great Taste logo artwork and labels will be available to companies wishing to use them for promotional purposes. There may be a charge for the logo artwork. Labels can be purchased through the Guild of Fine Food.
56. The Great Taste logo is protected by trademark. Any misrepresentation will result in the award being withdrawn or disqualified.
57. Use of the Great Taste logo or labels must be in accordance with the guidelines supplied with the current annual logo artwork.
58. The logo must always include the year in which the award was won and may only be used on winning products.
59. Use of the logo on any product that has not won an award is expressly forbidden.
60. In the case of 'own label' or 'private label' foods packaged under the name of another producer, retailer or distributor, the Great Taste logo may only be used on the packaging if the name of the original producer is clearly stated on the pack.
61. If a producer can provide sensible written evidence that a bagged tea/ ground coffee is consistent in every way with the equivalent product sold in a loose tea/coffee bean format, use of the relevant Great Taste award logo may be permitted on both formats at the Guild's discretion.

DISPUTES

62. Under no circumstances can the Guild of Fine Food or its employees undertake discussion about judges' comments.
63. Any dispute over the judging must be made in writing to the Guild of Fine Food within 14 days of the published results.
64. On all matters relating to Great Taste, the verdict of the chief judge/arbitrator is final.

