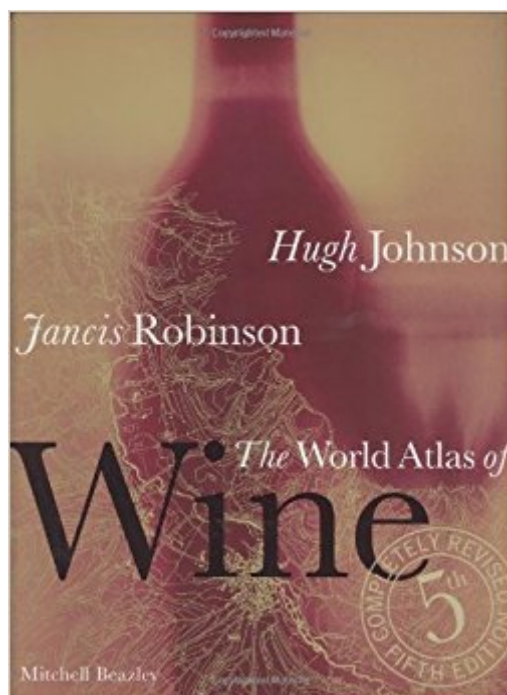


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The World Atlas Of Wine



Synopsis

There are few books that have had such a monumental impact in their field as *The World Atlas of Wine*; sales of the first four editions exceed 3.5 million copies. Now, world-renowned authors Hugh Johnson and Jancis Robinson have teamed up to combine their unrivalled talents. Together they have created the fifth edition of this masterpiece, making it the most thorough and expansive revision ever of the work. In keeping with the Atlas's reputation for cartographic excellence, all 148 maps from the fourth edition have been completely revised and modernised, with an additional 30 new maps. Hailed by *Decanter* as *Wine Book of the Millennium*, *The World Atlas of Wine* has been described by critics worldwide as 'extraordinary' and 'irreplaceable'. In this, its fifth edition in 30 years, it remains an essential addition to every wine-lover's or professional's library.

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Customer Reviews

The World Atlas of Wine is something of a dream-team production. The names Hugh Johnson and Jancis Robinson alone recommend any book on which they appear. The fifth edition (in 30 years) of this astonishingly successful book lives up to, and surpasses, its predecessors. In 350 densely packed but never clotted pages the authors manage the extraordinary feat of characterizing wine production throughout the world, from Vancouver Island to Japan--Buddhists first planted vines in that inhospitably precipitous, monsoon-lashed land over a 1,000 years ago. After a substantial introductory section dealing with the history of wine, its making, storage, and enjoyment, we're off.

Starting with (where else?) France and Burgundy, each wine area is summarized in terms of its geography, climate, and preferred vines and the appellations, laws, and traditions that govern production. The discussion of Pomerol, for example, tells you a great deal in one short page. Even since 1994, when the fourth edition came out, vast changes have swept the wine world, and many parts of the atlas have been correspondingly completely reworked. South America, Canada, Southern France, Italy, Greece, Eastern Europe, and the Eastern Mediterranean are among the areas that have benefited. The regional maps that form the core of the book are a triumph of clarity. The whole production constitutes a brilliant achievement of organization and synthesis, forming an indispensable resource for any wine lover at all interested in where the wine they drink comes from and why it tastes the way it does. --Robin Davidson, .co.uk

The turn of the year means another vintage of wine has been laid down in the world's cellars, and people await the verdict on the latest crop. Now, more than ever, connoisseurs look for the particular qualities imparted to wines by the soils where the grapes matured. Hugh Johnson's *The World Atlas of Wine* has been the recognized authority in the geographic study of wine for more than 30 years. Now Jancis Robinson has joined forces with Johnson for the book's fifth edition. Recent years have seen the growth of first California and lately Australian, Chilean, and South African entries into world markets. High-quality, detailed topographic maps form the atlas' backbone, and increasing use of color has only increased their effectiveness. Western Europe remains the book's focus, but it still has worldwide coverage. Food and wine collections can scarcely afford to miss this new volume. Mark Knoblauch

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Basically this is an indispensable text for anyone in the wine industry of wishing to expand their technical wine prowess. I am a Master of Wine student and this is one of the three cornerstones of my library including the *Oxford Companion to Wine* and the *Sotheby's Wine Encyclopedia*. The maps are a bit much for beginners but that is what the colorful Sotheby's maps are for. These maps highlight elevation and exposure as well as vineyard land and forested land, all are important aspects for advanced wine studies. This edition expands upon the notable regions, including a massive increase in the US and Australian sections, Hugh Johnson giving a nod to the increasing popularity and success of these countries. This should be one of the first three books purchased for any wine enthusiast.

Every important region is mapped in detail, even with topo and clear location of chateaus. Great history and story of winemaking. This is truly and encyclopedic effort that I applaud. If you can read the entire book over a period of time, sampling a wine from each region as you go along, you're halfway to achieving your goal of being a hobbyist sommelier. With this, and perhaps Kevin Zraly's and Rajat Paar's books, you have plenty of wine knowledge, thus only requiring the wisdom to be gained from tasting as many bottles as you can afford (both in time, money, and liver condition).

I just got my copy, my tome, in the mail, and I immediately went to the sections that were reported as missing or flawed by some of the other reviewers here, and I'm glad to say that the section on Cote Chalonnaise in my book was not cut off nor was the beginning reprinted again on the two pages. There was no printing error, so I don't know what that reviewer was talking about. Besides, printing errors don't detract from this awesome book that serves as an important reference to any wine expert or wannabe, like you and me, who loves great wines from all over the world. This will be my reference of choice until I find a better one, and I don't expect the search to end tomorrow. This is a highly useful book and well worth the price.

I have been using this book for almost 30 years, starting with the 2nd edition--I just recently upgraded to the current 6th edition. The photography is beautiful enough for a wonderful coffee table book, while the text is detailed enough for a fine reference book. It is not meant to be a ratings guide, telling you which specific wines to buy, but instead is meant to help you understand why the wines of a particular area taste they way they do. In other words, it is all about what the French call "terroir," although the term is applicable to more than just French wines. Highly recommended!

Great guide to wine growing regions of the world...very comprehensive and detailed.

I don't know. I'm kinda on the fence with this one. On one hand I found a lot of the information fascinating, but on the other I was like 'whoa, this is too much information'. Not to mention you will need a serious book shelf if you add this one to it. This is a real book, like you see in real libraries. But it covers everything from the first known incident of wine to the future of wine around the world. One interesting chapter had a whole section, including photographs on cork. From how it's harvested to how we now have synthetic versions. Really cool book if you are into knowing a lot of things. I love to read so for me, I found this book hard to put down. I skipped getting deep in a lot of the regional stuff since my tastes are primarily not as formal as some but I still glazed over a lot of

it. It doesn't help that I have no formal background in wine either. I like what I like and have been known to have opposing tastes to many experts. Maybe it's because I am frugal (ok, plain ol' cheap) when it comes to wine. I just don't believe you have to spend more than fifteen bucks to find a bottle of something you like. I'm not saying you shouldn't experience those types of wines, and if you can afford to drink them, then by all means enjoy yourself. I would be lying if I said I haven't. But I also like variety, and trying new things. So why should you buy this book? I really think this book would suit anyone with the desire to learn more about wine and have an excellent source of information about wine to whip out instead of your laptop. Especially if you wanted to know the names of the people that live in a particular town in a certain region where that bottle of red came from that you saw on the shelf at your local merchants shop. I mean this book is that deep (well, maybe not the names of the people living there but certainly the town name, and everything else you want to know about the winery or the grapes they grow there, or around there). I recommend this book because it taught me something, well, more than just something, it taught me a lot of things I didn't know. And I'm still using it to learn about something I enjoy. And I believe that any book that can teach or entertain is worth having. So yea, I guess I just came off the fence, and on the side of this book, simply because it has done what it was written to do, teach and entertain me about wine. Rob

I ordered this book for my son at Christmas time. He is a somalier (professional wine taster) and has traveled the world, tasting wines and rating them. He really enjoyed this book. It's the perfect book for any wine lover.

If I were limited to only one book on wine it would be the new edition of The World Atlas of Wine. It is the one book no collection of wine books should be without. An absolutely beautiful book, it full of fascinating information on wine regions throughout the world. What ultimately makes the essential reference book is that it combines the wisdom and knowledge of the two most authoritative writers we have on the subject. Among the thousand books available on the fascinating subject of wine, this is the most complete, entertaining and useful book for anyone having even the vaguest interest in the subject.

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