Economic Environment

UK: WSTA Budget Report

Following the Chancellor’s announcement that duty on wine, sparkling wine and fortified wine will rise by RPI from 1 February 2019, the Treasury has now confirmed that RPI is forecast to be 3.1% next year. Duty on spirits, beer and most ciders will be frozen at current rates.

- Duty on a 750 ml bottle of wine will go up 7p to £2.23
- Duty on 750 ml bottle of sparkling wine will go up 9p to £2.86
- Duty on a 750ml bottle of fortified wine will go up 9p to £2.98
- Duty on a 700ml bottle of vodka at 37.5% will remain at £7.54
- Duty on a litre bottle of vodka at 37.5% will remain at £10.78
- Duty on a 700 ml bottle of gin at 40% % will remain at £8.05
- Duty on a litre bottle of vodka at 40% will remain at £11.50

The government also announced the following measures to incentivise manufacturers to use recycled plastic:

1. To introduce a tax on the production and import of plastic packaging from April 2022. Subject to consultation, this tax will apply to plastic packaging which does not contain at least 30% recycled plastic, to transform financial incentives for manufacturers to produce more sustainable packaging.
2. To reform the Packaging Producer Responsibility System, which will aim to increase producer responsibility for the costs of their packaging waste, including plastic. This system will provide an incentive for producers to design packaging that is easier to recycle and penalise the use of difficult to recycle packaging, such as black plastics.

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Global Trends - Beverages

The World´s Most Expensive Cognacs
There some fresh news faces on this year’s list of the world’s fanciest brandies. Rich, lush and the color of old gold, nothing quite says money like a bottle of Cognac.

1. Hennessy Beauté du Siécle, Grande Champagne
2. Louis XIII de Remy Martin Black Pearl, Grande Champagne
3. Louis XIII de Remy Martin Rare Cask, Grande Champagne
4. Jules Robin Vintage Cognac
5. Hennessy Édition Particuliére
7. Hardy Le Printemps Lalique Cristal Decanter
8. Hennessy Timeless Cognac
9. Hardy l'Été Lalique Crystal Decanter
10. Hardy Privilege Caryota Lalique Crystal Decanter

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Global Trends - Wine Industry Key Elements

Rise of the machines: Are you ready to mechanize?

Near-fully mechanized vineyards are leading the way to premium wine grapes.

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Major Wine Producing Countries

California Wine 2018 Harvest Report

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