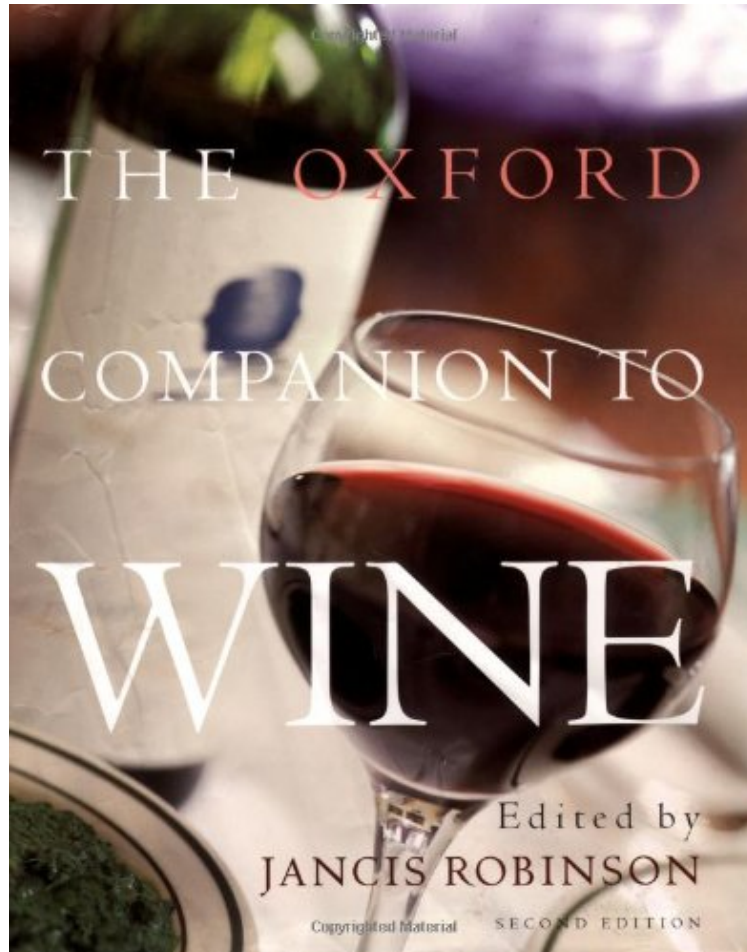


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The Oxford Companion to Wine

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From Oxford University Press : The Oxford Companion to Wine before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Oxford Companion to Wine:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Too complicated for a beginner! By Customer When I bought this book I really was looking for a great starting point to learn about wine. This book is over the top with information on things that I am clueless about and since the book is from A-Z, it really wasn't a great one for a beginner. Back to the search for a basic book on wine! 144 of 147 people found the following review helpful. *The* reference for anyone who enjoys wine. By Lisa Shea Some reference books sit on the shelf, forgotten, hoping to be used someday in the future when someone has a desperate need to know how to calculate the third log value of an arctangent. This book is as far removed from that fate as a Petrus is from a White Zinfandel! At least once a week I have opened up this gorgeous wine tome and looked up the answer to a question, or read more about a particular wine I was enjoying. With over 3,000 entries to choose from, you can explore the ancient roots of wine in Iraq and Egypt, or learn about new vine-growing techniques winemakers are using in Washington State. The information is clearly written, well illustrated, and

not overly technical. Jancis Robinson, the editor of the tome, is well known in the industry for her knowledge and fluency in wines of all types. Combine her amazing knowledge with fantastic photographs of each wine region, and even reviews of various personalities in wine, and you have a book that you'll keep on the coffee table and actually read often! Be warned - you can lose guests in its pages for hours. The book is great for a beginner. Confused about Beaujolais Nouveau? Want to know how a White Zinfandel differs from a Red Zinfandel? The Oxford Companion to Wine has clear, concise descriptions of all wine types, explaining their histories, their characteristics, and where they're found now. The Companion is also a boon for experienced drinkers. It goes into the fine details of how wines are grown, and how various winemakers use different techniques to bring out the best in their particular grapes. There are maps of wine regions, and insights into what makes certain wines unique. Great as a gift for your favorite wine drinker, but buy one for yourself, too! The book is a wonderful reference tool to have around the house. With its lovely photos of France, Italy, and Spain, it serves as a wine-lovers guide to places to visit or dream about, and wines to drink while doing so. Highly recommended as the only wine book you should ever need. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Superb Reference By Sinore Espresso If you enjoy wine and always want to know more about the varietals, the history, etc., this book is without question, a fantastic source of detailed information on every grape known to man. Ms. Robinson is a well know, world renowned wine guru and this book shows why. I have yet to find a question on the subject that this book can't completely explain.

Hailed by Frank J. Priar in The New York Times as "a required reference for anyone who is serious about wine," and by Anthony Dias Blue as "one of the definitive reference books on the subject," The Oxford Companion to Wine won every major wine book award, including the Julia Child and the James Beard awards. Now, Jancis Robinson has completely revised this masterpiece, adding over 500 new entries and thoroughly updating most of the rest. Lavishly illustrated, with over 200 black and white pictures, 31 full color plates, and 31 maps of every wine region in the world, the Companion is the only wine volume to combine science, history, geography, wine varieties, social and cultural information, and much more. Ranging from Abruzzi and armagnac to Zimbabwe and Zinfandel, from Dionysian revels in ancient Greece to today's leading wine research centers, its 3,400 alphabetically arranged entries explore all aspects of wine, including the latest advances in viticulture and enology. There are in-depth discussions of the climates and grape varieties of great wine regions of the world, and numerous biographies ranging from Dom Perignon to Robert Parker. The book discusses vintner's terms, business and legal aspects, and related topics such as distilled and fortified wines. All technical terms are fully explained, and the hundreds of useful drawings and photographs illustrate key processes. New features include a complete guide to geographical names, a vintage chart, an overview of recent wine prices and investment, and a navigation chart to the Companion. The ultimate reference on wine and wine-making, The Oxford Companion to Wine is the perfect volume to enhance a lifetime's enjoyment of this intoxicating topic.

From Booklist The first edition garnered a number of awards and uniformly positive reviews [RBB D 1 94]. The second edition maintains that high quality, with 500 new entries as well as a considerable number of revised entries covering all aspects of the history, science, geography, and culture of wine. This is an excellent accompaniment to The Oxford Companion to Food, which we reviewed in our January 1 15, 2000, issue. "This is an invaluable resource for serious wine drinkers who never quench their thirst for learning about varietals, appellations, wine history, and vineyards."--Business Week "The greatest wine book ever published.... A worthy purchase even for those who already own its predecessor."--Michael Franz, The Washington Post "An encyclopedic reference.... If it's not here, it has nothing to do with wine."--Wine and Spirits "A wine lover's best friend."--La Cucina Italiana "The preeminent basic resource for wine lovers.... It is hard to believe that editor Jancis Robinson could improve upon a work whose first edition was so universally lauded, but indeed she has."--Wine Enthusiast s of the first edition: "A required reference for anyone who is serious about wine."--Frank J. Priar, The New York Times "Jancis Robinson has become the Julia Child of wine."--Newsday "One of the definitive reference books on the subject."--Anthony Dias Blue "Easily the most complete compendium of wine knowledge assembled in modern times.... Essential to even the smallest library of wine books."--The New York Times "This may be the most important book on wine to appear in the past 20 years.... The very existence of this book stands as evidence of the significance of wine in our culture.... This volume will enhance the usefulness of every other wine book by providing authoritative explanations of the nuts and bolts that others treat only in passing."--The Washington Post About the Author Jancis Robinson is one of the world's leading authorities on wine, voted the Wine Writer's Wine Writer by her peers and dubbed "the undisputed mistress of the kingdom of wines" by Frances Madame Figaro. In 1995, she won the Wine Literary Award of the Wine Appreciation Guild, in part for her work on The Oxford Companion to Wine. She lives in the United Kingdom.