



The Guillon Society

Glossary

The ‘guillon’

A Guillon is a small conical wooden peg, used to seal a hole made in a barrel for tasting the wine. This method allows wine to be tasted directly from the barrel to assess its quality.

The term ‘guillon’ is an ancestral Vaudois word, also used by French Beaujolais winemakers.



‘Tirer au guillon’

By sliding the guillon with a sure and dexterous hand, the wine makes its way to the glass – held in the other hand – placed to receive it.

To be admitted as a Compagnon of the Confrérie du Guillon or as a Member of The Guillon Society, applicants must demonstrate their skills by performing a ‘tirer au guillon’ without spilling too much wine.





GOVERNANCE

Small Council: Executive Board of The Guillon Society. It is made up of founding Councillors appointed by the Great Council, and a few Councillors co-opted by its members.

Great Council: General Assembly of The Guillon Society, functioning as a legislative body. All Members have the right to vote.

Councillors: Founders of The Guillon Society and dignitaries approved by the Councils.

Members: Any person admitted to The Guillon Society and who is not a Councillor.

ROLES

Consul: Councillor who presides over The Guillon Society at the top of the hierarchy.

Vice-Consul: Deputy to the Consul with the rank of Councillor. The Vice-Consul greets the guests at the beginning of each induction ceremony. He/she is in charge of presenting to the public, on behalf of the Consul and Councils, the intentions, the states of mind, and philosophy of The Guillon Society.

Chancellor: Councillor in charge of the relations with Members and other organisations. He/she also manages the recruitment of new Councillors, Members and personalities to be honoured.

Master of the Revels: Councillor who is responsible for the establishment, general organization and conduct of events.

Exchequer: Councillor in charge of managing finances, general administration and compliance. He/she is in charge the preparation of the meetings of the Councils, of which he/she also writes the minutes.

Illuminator: Councillor in charge of communications, epistolary relations, printed and media matters. He/she is in charge of creating illustrations, reporting events and highlights in the media and press.

Knight banneret: Member holder of the banner of The Guillon Society to be used at events.

Food Master: Member in charge of the choice of caterers and the quality of the food served to guests during events.

Cellar Master and wine eulogist: Member in charge of the choice of wines for the events and who presents the wines at events

Food eulogist: Member in charge of the menu for the events and who presents the dishes at events

Minstrel: Member in charge of the musical and other animation at events.



CEREMONIAL

‘Drink this wine - and be as good as it is!’ and/or **‘Bois ce vin et sois bon comme lui!’**:

Injunction proclaimed by the Consul to celebrate a new member.

‘En perce!’: Injunction proclaimed by the Consul or his representative to taste the wine that has been presented by the wine eulogist, whereas until then they had been content to contemplate and smell it.

‘Celebrate the wine!’: Injunction proclaimed by the Consul during induction ceremonies.

Annual Banquet: The Guillon Society’s banquet in Singapore. It takes inspiration from the famous ‘Ressats’ from La Confrérie du Guillon.

SOME SPECIFIC TERMS FROM LA CONFRERIE DU GUILLON

Governor

Councillor who presides over ‘The Confrérie du Guillon’ at the top of the hierarchy. He/she wears a blue robe adorned with gold guillons, a yellow gold cape and a golden chain.

Ressat

In the canton of Vaud, a "ressat" is a traditional, generous meal served in a farm setting, typically a large meal or a rustic banquet. Historically, the term referred to a meal given to vineyard workers to thank them for their hard work.

The Confrérie du Guillon organises 14 ressats per year attended exclusively by Compagnons and their guests.

Cotterd

Name given to organisations operating outside the Canton de Vaud as embassies of Vaud wines, bringing together Companions of The Confrérie du Guillon throughout Switzerland

See [HERE](#) for the complete Glossary (in French) of La Confrérie du Guillon