



OLIVE JAPAN Management Committee / The Olive Oil Sommelier Association of Japan
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**OLIVE JAPAN® 2020 Competition was Postponed until JUNE
due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic**

The Olive Oil Sommelier Association of JAPAN ("OSAJ", Headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; President: Toshiya Tada) announced its organized the world's second largest international olive oil competition "OLIVE JAPAN®", originally scheduled to be held in Kagoshima city from April 20, 2020, will be held from June 3 in Tokyo.

OSAJ has been analyzing the situation carefully since the WHO pandemic declaration on March 11, due to current restrictions on overseas travel around the world, 22 overseas judges will not be able to come to Japan in April. The new schedule is set to begin in early June, when travel restrictions will be expected to be better, while we believe it should be the most important to make open the competition results as soon as possible to aid sales promotion for many contestants. In addition, due to concerns about logistics to Kagoshima under high temperatures in the early summer, which could affect quality, and the possibility of complete return flights by airlines was unclear, the schedule was changed from held in Kagoshima City to held in Tokyo. We will consider holding in Kagoshima City again after 2021. Due to the postponement of the judging committee, the entry deadline has been extended, and the new deadline is until May 20 (samples receiving by May 22).

The Competition results will be announced on OLIVE JAPAN® website (<https://olivejapan.com/>) by June 11, and a commendation event for the highest award winners will be held in Tokyo in July. It will be held at the SEIBU department store.

The Japan Olive Oil Sommelier Association, the organizer of OLIVE JAPAN®, is Japan's largest olive oil-related private organization with 2,000 members.

The outline of our association is as follows.

- (1) Name: The Olive Oil Sommelier Association of Japan (<https://www.oliveoil.or.jp>)
- (2) Founding: January 2005 (corporation was established in July 2009)
- (3) Headquarters: 3-4-1 Kyobashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo
- (4) President: Toshiya Tada
- (5) Business: Operates courses for the training of olive oil sommelier® and conducts qualification activities, as well as various related courses, publishing, research and development, and promotion.

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