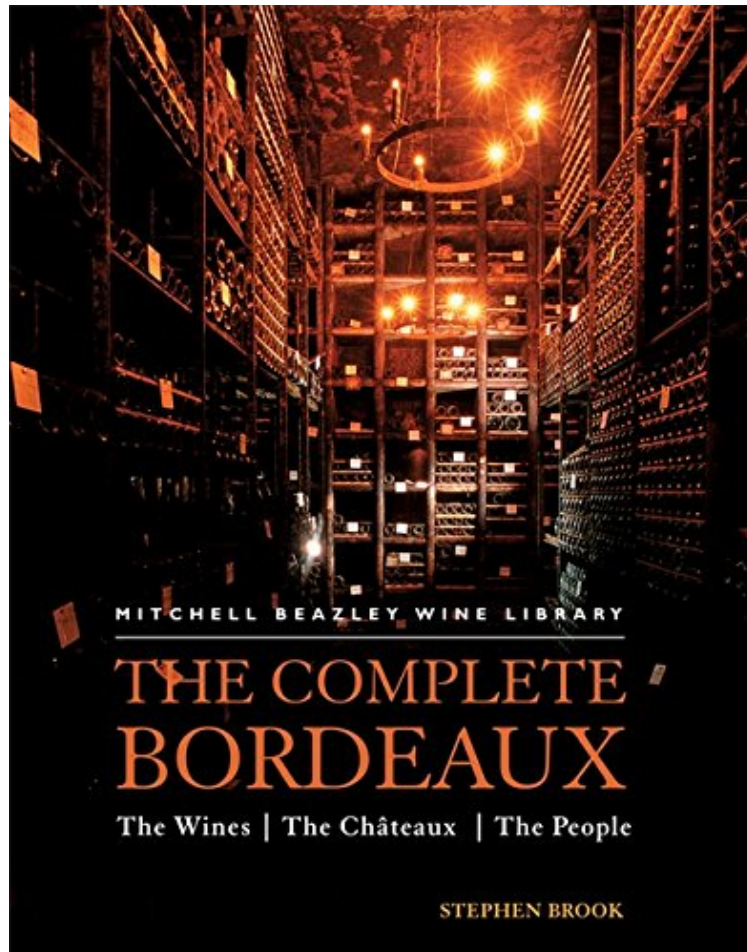


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The Complete Bordeaux: The Wines*The Chateaux*The People (Mitchell Beazley Wine Library)

Stephen Brook

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Stephen Brook : The Complete Bordeaux: The Wines*The Chateaux*The People (Mitchell Beazley Wine Library) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Complete Bordeaux: The Wines*The Chateaux*The People (Mitchell Beazley Wine Library):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. ComprehensiveBy Mark V. FuscoI've just about finished the book, and by that I mean i'm on page 643 of 710. I also didn't read every single page. This is similar to some of the wine encyclopedias out there IMHO. I read all the general information chapters and the info at the start of each section for areas of Bordeaux. I then read the entries for the top chateaux for each region. And even then that's a lot. Information is great. Even explaining the the vineyard management and winery practices for each property if he was able to get that information. Not just "hey this is an important chateau and I tasted a couple of their wines." Brook let's us know

his tasting notes for various vintages of the wines. Brook also gives you a perspective of some of the inner workings of Bordeaux. He does this without getting snarky like some other writers. He definitely has an opinion of this and also about the chateaux in general, but he's not here to necessarily bash anyone. Not every chateau is making world class wine when they should and he'll at least let you know that in a professional way. Granted, the book is somewhat dated at this point, but what wine book isn't after a few years? The general information is still valid. It's not like the region has undergone a radical change in laws or how they make wine. What few legal things that have happened since 2007 aren't critical to the book, and he even talks about some of this (Saint Emilion's Classification being in flux at the time for one example). Those things can easily be found on the 'net. And there will have been some ownership changes, winemaker changes, etc., but again, not like it takes away from the overall information in the book. If you need to delve deeper into Bordeaux, then this book will deliver.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A must-have for anyone serious about Bordeaux

By Marc This is my favorite Bordeaux reference. Brook begins the book with a bit on the history of the region, the business of Bordeaux, the terroir, wine-making, etc. This is followed by a detailed account of each major (and sometimes not so major) chateau, organized by commune. The entries on the chateaux are superb; they include a bit of history on each (in the vein of [winedoctor.com](#) and Clive Coates) but his tasting notes are not rated. I enjoy his brief notes because they give the reader who is already familiar with the wines on some level a sense of what each vintage is like. If you removed the words "blackcurrant, tobacco, oak, and leather" I think you'd halve Robert Parker's book. Doing so leaves you with more room to read what the author thinks about the chateau as a whole; a sort of comprehensive look back at the vintages tasted with a comparison and contrast between them. Another nice feature is that with the score removed I find myself thinking more about enjoying the wine itself rather than chasing numbers... I always enjoy comparing the Brook/Coates/Broadbent camp to the tastes of Parker (I'm sorry, it just seems like Jancis Robinson doesn't like anything at all and Tanzer/Wine Spectator strikes me as totally useless). This book is excellent for that purpose and is truly a must-have for anyone who is serious about Bordeaux.

On [cellartracker.com](#) as "Englishman's Claret" 11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. AN EXCEPTIONAL VOLUME

By Mr. F. D. Stuart The Complete Bordeaux: The Wines*The Chateaux*The People (Mitchell Beazley Wine Library) Whilst Stephen Brook is not the best known author in the world of fine wine, his recent book is certainly likely to put him irrevocably on the best seller list in this field. Whether read by the novice or professional, the reader cannot help but be informed as never before on the fascination of wine as it is in Bordeaux. Massive, previously unknown detail contains a veritable mine of invaluable information on properties, production methods, vintages and personalities. The seven hundred pages are crammed with interest from beginning to end. The only downside is that the type size is too small for those inclined to short-sightedness. Buy, buy, buy!!

This high-level yet readable analysis of one of the world's most respected wine regions has been expanded; the first edition dealt only with the left bank, and this new edition adds coverage of the south bank of the river Bordeaux. It is an all-embracing, comprehensive volume by an award-winning wine writer. Brook, whose books have received such prestigious awards as the Prix du Champagne Lanson, Glenfiddich, and Veuve Clicquot prizes, provides insider information about how the great Meacute;doc, Graves, and other world-famous Bordeaux wines are produced, from the red Pauillac Cabernet Sauvignons to the sweet Sauterne whites. Detailed maps and photos cover the most famous chateaux and communes, as well as smaller specialists and newcomers worth watching.

About the Author Stephen Brook is a leading writer on wine and gastronomy. His previous books include *Sauternes*, *The Wines of Germany*, and *The Wines of California*, which won the Prix Lanson, Glenfiddich and Veuve Clicquot awards. He is also the author of *Pauillac and Bordeaux: People, Power and Politics*, which won the Veuve Clicquot and ICP awards. He revised the latest edition of Hugh Johnson's *Wine Companion*.