



## UK Barista Championships 2010:

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**More information on the web sites:**

**[www.scaeuk.com](http://www.scaeuk.com)**

**[www.worldbaristachampionship.com](http://www.worldbaristachampionship.com)**

### Has London finally become the Coffee Capital of the World?

#### With record entries in the SCAE UK Barista Championships it just may be!

More baristas than ever are entering the race to become World Barista Championship, especially in London where the regional heat has had to be doubled in size to accommodate our talented coffee competitors.

Over the last year many new espresso bars have opened in the capital with the aim to serve coffee at a higher standard than ever before; if there were Michelin stars for coffee it would be these places that would get them. Places like Dose, Kaffeine, Taylor Street Baristas, and Princi have joined established names like Monmouth Coffee in the push for coffee excellence. Even the House of Commons has entered its top barista, Sylvain Subervie (it could be that Gordon Brown is fuelled by top quality coffee!).

And it's their barista, as well as many other of the capitals top talent, that will be competing to win the UK Barista Championships at the South East heat of the competition on the 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> February.

They will all be hoping to follow in the footsteps of last years UK Barista Champion, Gwilym Davies, who went on to become World Champion in Atlanta. (This years World Barista Championships will take place in London for the first time!)

Gwilym originally from Yorkshire now runs his infamous coffee cart at Whitecross Street food market in the East End of London. So his loyalties will be split when the Northern Baristas compete in their heat at Sheffield's Millennium Galleries on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> February.

Applications for this heat, as well at the heat in Scotland on the 26<sup>th</sup> January, and the South West at Expowest on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February are all now full to busting. The future looks good for quality coffee in the UK!

## What do the baristas have to do?

On the run up to the competition baristas often search out coffees produced by the best farms around the world, blend and roast them with exacting care, and bring them at their peak freshness to present to the judges.

In their 15 minute performance baristas have to serve four superb espressos for the judges to evaluate their flavour as well as the skills demonstrated in producing them. They must then go on to make four velvety textured cappuccinos as well as four signature coffee drinks of their own creation.

Baristas will get to demonstrate their skills at any of the five regional heats. These more focused regional events look set to be bigger and better events than ever before.

## When are the SCAE UK Barista Championships Regional Heats?

<b>26<sup>th</sup> January 2010</b>	<b>Scotland</b>	<b>Hosted by Matthew Algie</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2010</b>	<b>South West</b>	<b>Hosted by Expowest</b>
<b>(Including the finals of the UK Latte Art Championship, UK Coffee in Good Spirits Competition, and the UK Cup Tasting Championship)</b>		
<b>16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February 2010</b>	<b>Midlands / North</b>	<b>Hosted by Miko Coffee</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> February 2010</b>	<b>London / South East</b>	<b>Hosted by Square Mile Coffee</b>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> February 2010</b>	<b>Semi Finals</b>	<b>Hosted by Hotelympia</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> March 2010</b>	<b>Finals</b>	<b>Hosted by Hotelympia</b>

## More championships for the baristas to show their skills:

Baristas will also be able to enter three other fun fast paced competitions, The UK Latte Art Championships, the UK Coffee in Good Spirits Championships and the UK Cup Tasting Championships. Entry numbers for these competitions are also stronger than ever at this stage.

The first of these, the UK Latte Art Championship, sees baristas using their creative talents to pour beautiful pictures and patterns using only the rich crema of the coffee and the pour of the milk.

The UK Coffee in Good Spirits Championship tests our budding mixologists, baristas and bartenders to produce the ultimate coffee cocktail as well as the perfect Irish coffee.

The final competition, the UK Cup Tasting Championship, tests the finely tuned palettes of the skilled coffee taster. Similar to wine tasting the contestant has to identify different coffees in this knockout competition.

The finals of all these competitions will be at Expowest Westcountry 2010 Exhibition in February.

More information on these competitions can be found at:

[www.expowestexhibitions.com](http://www.expowestexhibitions.com)

[www.world-latteart-championship.com](http://www.world-latteart-championship.com)

[www.world-coffee-in-good-spirits-championship.com](http://www.world-coffee-in-good-spirits-championship.com)

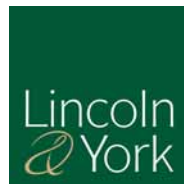
[www.world-cuptasting-championship.com](http://www.world-cuptasting-championship.com)

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