

WSET Diploma Program

Your Guide to Getting Started

Capital Wine School · Washington, DC



Enroll at capitalwineschool.com

WSET

Level 3
prerequisite

Program Overview

The WSET Diploma consists of six units. All courses are offered à la carte — enroll in each unit individually as you progress.

D1

Wine Production

Start here — required first
Minimum private study hours - 80

D2

Wine Business

Take after D1
Minimum private study hours - 40

D3

Wines of the World

Save for last — recommended
Minimum private study hours - 170

D4

Sparkling Wines

After D1 & D2
Minimum private study hours - 16

D5

Fortified Wines

After D1 & D2
Minimum private study hours - 16

D6

Independent Research

Coursework — no exam seat
Minimum hours to complete assignment - 48

★ *We strongly recommend completing D4 and D5 before D3 — the skills introduced in those units improve D3 outcomes.*

Exam Schedule

All exams are held in person at Capital Wine School. Candidates must be enrolled in a course to sit an exam. D1 exam dates associated with courses vary. The WSET determines exam dates for Units D2 – D5. See our Diploma Schedule for exact dates.

Unit	Exam Months
D1 Wine Production for retakes	March · October
D2 Wine Business	March · June · October
D3 Wines of the World	May · October
D4 Sparkling Wines	June · October
D5 Fortified Wines	June · October
D6 Independent Research Assignment	Submissions due: January · July

Candidates may sit for more than one exam on the same exam date.

Course Schedule & Logistics

Typical Course Calendar (exact months may vary)

- D1** **Wine Production**
3×/yr starting in January, May, or October · Virtual (Zoom)
- D2** **Wine Business**
3×/yr starting in January, May, or September · Virtual (Zoom)
- D3** **Wines of the World**
1x per year starting in January · Virtual ((Zoom)
- D4** **Sparkling Wines**
2×/yr starting in March/April or August/September · Virtual (Zoom)
- D5** **Fortified Wines**
2×/yr starting in March/April or August/September · Virtual (Zoom)
- D6** **Independent Research**
Due: January or July – 2-hr Zoom seminar included

Logistics

Wine Sample Shipping

Remote students can have samples shipped for an additional fee. Costs vary by unit and location — contact us with your address for a quote.

Pay As You Go

All units are sold individually. Register for D1 first, then proceed at your own pace.

Courses Required (no exam only)

D6 Topics

Announced by WSET on August 1 each academic year. Students choose one topic.