SUNTORY

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Hakushu 25 Years Old wins the Top Award "Trophy" in the Japanese Whisky Category at International Spirits Challenge 2022

Suntory Spirits also wins "Producer of the Year" in the Japanese Whisky
 category for the 3rd consecutive year —





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Tokyo, JAPAN (July 13, 2022) – Suntory Spirits Ltd. is proud to announce that *Suntory Whisky Hakushu Single Malt 25 Years Old* has been awarded a Trophy (best-in category) in the Japanese Whisky category at the 27th International Spirits Challenge 2022 awarding ceremony, a worldwide spirits competition held in London on Tuesday, July 12 (local time).

In addition, Suntory Spirits Ltd. was also awarded Producer of the Year in the Japanese Whisky category, an award bestowed upon one whisky maker in the category for producing a wide variety of high-quality products.

"The winning whisky from Suntory – who have been producing great whiskies for many years – is crafted with commitment and dedication," said Richard Paterson OBE, Chair Judge of the Scotch, World, American, Irish & Japanese Whisky category. "When you go to Japan and see the likes of Suntory, with their Yamazaki and Hakushu distilleries, it reiterates that they are

looking for perfection. They're not just any distillers, they are always looking for perfection. The many blenders – not just one-or-two – that are behind the brand really reflect the top quality."

These outstanding recognitions are a testament for the company's excellent blending skills and continuous improvement in quality in its whisky making, further cementing the reputation of Japanese Whisky.

About the International Spirits Challenge

The International Spirits Challenge is a highly authoritative spirits competition held every year in the UK, with scrupulous blind assessment from experienced panel of specialist judges with exceptional sense of taste and smell. This year, a total of approximately 2,200 entries were submitted across all categories. In the Whisky division, medals were awarded based on the blind testing of over 800 whiskies from around the world by approximately 10 judges, all of whom are blenders and distiller managers from whisky distilleries worldwide.

• About Suntory Whisky Hakushu Single Malt 25 Years Old

This single malt whisky is made from a rare *Hakushu* malt whisky, matured for more than 25 years. The rich flavor comes from the careful selection of whiskies and the long time spent on after-maturation. The whiskies are a blend of 3 types; one with a creamy yet strong flavor, one which has its smokiness from the thorough peat burn and another that has a deep fruit aroma matured in Spanish oak casks.

▼Name of Competition

The 27th International Spirits Challenge 2022

▼Awards received

Suntory Whisky Hakushu Single Malt 25 Years Old Trophy, Japanese Whisky Category

Suntory Spirits Ltd.

Producer of the Year, Japanese Whisky Category

For more information on *Suntory Whisky Hakushu Single Malt*, visit https://whisky.suntory.com/en/global/products/hakushu

For more information on *Suntory Whisky*, visit https://www.suntory.com/whisky/

About Suntory Group

As a global leader in the beverage industry, Suntory Group offers a uniquely diverse portfolio of products from premium spirits, beer and wine to brewed teas, bottled water, carbonated soft drinks, ready-to-drink coffee and energy drinks, along with health and wellness products. Suntory is home to award-winning Japanese whiskies *Yamazaki*, *Hibiki* and *Hakushu* as well as iconic American spirits *Jim Beam* and *Maker's Mark*. Suntory also fascinates the taste buds with *The Premium Malt's* beer and also owns the exceptional Japanese wine *Tomi* and the world famous *Château Lagrange*. Its brand collection also includes *Sauza* Tequila, non-alcoholic favorites *Orangina*, *Lucozade*, *Ribena*, *BOSS* coffee, *Iyemon* green tea, *Suntory Tennensui* water, *TEA+* Oolong Tea, *V* and *BRAND'S*, as well as popular health and wellness product *Sesamin EX*.

Founded as a family-owned business in 1899 in Osaka, Japan, Suntory Group has grown into a global company operating throughout the Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania with an annual revenue (excluding excise taxes) of \$19.8 billion in 2021. Suntory is driven by Yatte Minahare - the spirit of bold ambition - and our 40,275 employees worldwide draw upon our unique blend of Japanese artisanship and global tastes to explore new product categories and markets.

As a company that delivers blessings of water and nature to our customers, Suntory is committed to its mission to create harmony with people and nature. Always aspiring to grow for good, Suntory is devoted to giving back to society through protecting water resources, nurturing its communities and fostering the arts.

Learn more about Suntory Group, its brands, and its commitment to social responsibility at www.suntory.com, on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube.