

## Testimonials for John Gauntner's Sake Professional Course *Live Online*



“SPC LO is a wonderful, very informative, and interactive course, in which John engages with all the students and really does leave no stone unturned. His teaching is very knowledgeable and detailed yet he presents it all in a way that people from all sake backgrounds will understand. Having taken other Sake courses I will wholeheartedly say that this was the course in which I appreciated the most, due to the attention to detail and to the class that he gives, as well as the overall first hand experiences he passes onto the students. Also, the fact that we were able to split class into five days rather than two-and-a-half allowed me to absorb the material much better, instead of feeling crammed with time constraints. I recommend this course to both coworkers and friends that also share a love of Sake. **A+!** Thank you so much John!”

*Jared Depry, Portland Oregon*

“It has been a privilege to take the SPC LO course with John Gauntner, a true authority in the sake world. If you have a lot of questions, know that he will have all the answers. The course covers general topics about sake, as well as the fine details. I truly and highly recommend it to anyone interested in sake, from beginners like me to advanced connoisseurs, John will keep you engaged from day one until the end.”

*Fabricio Romero, Mexico*

“If you are looking for an inspirational voice of in-depth knowledge about the sake world in English, John Gauntner's Sake Professional Course Live Online will disclose those hidden answers behind the rice-based brew. The beauty of this course is that you can do it in any country. That's the power of having access to this course online! John Gauntner's course doesn't stick to just the textbook material, which students receive once they enroll, but his 3-hour lectures consist of real-life examples and understanding of how a sake brewer decides to brew his or her sake.



The detail and focus he puts into his lectures are anything but short as nothing is left untold. The fact the conference is via Zoom means that you can participate and ask him questions directly throughout the lecture. I suggest you take John Gauntner course you will never doubt the world of Japanese sake ever again. Arigatou Gozaimasu, John!”

*Sandra Gwee, Australia*



“If you have any inclination to learn about Japanese sake, you need to take John's Sake Professional Course. I completed the first fully online version in July 2020 and *it exceeded my expectations by a mile*. Having lived in Japan in the late '80s-early 90s and traveled there many times, I have been drinking sake for a while and knew some of the basics. But John's knowledge of every facet of the sake-making process, it's history, and the state of the industry today, is truly impressive. John's course significantly expanded my knowledge & appreciation of nihonshu.”

*Rob Grenda, USA*

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“This course is *amazing and more than I ever expected it would be*. John is a dedicated teacher and I could not imagine anyone else teaching this course. In my opinion don't ponder too much on the question “should I or should I not take this course?” Just take it: you will not regret this sake journey.”

*José María García Gonzalez, USA*

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“I joined the first online version of the course and I was really excited. I am a sake sommelier so I *had high expectations*, but Mr. Gauntner *exceeded them and went beyond*. His extensive knowledge is inspiring. And most importantly *his passion is unbelievable*. I think that it's what impressed me the most. I learned more than I thought and he revived my passion for sake even more. At the end of the course I felt humbled and inspired. I wish I could meet him, and also my ‘classmates’, soon in Japan! Kanpai and thank you so much!”

*Giulia Maglio, Tokyo*

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“My SPC live online experience was 110% positive, and I *can't recommend this course enough to anyone* wanting to expand their sake knowledge! I had completed two in- person sake courses prior to SPC (WSET level 3 and JSS's Sake Academy), but still came away with tons of new knowledge and insider tips from the industry that only John can provide - his level of personal experience with every facet of the sake world is unparalleled. In addition to the



detailed textbook and thoroughly prepared lectures, John took dozens of questions from the group during each session — this forum *to be able to ask about absolutely anything sake-related and get a thoughtful answer directly from John was an experience bar none*. In fact, it might even work better virtually than in person as people seem less nervous to ask questions online! Even with seemingly straightforward queries, I was surprised by how thoughtfully John responded to each one and added his personal insight to really deepen the level of information delivered and present a new angle on many seemingly straightforward topics. If you are thinking about signing up, all I can say is to take the plunge, you will not regret it!”

*Sarah Stewart UK*

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“John, your passion for the product shines like the North star which makes the course really quite inspiring.”

*Steve Peskin, UK*

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“John Gauntner’s SPC LO was amazing. John is one of the most knowledgeable people I've met and is a great instructor! I learned so much and feel much more confident in my sake knowledge. I look forward to doing his Advanced Sake Professional course when it is available. I'm ready to go out and spread the word to others about the greatness of sake!”

*Brian Brill, USA*

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“It’s been a real joy taking John’s inaugural Sake Professional Course live and online these past few weeks. His knowledge is immense and *his passion for sake* even larger, *it’s contagious*. The real benefit here is that as well as all the technical data and factual information, John is able to add relevant stories and recollections from his significant exposure to all layers of the sake world.

As a participant I felt very valued and well looked after. Even though this whole thing was done remotely, you could feel the camaraderie of a bunch of sake fanatics coming together, growing in confidence and knowledge.

I would strongly recommend the course to anyone who has caught the sake bug and wants to accelerate their understanding and appetite further.”

*Will Jarvis, Hong Kong*

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“It has been a complete joy sailing this Sake Professional Course with you – configured with professionalism, executed with ease and scripted in an extremely painless manner. You have triggered in me a lifelong commitment to promoting the word of sake globally that is for sure. Thank you!”

*Yegas Naidoo, South Africa*

