

THE WINE AND SPIRIT EDUCATION TRUST DIPLOMA AT BRISTOL.

Why study for the diploma?

The WSET diploma in wines and spirits is a vocational qualification at GNVQ level 4 [General Degree]. Holders of the diploma are well prepared for a career in the wine, restaurant and hospitality trades. The diploma is recognised world wide as the premier qualification for these fields and as such enhances recruitment and progression.

The West of England Wine and Spirit Association run a course in Bristol as a service for personnel in the west of England and south Wales who would find it difficult to travel to the next nearest centre which is in London.

What do I need before I start my course?

To enrol for the diploma you need to have passed the WSET Advanced Certificate. The trust will need to know when you passed the examination or your candidate number which will be printed on the certificate. It is also important to have an email address for ease of communication.

How is the course organised?

The course consists of one day per week [6 hours] organised into two semesters lasting six months taken over a period of 18 months. Both semesters commence with introductory units to allow candidates to start the course in any year.

Students are registered for three years which allows flexibility in matching periods of study with other work related commitments.

The diploma is divided into 6 units all of which must be passed before the diploma is awarded.

Unit	Title	Semester	Examination.
1	Business of Wine	1&2	1 written 2500-3000 word assessment. Closed book case study written exam.
2	Wine Production	1&2	Multiple choice exam paper.
3	Light wines of the world	Split between 1&2	Two tasting papers of 6 wines. Theory paper of 5 questions. [exam taken at the end of the 2 nd year]
4	Spirits	2	Tasting paper of 3 spirits and a compulsory theory question.
5	Sparkling wines	2	Tasting paper of 3 sparkling wines and a compulsory theory question.
6	Fortified wines	1	Tasting paper of 3 fortified wines and a compulsory theory question.

Where are the sessions held?

The meetings take place mostly on Wednesdays at the Masonic Hall Bath Road Keynsham. The venue is conveniently placed between Bath and Bristol

with good connections to both the M4 and M5. Sessions normally start at 9.30 am and finish about 4.30 pm

What will it cost?

The charge for each semester is currently £1,520.00 in addition candidates may opt for the Diploma Assessment Preparation Scheme [DAPS] at £235.00 for two semesters; the association currently pays £75.00 of the fee.

The semester fee covers all the lectures, tasting samples, written course materials, registration and an entry to examination for all units in that semester taken at Bristol. Should a candidate fail a particular unit there is an additional charge for any retakes.

The DAPS scheme is highly recommended as it uses open and closed book exercises plus tasting notes all of which are marked by diploma examiners who provide feedback to students.

The costs of the diploma compare very well to other vocational courses at the same level.

Who leads the sessions?

Some sessions are led by WSET staff but the majority are taken by experienced speakers active in the wine trade including 7 MWs.

Can I start studying before the commencement of the course?

The Oxford Companion to Wine [3rd Edition] is recommended as the main reference work for the programme of study. Understanding Wine Technology by David Bird [DBQA Publishing] is a must for Unit 2 and the current Wine Report edited by Tom Stevenson [Dorling Kindersley] is excellent for the latest news and trends. All these books can be obtained from amazon.co.uk at very reasonable prices.

It is essential to have a set of 12 ISO glasses a spittoon and a glass cloth for the tastings which accompany nearly all the sessions.

For more information please contact the course administrator at:-

aluncox@btinternet.com

Alun Cox.
41, Leighton Road,
Southville,
BRISTOL.
BS3 1NS.
Tel/fax: 0117 9633087.

WEST OF ENGLAND WINE & SPIRIT ASSOCIATION

Diploma commencing January 2010 - Course Order Form for Students taking the First Semester

Please complete using block capitals

Send the completed form to:- Alun Cox, Course Administrator, 41 Leighton Road, Southville, BRISTOL. BS3 1NS . E.mail aluncox@btinternet.com

Surname.....Title.....

First Name(s).....

Address.....

.....

.....Post Code.....

Date of Birth.....

Tel. No.....

Email.....

Employer(Trade only).....Position.....

Year Higher /Advanced Certificate passed

Examination Number [from Advanced Certificate]

Second Semester..... **£1,520.00**

Diploma Assessment Preparation Scheme [this semester] **£80.00**

An instalment payment scheme is available on request.

Cheque payable please to: West of England Wine & Spirit Association

Signed.....Date.....

or

Please send invoice to:- Company.....

Address.....

Post Code.....

Manager's Name.....

I have read and understood and will comply with the notice regarding booking conditions enclosed with this application form.

Signature.....Date.....