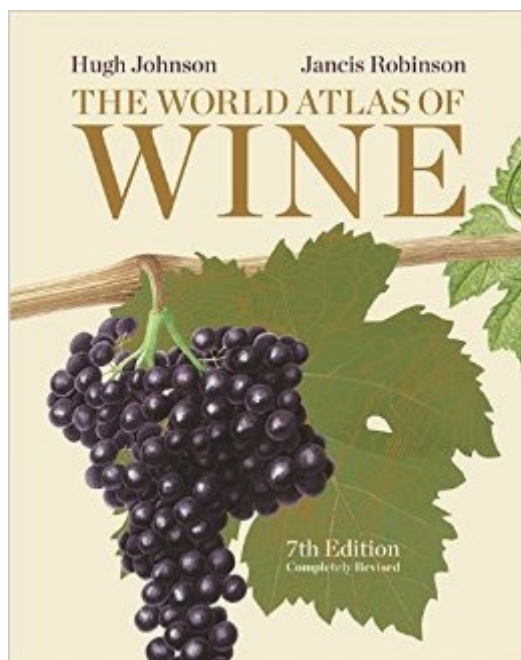


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The World Atlas Of Wine, 7th Edition



Synopsis

The seventh edition will confirm the status of *The World Atlas of Wine* as the most essential and authoritative wine reference work. Reflecting the changing nature of the wine scene, the Atlas details developments in climate, technique and fashion as well as new regulations made over the last six years. A new Australian map highlights the importance of cool-climate regions as global warming takes effect, for example, while dynamic regions such as coastal Croatia, South Africa's Swartland and Ningxia in China are covered for the first time. The world's increasing appetite for wine is matched by a growing thirst for knowledge, which this book will amply satisfy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When Hugh Johnson and Jancis Robinson team up on a book about wine you have high expectations. And they are mostly met here. The introduction is just that, a quick overview of wine. I love their bluntness: the subtitle to their paragraph on chardonnay reads "Broad, versatile, inoffensive - unless over-oaked". But this is an atlas, and about 300 pages are devoted to a whirlwind tour of wine around the world. While well done, the top level treatment leaves you realizing just how big the world of wine is today. They could have written ten times as many pages, and still not covered everything going on in wine today. So take this as an overview. Nearly any region of interest has books--often many, many books--devoted to it. But most people can't spend all their time reading about wine, and this book provides a good overview for deciding where you want to focus on.

I agree with the chorus of praise for this book. It is beautifully produced and packed with information. Hugh Johnson and Jancis Robinson are phenomenally knowledgeable, and they have used that to produce a world-class reference work which is also a pleasure to browse in. It has beautiful, detailed maps and interesting, readable text so that opening a page at random is very enjoyable just for a browse, but there is a lot of proper expertise here with an excellent index and in-depth articles on things like the factors which affect the quality of Bordeaux wines and so on. Each country gets a proper introductory overview and detailed (in some cases like Bordeaux, micro-detailed) analysis of regions, all backed up with excellent maps, pictures of labels and the like. Truly, anything the non-professional would ever need to know about wine is here, and it's plainly used as a reference by professionals, too. It is, therefore, a very substantial volume at nearly 400 large-format pages, and the only slightly negative thing I have to say about it is that it is heavy enough to be a challenge to the wrists after a very short time - but then extensive reference books have to be weighty, and it's fine to read on a table or your lap. I'm delighted with this book and would warmly recommend it to anyone with an interest in wine at any level: it's crammed with authoritative information and a pleasure to read and to look at.

This book answers all wine questions, even if you are a novice. I already have an earlier version, but wanted the updated information about the latest areas and newest maps of wine producing regions from around the world. Hugh and Janice are the best. Anyone who wants to LEARN more about wine has to have this book.

Arguably the most indispensable wine book published in recent years. It charts all the major wine regions of the world and offers a nonprofessional's account of the way that soil, climate and grapes interact. I like the style of many of the maps, some leave a little to be desired as far as readability is concerned. Anyone who likes wine and wants to know more about what they are drinking will enjoy this book.

Authors Hugh Johnson and Jancis Robinson have done wonders with the Seventh Edition of The World Atlas of Wine. In quoting my son who received the book as a birthday gift, "it is a coffee table book you can actually learn from." The graphics are exceptional with the maps clearly supporting the accompanying text. Its educational value is the publication's principal asset. For my purposes, I read about areas (re: France) I don't know well. But even the most experienced oenophile will gain

knowledge from the Atlas. Take the California section. It breaks down the Carneros District to show how it also is part of the Russian River Valley in Sonoma County and not exclusive to Napa Valley. Another principal value for the Wine Atlas to me is when I read about wines in other publications, I can get validation, added information or, in some cases, corrective data. As a wine devotee, this is an outstanding resource.

I was hoping this version would have an updated vintage chart showing the good and not so good years for various wine producing countries, like they had in earlier versions. But it isn't there. This edition is essentially the same as previous versions except that the maps have more colors and a few extra words were inserted. A slight disappointment overall. I relied more on earlier versions and the internet for research than this edition.

Maps are very detailed and add an extra dimension to the information. I have found this an irreplaceable resource as I study for the CMS 1 exam. The Atlas does assume the reader have a basic understanding to begin with. I would recommend reading Kevin Zraleay's Windows on the World first and then using this to fill in the blanks.

I bought this book for my husband as a Christmas present. He asked for it, so I knew he would like it. What I did not expect was how great the quality was. He can't put it down. Well worth it!

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