

GREAT TASTE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

TERMS USED

The Organisers or the Guild - the Guild of Fine Food, the organisation that runs Great Taste.

MyGuild - the online portal through which entrants enter Great Taste.

Company Profile - the company's record on MyGuild, through which entries to Great Taste are made and the results & feedback recorded and released to the entrant.

User account - the email address and password to access the Company Profile on MyGuild. There can be multiple user accounts for a Company Profile, but these need to be linked up by the Guild.

Primary email - the email address listed in the Company Profile, to which correspondence about Great Taste entries, deliveries and results will be sent. This is NOT the same as the User account.

GREAT TASTE REGISTRATION

1. Entry into Great Taste is electronic via a dedicated online portal accessed via 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 send a hard copy of the entry form.
2. All entries should be entered by ONE person who has access to the EMAIL ADDRESS & PASSWORD for the company profile. It is possible to request additional user accounts are added to a Company profile to gain access rights. Please email myguild@gff.co.uk for further information.
3. A correct EMAIL address for one point of contact should be given for all Great Taste correspondence. The contact email address is separate from the User account login.
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 a primary 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 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 in the Producer/Manufacturer field.
9. All entries must be commercially available to the general public 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 2019) when considering which products to enter. To enter products that are not available during this period due to issues of seasonality ONLY, please contact the Great Taste team to discuss whether or not a possible time can be allocated for alternative judging.
11. Products not judged between March-mid June 2019 will not be eligible for major awards, i.e. Golden Fork.
12. Products 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 accepted in any form including multi-step kits, even if all ingredients are provided in the kit/ it can be tasted with one additional ingredient.
13. No products can be accepted into Great Taste that require specialist equipment to taste, e.g. pastries or bread requiring steam oven cooking etc.
14. Products not eligible for entry include: traditional grape-based wines, fresh vegetables, salad leaves (including those with dressings), fresh fruit or herbs, baby/toddler food, powders and supplements (including proteins, dietary supplements and health/sports nutrition products), and prepared foods which require assembling ahead of judging e.g. takeaway dishes.
15. Prepared dishes must be ready-made on arrival. The Organisers are unable to accept any food service or food-to-go products or dishes that are sold to take away for immediate consumption.
16. 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.
17. Only entries fit for human consumption will be judged.
18. Great Taste closes for entry on 15 February 2019 or when the total number of entries reaches the entry cap, whichever comes first.
19. Only existing 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 2019, or new members should be signed up by Friday 11 January 2019 latest. It is not possible to join the Guild during Members' Fortnight.
20. 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.
21. Product descriptions must be correct when the entry cap is reached and entries closed. 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.
22. The list of ingredients provided on the entry form may be shared with the judging panel in some circumstances. Include main ingredients and avoid commercially sensitive details.
23. 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.
24. No entry will be accepted AFTER the entry cap is reached.
25. Products may only be entered in ONE category per year. It is not permitted to enter the same product in multiple categories. Please refer to point 68 regarding a product sold under more than one brand name.
26. Enter products into the free-from categories if the product is marketed as such.

PAYMENT

27. 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.
28. 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 entries close, the Organisers may be able to accept an alternative product in its place.
29. The entry cost into Great Taste is kept to a minimum to attract genuine small producers and new artisan producers.
30. Mass produced & manufactured products are not encouraged, and a higher entry fee is charged to products entered by multiple retailers.

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PACKAGING

31. All products must be submitted for judging in their RETAIL PACKAGING, where possible. The retail packaging must state the Use By/ Best Before date and all ingredients and allergens.
32. All products are judged blind, exclusively on taste and flavour.
33. All products are DECANTED from original packaging prior to judging, to ensure blind-tasting.
34. 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

35. A delivery date will be allocated to each product between March and mid-June 2019. For operational reasons the Organisers may choose to allocate split deliveries to a company with a large number of entries. Entrants will be sent an email to the primary email address listed in their Company Profile to advise when delivery dates and delivery instructions are available to download from their MyGuild account.
36. 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.
37. Exceptions will be given only for products that are unavailable at the time of delivery due to seasonality.
38. Please use the Box Label supplied with the delivery instructions on all parcels to state clearly if product(s) need to be refrigerated or frozen and every entry MUST carry a Use By or Best Before date.
39. 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.
40. 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. Chilled or Frozen products received at the incorrect temperature will be rejected and the product(s) recalled.
41. 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.
42. Any customs/import charges applicable to the delivery of an entry must be paid by the entrant. If applicable, the Organisers will seek to reclaim any such charges incurred from the entrant.
43. The Organisers are unable to make applications for an import licence for products not normally permitted for delivery to the UK. Entrants should check any import restrictions before entering Great Taste.
44. If there is a balance outstanding for the company payable to the Guild of Fine Food, entries may not be called for delivery until payment is received and no refunds for entries will be given. If applicable after results are released, label and logo orders may not be processed until the balance is cleared.

JUDGING

45. Judging will take place between March and mid-June 2019. Judging locations will include Dorset and London (these are correct at the time of printing and may be subject to change). Please do not assume that your products will be judged at a location closer to your business.
46. 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.
47. 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. Please note that only one additional ingredient will be added to a product if required to prepare for tasting.
48. 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.
49. All 3-star products will be recalled and re-judged in July 2019 to find the 2019 Golden Fork Award winners.

RESULTS

50. The results will be available online in August 2019.
51. An email alert from the Organisers will be sent out to each entrant as soon as the 2019 results have been edited and are ready to go live on the portal.
52. It is the entrants' responsibility to look up their results and judges' feedback on MyGuild.
53. There will be no Top 50 foods list in Great Taste 2019.
54. The Golden Fork Award winners will be selected from the 3-star products and announced at the Great Taste Golden Fork Awards Dinner in London.
55. Award certificates will be posted and all winning foods will be listed online.
56. Products that have been awarded 2- or 3-star may be displayed at the London Speciality & Fine Food Fair 2019 – further information will be provided on this post-results.
57. The Organisers may share winning entrants' telephone numbers or email addresses with carefully selected partners for the purposes of stocking winning products.
58. The Guild of Fine Food may share Great Taste winners' details and positive quotes from judges with relevant sponsors or 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

59. No specific information relating to the identity of any of the judges involved in sampling and judging will be revealed at any time.
60. 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

61. 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 depending on the company turnover stated on entry. Please see www.gff.co.uk/gta for further information. It is not permitted to join the Guild of Fine Food as a member to obtain free logo artwork. Membership must be current at the time of entering the required year's Awards. Labels can only be purchased through the Guild of Fine Food.
62. The Great Taste logo is protected by trademark. Any misrepresentation will result in the award being withdrawn or disqualified.
63. Use of the Great Taste logo or labels must be in accordance with the guidelines supplied with the current annual logo artwork.
64. The logo must always include the year in which the award was won and may only be used on winning products.
65. Use of the logo on any product that has not won an award is expressly forbidden.
66. 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.
67. 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.
68. If the exact same product is sold under an alternative brand name, and this brand name was declared on the Great Taste entry form in the Alternative Brand Names field, in the event of an award at the discretion of the Guild it may be permitted to use the award logo on these alternative brand names.

DISPUTES

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

