



from 15 to 17 October 2026 - Bergamo

Emozioni dal Mondo 2026: At Villa di Serio, it's the car lifts that raise the bar!

From OMCN's mechanical workshops to wine glasses from 20 countries: the 22nd edition of the International Wine Competition wraps up with 63 medals, new names in the spotlight and one certainty: emotions know no borders.

Three days, 211 samples, 63 judges from 26 countries and a region that has once again shown its ability to surprise the world. The 22nd edition of «Emozioni dal Mondo Merlot e Cabernet Insieme» came to a close just a few days ago, bringing to an end another successful chapter in the story of an International Wine Competition born in the Bergamo area and now firmly established as a multilingual celebration of wine. One that reaches audiences well beyond Italy's borders.

From 15th to 17th October 2026, Bergamo once again took centre stage on the international wine scene, welcoming Merlot, Cabernet and their blends, alongside producers, experts and wine professionals from around the world. The event has made cultural exchange, curiosity and the desire to surprise its defining features. Because Emozioni dal Mondo is certainly a competition, but it is also much more: a window onto the many faces of the global wine world and an invitation to discover the Bergamo area through fresh eyes.

If there is one thing Emozioni dal Mondo has learned over its 22 editions, it is that surprising people means being ready to change perspective. So why should wine always be tasted in the same old places?

For the 2026 edition, the international judging panels gathered at OMCN's mechanical workshops in Villa di Serio, in a setting that was anything but conventional for a wine competition. No traditional tasting rooms here: surrounded by spaces devoted to mechanical engineering and industrial production, the real stars of the show were the glasses, aromas and nuances of 211 wine samples from every corner of the world.

The contrast was only apparent. In fact, it is precisely this ability to bring different worlds into dialogue that makes Emozioni dal Mondo so special. A different venue every year, an extraordinary setting every year, and a new piece of Bergamo's rich and diverse identity to share with international guests. Proof that wine can feel at home anywhere there are stories to share and people willing to listen.

The Municipality of Villa di Serio provided the backdrop for the event. A true treasure trove of history and beauty, the town welcomed the competition's guests for three days, offering an authentic taste of the local area.

Villa Carrara, home to the municipal offices, hosted a special opera concert for event guests, turning participation in the competition into an experience that went well beyond wine tasting. Then came Saturday morning, 17th October, with two events open to the public: the round table «Vendesi Vino Disperatamente» («Desperately Seeking Wine Sales»), dedicated to the crucial issue of wine sales, and a public tasting session offering visitors the chance to meet producers and discover the award-winning wines at first hand.

Because wine does not live in the glass alone. It lives in the people who make it, the places that give it a voice and the opportunities that bring seemingly distant worlds together.

Behind the convivial atmosphere and the pleasure of sharing experiences, Emozioni dal Mondo remains a highly precise technical and organisational operation.



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The numbers behind the 2026 edition

- 211 wine samples entered in the competition, from 20 countries;
- 63 judges from 26 countries;
- 6 international tasting panels;
- 63 medals awarded, including 28 gold and 35 silver.

One figure deserves particular attention: Emozioni dal Mondo continues to stand out on the international competition scene for its particularly high ratio of judges to wine samples. This approach allows the organisers to assemble substantial judging panels and encourage a meaningful exchange of expertise, perspectives and wine cultures.

Another important technical development made this edition particularly interesting: for the first time, the tastings were conducted using the new OIV evaluation sheet, which came into force in June 2026. A new score sheet means a method to explore, criteria to master and extra preparation for the judges. The international team rose to the challenge with professionalism, putting its experience to the test and reaffirming the value of working together. The organisers also chose to rely on technical partner Nevada to help the judging panels work under optimal conditions, ensuring that the wines were served at the ideal temperature.

And now, the results. The 63 medals awarded painted a broad and varied picture of the wine world, reaffirming the competition's international reach. Among this year's surprises were South Africa and Moldova, both stepping into the spotlight, while Australia confirmed the strength and consistency of its presence.

North Macedonia also attracted considerable attention, once again achieving noteworthy scores and demonstrating a level of quality that deserves recognition. A reminder of just how rich the international wine landscape is, with fascinating wine-producing regions that remain relatively unfamiliar to the wider public.

And Italy? Naturally, it was not about to sit back and watch. Italian wines made their mark in the medal rankings, with a special mention for the home team: wines from the Bergamo area took home 8 medals, including 4 gold and 4 silver. A result that puts local producers on the international stage and highlights the vitality of a region whose wines tell stories of expertise, identity and passion.

The Euganean Hills area also achieved excellent results, with 7 medals: 2 gold and 5 silver.

That is precisely what makes an international competition so exciting: there is never just one star, nor a single map of talent. Some regions consolidate their reputations, others spring surprises, and new stories emerge that deserve to be discovered. When wine sets off on a journey, it always has something new to tell us.

An international event cannot be built on wines and judges alone. It takes a strong network, practical collaboration and partners who share the project's vision.

Once again, Emozioni dal Mondo benefited from the support of the Bergamo Chamber of Commerce and the collaboration of sponsors including SIAD, Milan Bergamo Airport – SACBO S.p.A., AEB Group and VetroBalsamo. Technical partners included Good Senses, Rastal, Nevada, OMCN and IS San Pellegrino.

A heartfelt thank-you goes to everyone who helped make the event a success, as well as to the institutions, collaborators and community of Villa di Serio, whose enthusiasm, commitment and warm welcome made the competition and its guests feel at home.

Emozioni dal Mondo
Merlot e Cabernet insieme

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Because events that cross borders are built on networks of people who, before working together, choose to believe in a shared vision.

The organisers' satisfaction is clear in the words of Sergio Cantoni, President of Vignaioli Bergamaschi:

"Once again, Emozioni dal Mondo has confirmed its exceptional standing among international wine competitions. Our goal has always been to communicate emotions, tell stories and give our guests experiences and memories to take home with them.

Villa di Serio provided the perfect setting for Emozioni dal Mondo this year. It welcomed our guests, amazed them with its history and unique scenery, drew them into a tasting experience in a truly unconventional space and brought everyone together on Saturday to taste the award-winning wines and connect with the international community behind this event."

His words capture the spirit of an event that, after 22 editions, continues to reinvent itself without losing sight of its identity. What began as a bold initiative in the Bergamo area has grown into an international fixture, bringing new voices, fresh ideas and valuable opportunities for exchange to the region.

With the glasses emptied, the tastings completed and the meetings of 2026 behind us, attention is already turning to the future. The dates for the 23rd edition of «Emozioni dal Mondo Merlot e Cabernet Insieme» have been announced: 14, 15 and 16 October 2027.

Where will the next edition take us? Which Bergamo venue will become the stage for the tastings? Which countries will surprise us, and which new stories will we discover through the wines entered in the competition?

For now, those answers can wait. One thing, however, is certain: if 22 editions of Emozioni dal Mondo have taught us anything, it is that wine never stops surprising us. And when people, cultures and wine glasses from all over the world come together, the emotions do not end with the final toast.