

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: EU Proposes 11 New Alcoholic Beverages for GI Protection in Japan

Country: Japan

Post: Tokyo

Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Wine

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Report Highlights:

On August 2, Japan's National Tax Agency (NTA) published a list of 11 proposed geographical indications (GIs) for wine from the European Union (EU). NTA will hold a public comment period for the proposed GI designations through November 2, 2021.

General Information:

On August 2, Japan’s National Tax Agency (NTA) published a [list](#) of 11 newly proposed geographical indications (GIs) for alcoholic beverages from the European Union (EU) based on the Article 14.30 of [the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement](#) (EPA). NTA is holding a public comment period regarding the application of these 11 beverages through November 2, 2021. All comments must be submitted in Japanese.

Table. EU Proposed 11 Alcoholic Beverages for GI Protection

ID	Country	Name of Beverage	Type
1	France	Bordeaux supérieur	Wine
2	France	Côtes de Bordeaux	Wine
3	France	Crémant d’Alsace	Wine
4	France	Saint-Emilion Grand Cru	Wine
5	France	Saint-Estèphe	Wine
6	Germany	Landwein Rhein	Wine
7	Spain	Almansa	Wine
8	Spain	Calatayud	Wine
9	Spain	Campo de Borja	Wine
10	Spain	Castilla	Wine
11	Spain	Yecla	Wine

Japanese GI System for Alcoholic Beverages

NTA established the GI system for wine and spirits in 1994 in response to the adoption of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) by the WTO. In October 30, 2015, NTA revised its GI system in the “Labeling Standards Regarding Geographical Indication of Alcoholic Beverage ([NTA Notification No. 19](#))” based on the Article 86-6 of the [Act on Securing of Liquor Tax and on Liquor Business Associations](#). Subsequently, NTA established the [guideline](#) for implementation of the GI system for alcoholic beverages. As of August, NTA has registered [21 domestic alcoholic beverages](#)¹ ([JA6012](#)).

NTA also protects reciprocal GIs for alcoholic beverages from countries with which Japan has economic partnership agreements (EPAs). NTA protects seven GI alcoholic beverages negotiated as part of EPAs with Latin American countries, including beverages from Mexico (Tequila, Mezcal, Sotol, Bacanora, Charanda), Chile (Chilean Pisco), and Peru (Pisco Peru). On February 1, 2019, NTA designated 139 EU wines, spirits, and other alcoholic beverages for GI protection as part of the EU-Japan EPA ([JA8003](#)). The EU-Japan EPA limits the continued use of prior, good-faith terms that have since acquired GI

¹ Yamanashi wine and sake, Yamagata wine and sake, and Nagano wine and sake are counted separately.

designation to a period of 5 years. On February 1, 2021, NTA recognized an additional 7 EU GIs for wine, spirits, and other alcoholic beverages ([JA2020-0143](#), [JA2021-0020](#)).

GI for Agricultural Products

GI protection for agricultural, forestry and fishery products are separately regulated by the [Act on Protection of the Names of Specific Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Products and Foodstuffs](#) and administrated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). On August 2, MAFF separately published a [list](#) of 17 proposed GIs for agricultural products from the EU.

How to Submit Comments to the NTA

Comments on the 7 GI proposals for wines, spirits, and other alcoholic beverages published by NTA must be submitted in Japanese. Comments to the NTA may be submitted via mail, facsimile, or a Japanese online system known as “[e-GOV](#)” by October 7, 2020.

By mail to:

International Policy Coordination No.2 Unit, Export Promotion Office, Liquor Tax Division,
Taxation Department, National Tax Agency
3-1-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 100-8978

By facsimile to:

Fax: +81-3-3581-4182

Online via:

[e-GOV](#) click “意見提出フォームへ” to submit your comment.

Attachments:

No Attachments.