



# DAISUKE KAWAI

## PROFILE

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*Born in Kashiwazaki-city, Niigata Japan, Daisuke Kawai moved to Tokyo after his high school graduation and started his first job in a café as a waiter. Soon after, he was offered a position at restaurant Eureka located in Imperial Hotel, Tokyo which is known for its high standards and emphasis on tradition.*

*In search for more knowledge abroad, Kawai moved to Sydney, Australia in 1999 and worked for a restaurant to gain more experience. After a year, he moved back to Tokyo but continued to travel and expose himself to different cultures, foods, and restaurant businesses across 42 different countries across the world.*

*In 2010, he moved to Singapore and worked for three-star Michelin restaurant Les Amis as Chef Sommelier and later at Lewin Terrace as the General Manager and Chief Sommelier where he honed his skills in the wine trade. By 2015, he was able to set up his own establishment, La Terre. Though many would assume that his career originated from the wine industry, it was through his time in the restaurant and service industry where he built the strong foundation for his career.*

*Currently, he is also an honoured guest judge for sommelier competitions and wine exhibitions in Singapore and around Asia. He also continues to participate in sommelier competitions and strives to be the best in the world one day.*

QUALIFICATIONS

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<b>Sommelier Diploma</b> Association de La Sommellerie Internationale	2022
<b>Certified Sommelier</b> Court of Master Sommeliers	2022
<b>Introductory Sommelier</b> Court of Master Sommeliers	2022
<b>Sommelier Certification Level 1</b> Association de La Sommellerie Internationale	2022
<b>Certified Educator</b> Wine & Spirit Education Trust	2020
<b>Rioja Wine Diploma</b> Rioja Wine Academy by Consejo Regulador de la DO Rioja	2020
<b>Certified Sherry Educator</b> Consejo Regulador Sherry y Manzanilla-Sanlucar de Barrameda	2019
<b>Level 3 Award in Wine</b> The Wine & Spirit Education Trust	2019
<b>Koshu Ambassador</b> Koshu Expert Committee	2018
<b>Accredited Bordeaux Wine Educator</b> Conseil Interprofessionnel du Vin de Bordeaux	2017
<b>Certified Wine Advisor</b> Singapore Polytechnic	2015
<b>International Kiki Sake-shi</b> Sake Service Institute International	2014
<b>Sake Navigator</b> Sake Service Institute Japan	2014
<b>Certified Specialist of Wine</b> Society of Wine Educators, Headquarter in USA	2012
<b>Senior Sommelier</b> Japan Sommelier Association	2010

QUALIFICATIONS

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<b>Table Manners Master Lecturer of French Cuisine</b> The Japan Hotel and Restaurant Service Development Association	<b>2009</b>
<b>Cheese Professional</b> Japan Cheese Professional Association	<b>2008</b>
<b>Western Cuisine Table Manner Lecturer</b> The Japan Hotel and Restaurant Service Development Association	<b>2007</b>
<b>Grade 1 Restaurant Service National Trade Skill Test</b> The Japan Hotel and Restaurant Service Development Association <i>(National Qualification in Japan)</i>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Certified General Travel Service Supervisor</b> Tour Conducting Service Association in Japan	<b>2006</b>
<b>Sommelier</b> Japan Sommelier Association	<b>2003</b>

## AWARDS

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Runner Up</b> Singapore National Sommelier Competition	<b>2021</b>
<b>Hall of Fame Best Sommelier of the year</b> World Gourmet Awards Singapore	<b>2020</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up</b> Singapore American Wine Sommelier Competition	<b>2019</b>
<b>Best Taster</b> Singapore National Sommelier Competition	<b>2019</b>
<b>Semi-Finalist</b> Singapore National Sommelier Competition	<b>2019</b>
<b>Best Sommelier of the year</b> World Gourmet Awards Singapore	<b>2019</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up</b> Ruinart Sommelier Challenge Singapore	<b>2019</b>
<b>Semi-Finalist</b> Singapore National Sommelier Competition	<b>2018</b>
<b>Winner</b> Singapore's Best Sommelier for California Wines	<b>2018</b>
<b>Best Bar Manager of the year</b> World Gourmet Summit Awards of Excellence Singapore	<b>2018</b>
<b>Finalist</b> Ruinart Sommelier Challenge Singapore	<b>2018</b>
<b>Winner</b> Asia Best Sommelier Competition in French Wines by SOPEXA	<b>2017</b>
<b>Winner</b> DBR (Lafite) Trophy in Asia by Domaines Barons de Rothschild	<b>2017</b>
<b>Winner</b> Gastromonth Favourite Sommelier by Robert Parker & Michelin	<b>2017</b>
<b>1st Runner Up</b> Singapore Best Sommelier Competition in French Wines by SOPEXA	<b>2017</b>

AWARDS

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<b>Best Sommelier of the year</b> World Gourmet Summit Awards of Excellence Singapore	<b>2017</b>
<b>Finalist</b> Ruinart Sommelier Challenge Singapore	<b>2017</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up</b> Singapore Wine Specialist Challenge	<b>2016</b>
<b>Finalist</b> Pilsner Urquell Competition Singapore	<b>2016</b>
<b>Sommelier of the year finalist</b> World Gourmet Summit Awards of Excellence Singapore	<b>2016</b>
<b>Winner</b> Academy of Wines of Portugal in Singapore	<b>2015</b>
<b>Finalist</b> Sommelier Challenge Singapore	<b>2013</b>
<b>Best Sommelier of the year</b> World Gourmet Summit Awards of Excellence Singapore	<b>2013</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up</b> Sommelier Challenge Singapore	<b>2011</b>

HONORS

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<b>Professor</b> The Culinary Institute of America	<b>2021</b>
<b>Chevalier-Sabreur</b> Confrerie du Sabre d'Or	<b>2020</b>
<b>Chevalier</b> La Confrerie des Chevaliers du Tastevin	<b>2019</b>
<b>Inductee</b> Jurade de Saint-Emilion	<b>2019</b>
<b>Sabreur</b> Confrerie du Sabre d'Or	<b>2019</b>
<b>Board Member / Grand Maître</b> <b>Singapore Director</b> International Maitre Server Association	<b>2018</b>
<b>Ambassador</b> Academy of Wines of Portugal	<b>2015</b>
<b>Chevalier</b> Ordre des Coteaux de Champagne	<b>2014</b>

Judge

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<b>Panel Judge</b> Singapore Best Sommelier Competition in French Wines by SOPEXA	<b>2022</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Malaysia National Sommelier Competition	<b>2022</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Decanter World Wine Awards	<b>2022</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Asia Best Sommelier Competition in French Wines by SOPEXA	<b>2021</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Singapore Best Sommelier Competition in French Wines by SOPEXA	<b>2021</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Singapore Best Sommelier Competition in French Wines by SOPEXA	<b>2020</b>
<b>Adviser</b> Jakarta Best Sommelier Competition	<b>2020</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Asia Best Sommelier Competition in French Wines by SOPEXA	<b>2019</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Singapore Best Sommelier Competition in French Wines by SOPEXA	<b>2019</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Decanter Asia Wine Awards	<b>2019</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Asia Best Sommelier Competition in French Wines by SOPEXA	<b>2018</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Singapore Best Sommelier Competition in French Wines by SOPEXA	<b>2018</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Decanter Asia Wine Awards	<b>2018</b>
<b>Head Judge</b> Indonesia National Sommelier Competition	<b>2018</b>
<b>Head Judge</b> Bali Best Sommelier Competition	<b>2018</b>

Judge

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<b>Panel Judge</b> Dewata Gastronomic Challenge (Indonesia)	<b>2018</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Decanter Asia Wine Awards	<b>2017</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Asia Wine and Spirits Awards Judged by TOP Asia Sommeliers	<b>2015</b>
<b>Panel Judge</b> Malaysia National Sommelier Competition	<b>2015</b>