

SEPTEMBER 2026 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHAMPION OF PEOPLE, PLANET AND ENGLISH WINE: MDCV UK ACHIEVES B CORP STATUS



UK wine producer MDCV UK has achieved B Corp certification, marking a significant milestone in its commitment to environmental stewardship, its people and the communities in which it operates.

MDCV UK, the business behind the award-winning Kent-based Silverhand Estate, achieved a B Impact Assessment score of 85.1, well above the median score for ordinary businesses, highlighting its commitment to meeting high standards of social and environmental performance, accountability and transparency.

Sustainability has been at the core of MDCV UK since the creation of Silverhand Estate. From planting its first vines, the ambition was to build more than a vineyard: it was to create a business that protects and enhances the landscape for future generations, supports biodiversity and provides a workplace its team can be proud of.



Gary Smith, CEO of MDCV UK comments: *"We are delighted to have achieved B Corp certification. It is hugely important to us as a business. Not only does it hold us accountable to our core values such as caring for our land, supporting our people and making a positive contribution to the communities around us, it also provides a framework that will help us keep improving as we grow."*

Sustainability in action

The B Corp accreditation highlights a number of significant achievements at Silverhand Estate, including its approach to carbon management, farming and biodiversity. **Most notably, the estate's 2024 carbon assessment confirmed that it is carbon negative without relying on carbon offsetting**, making it the only vineyard and farm in the UK to achieve this. The estate is farmed using **organic and regenerative methods, with no chemical inputs**, supporting soil health and biodiversity.

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Contact Information

For press inquiries/samples please contact:

Mariana Wyatt

PR ACCOUNT MANAGER

Mariana@cubecom.co.uk | +44 (0)7835 597637

Cont.

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More than **15 species of cover crops** are planted throughout the vineyard to improve soil health, moisture retention and biodiversity, while **100% of fertiliser applied across the estate is organic**. All crops grown on the estate are environmentally certified, including through organic certification. A dedicated conservation team also manages habitats across the estate, including hedgerows and wildlife towers designed to support birds, bats and pollinators. Together, these initiatives reflect MDCV UK's belief that producing award-winning English wine can go hand in hand with actively enhancing the natural environment.



Creating a workplace and community people can be proud of

B Corp certification also recognises MDCV UK's approach to its people and wider community. Since 2022, the business has created **124 new jobs** across its operations and now employs **141 full-time and 24 part-time team members**. More than half of its non-managerial workforce are women, while continued investment in employee wellbeing, professional development and career progression remains a key priority.

"Our aim is to create a workplace where people genuinely enjoy being part of the team," continues Smith. "Alongside the formal policies and benefits, we bring our employees together through social events such as our community harvest days which give everyone the opportunity to experience the vineyards and winemaking process first-hand."

The business also aims to make a positive contribution beyond its own workforce, through charitable partnerships, community investment initiatives including **Community Pick Days** and **Harvest Celebrations**, local employment opportunities, and by opening its estates for events and activities that bring people together like a charity colour run earlier this year.

Through these initiatives, MDCV UK is working to create a positive impact that extends beyond the wines it produces and to encourage employees, visitors and consumers to be proud to **Drink English, Drink Local, Drink Sustainable**.



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The next chapter

While B Corp certification represents an important milestone, this is the beginning of the next stage of MDCV UK's sustainability journey rather than an endpoint.

The business will continue to focus on **regenerative farming, biodiversity enhancement and further reducing its environmental impact**, alongside its commitment to creating a workplace where its people can thrive, an ambition that has already received wider recognition, with MDCV UK recently included in The Times Best Places to Work.

“Ultimately, our goal is to demonstrate that exceptional wine, environmental stewardship and positive social impact can go hand in hand to create a model for a more sustainable future for English wine,” concludes Smith.

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About MDCV UK

MDCV UK, with estates in Kent and East Sussex, and further vineyard plantings in Essex, is on track to become the largest English wine producer by 2030, with a production capability exceeding 5 million bottles. Its flagship estate, Silverhand, it is the UK's largest single vineyard farmed completely organically. Additionally, the company distributes wines from its four estates in Provence, covering over 1,000 acres and enjoying a strong presence in the global markets. The company's dedication to revolutionising the English wine industry aligns with its vision to bring the finest English and Provençal wines to the market.

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