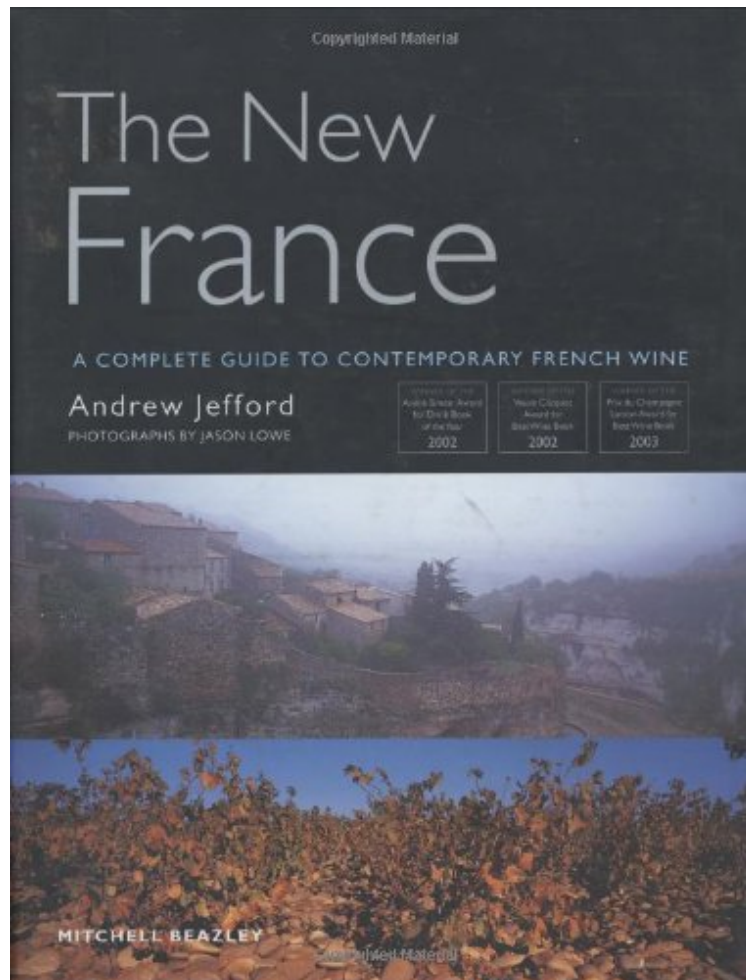


[Download free pdf] The New France: A Complete Guide to Contemporary French Wine

The New France: A Complete Guide to Contemporary French Wine

Andrew Jefford

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Andrew Jefford : The New France: A Complete Guide to Contemporary French Wine before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The New France: A Complete Guide to Contemporary French Wine:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Know the Modern World of French WineBy FlippyYou might buy this book because it's a beautiful coffee table book - the beautiful pictures and the layout...Or you might buy it because it's great for reference material.If you love wine, simply buy it for that reason alone. It is very up-to-date, the author, no stranger to French wine, a true professional, uncovers the latest trends and troubles in the various wine regions of France. He talks with growers and vintners, producers and negociants - providing perspective from all angles.Beyond reading the latest issue of Decanter or Wine Spectator, this is perhaps the most informative and concise manner of learning about the "now" of French wine. Like other Mitchell Beazley publications, the focus here is on the great

presentation and the high level of scholarship/research/journalism. This book will nourish your curiosity. 75 of 78 people found the following review helpful. Everything in its Place By Bevetropo What's the best way to read a book about wines, producers, regions, styles, etc? Cover-to-cover? Episodically? Grab it when you want to do some research on a specific topic? In my own case, it's typically when I crawl into bed because that's about the only time I have to read about my favorite subject. Whatever your preference, you'll want to read this book when you're in a position to pay attention because it's one of the most entertaining and instructive wine books I've seen in a long time. Jefford is a passionate advocate for non-interventionist winemaking. If anyone else has already invented this term I apologize in advance for the unwitting plagiarism, but he's also a "terroir-ist". God help the hapless winery that allows anything to interfere with the expression of the land in the wine, or commits the cardinal sin of branding. To Jefford, quoting Randall Graham of Bonny Doon, drinking a great wine should be like "shaking hands with a mountain," because you're drinking the very land where the vines grow, not the attenuated expression of a winemaker's ego. The New France is Jefford's paean to French winemakers who share his perspective on quality. While I don't really regard it as a book for beginners, its greatest utility comes from snapshot reviews of hundreds of producers across the major wine growing regions of France. Jefford gives them anywhere from zero to three stars to indicate their merit based on his terroir-at-all-costs preferences. So if your tastes agree with his, you'll find his capsule summaries of tremendous value. A quick example might help make this a little clearer. Recently, one of my favorite stores, the Wine Library in Springfield, NJ, ran an ad for William Fevre Chablis Fourcharme 1er Cru 1999 for what seemed like a very low price. I love white Burgundy, but I don't often buy it because the good stuff is so expensive. Thinking this sounded like a great deal, but wary of getting bushwhacked as can often happen in Burgundy, I grabbed my edition of The New France and turned to the section on Chablis (treated here like a separate and equal wine growing region, which I heartily applaud). I was gratified to learn that this producer earned Jefford's highest 3 star designation, particularly since 1998 when it changed ownership. Even more impressive, he cited this specific premier cru vineyard because it abuts the grand cru Preuses and is particularly rich as a result. Well, folks, all I can tell you is he nailed this sonofagun. I bought two cases. What qualifies Fevre as the best domaine in Chablis according to Jefford? Meticulous attention to the picking and sorting of the fruit, low yields, minimal manipulation and very little new oak all allow the wines to speak for themselves. The book is organized around each of the major French winegrowing regions. Each chapter features: an introduction to the terroir of each region and the impact it has on the wines; brief profiles of Jefford's favorite winemakers; a section called The Adventure of the Land in which he delves deeply into the characteristics of the various appellations within the region; a beautiful and extremely detailed color map of the AOC's; a section labeled "Flak", which deals objectively with contemporary issues and problems facing the region; and finally the profiles and ratings of the wineries themselves. His somewhat fawning portraits make it clear Jefford idolizes the winemakers who do it right. Of course, as is the case with any wine writer or critic, the proof is in the drinking: yours that is. Jefford loves garage wines and appears to believe that on balance the changes wrought in Bordeaux by Robert Parker over the last 20 years and the rise of the garagists in the late '90's are helping the entire region to raise its standards. I'm more of a traditionalist myself, but we're all going to have to wait another 10-20 years for the Bordeaux of the late '90's or 2000 vintages to age for us to understand who will ultimately win this debate. Overall, I believe this is an extremely valuable book to have in your wine library. It's full of new insights, it's beautifully written and illustrated, and it will both inform and challenge your ideas of what constitutes wine quality in France and anywhere else for that matter. Andrew Jefford writes a column in Decanter, the outstanding British wine magazine, and now that I've spent time with The New France, his column is always the second thing I read each month (after Michael Broadbent's column, of course!). 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent writing, accurate, informative, interesting. By Sheral Schowe One of the best wine writers of our time. A well traveled and engaging wine scholar and educator, Jefford's work is worth following. This book will appeal to the wine novice as well as the expert, from the traveler to France to the armchair French wine aficionado.

Award-winning, groundbreaking, breathtakingly exhaustive, and authoritative, this guide to French wine covers all of the country's fourteen wine regions, including full-color maps for each one—all with unrivalled cartographic detail. Producer listings are an important feature, with up-to-date research on terroir and the appellation contrôlée system and their effects on the wines of each region. Winner of the André Simon Drink Book of the Year 2002, the Prix du Lanson Wine Book of the Year 2003, and the Veuve Clicquot Wine Book of the Year 2003.

From Publishers Weekly This comprehensive wine atlas leaves no centimeter of terroir unexplored. After a thorough introduction to France, French winemaking and the concept of terroir, Jefford (Wine Tastes Wine Styles) gets to the heart of the matter with lengthy chapters on each of France's 14 regions. Each of these consists of an overview of the region and its history, profiles of the area's major winemakers, a description of the land and listings and descriptions of the local wineries. Some of the latter are lengthy, while others are brief, but all include an address and phone number, making this book useful as a guidebook as well. Jefford is refreshingly opinionated: the Loire Valley is in the throes of a "long and refined stone age," while Zind-Humbrecht in Alsace is the domain "most emblematic of the New France as

a whole." The effort here is encyclopedic, but the writing rises above the usual dry discussion, comparing the quest to understand Burgundy to doing crossword puzzles. Even the most matter-of-fact information is presented with a certain flair: in a description of the Rhone Valley, Jefford explains that the area's mistral wind is both destructive and useful, in that it blows away "fugs and fungal diseases." Numerous maps and photographs-including portraits of the winemakers profiled-and a full list of vintages round out this entertaining addition to its field. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. "A significant achievement" The Independent "A work beyond the capacity of any other wine writer in its passion, its panache, its evident sympathy with the regions, their landscape and so many of the winemakers" Harpers "There have been hundreds of books written about French wine, but none has approached the subject as originally, or as passionately" The Observer "A seriously well-researched new book for those who love France" The Scotsman" About the Author Andrew Jefford has combined his passions for writing and for wine since the late 1980s. He is the London Evening Standard's drink correspondent and contributes to a number of wine publications and websites. He presents on BBC Radio 4 and has written a range of books on wine. Andrew has received a multitude of awards, including Glenfiddich Wine Writer of the Year, International Wine Spirit Communicator of the Year, and Glenfiddich Radio Broadcast of the Year. He lives in Hastings. Jason Lowe travels the world extensively photographing a number of subjects. His outstanding contributions to book photography include the award-winning Malt Whisky (Mitchell Beazley), and Nose to Tail Eating, among many others. Jason works with Simon Hopkinson on the Saturday Independent, for which he won the 2001 Glenfiddich award for food photography. He also contributes to a range of international publications.