

Gourmet Tea, WGI Medal of Merit

The Tea company received the [Medal of Merit](#) from the [World Gastronomy Institute](#) (WGI) in recognition of its involvement in the dissemination of tea culture and its involvement in the educational field.

The WGI Medal of Honor is the highest award of the Institution and is granted to recognize the significant work of professionals, entities and groups that have decisively influenced the development of gastronomy in the world.

The Award Ceremony was organized in the Events Room of [MEDITERRANEO CULINARY CENTER \(MCC\)](#) in Valencia (Spain).

Tea is the most consumed beverage in the world after water. Tea culture is an ancestral phenomenon with which millions of people live on the planet every day, with a consumption that does not stop growing. And knowing tea is an essential element for training in gastronomy. Based on this premise, a ["Ceylon Tea Initiation Course"](#) was convened, which was taught according to the methodology of Dilmah Tea Company. The Course was attended by MCC students and professionals from the hospitality sector, as well as a representation of [FASCY](#) (Federation of Sommeliers of the Valencian Community).

[Gourmet Tea Ibérica](#) has been collaborating with the WGI for years in joint projects such as publications, events, celebration of events and coordination of study trips.

Gourmet Tea represents in the Iberian Peninsula the company of Sri Lanka [Dilmah Tea](#), dedicated to 100% Pure Ceylon Tea. Dilmah Tea stands out for being the only independent company among the top ten in the world as well as for its commitment to the environment, sustainability and social responsibility. The best tea in the world cultivated and transformed by an exemplary and admirable family. The Dilmah brand produces teas in its own plantations (Tea Gardens) with great care and quality, according to traditional methods.

This is the first time that the WGI Executive Committee has awarded one of its Medals to a commercial company, since so far the Medal of Honor has been awarded to international personalities and that of Merit to Collaborators. During the delivery of the Gourmet Tea Medal, Iglesias announced that soon the WGI wants to award the Medal of Honor to Mr. Merrill J. Fernando, the founding Patriarch of Dilmah Tea, for his great work having created the largest independent tea company world, which is also among the top ten in the international market, preserving traditions, being sustainable, giving work to almost 40,000 employees and performing exemplary corporate social work.

The director of Gourmet Tea, Mr. Angelo Vettese received the Medal of Merit of the Institution and the Diploma accredited by Mr. José Manuel Iglesias, WGI Secretary-General, who maintains an excellent personal relationship with the entire 'Dilmah Family' at which he met thanks to Worldchefs and having completed the "Ceylon Tea Expert Course" in Sri Lanka, organized by Worldchefs. In the delivery of the Medal, Mr. Vettese and Mr. Iglesias explained to the attendees the differences between industrial and traditional teas, as well as told the entire production process.



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