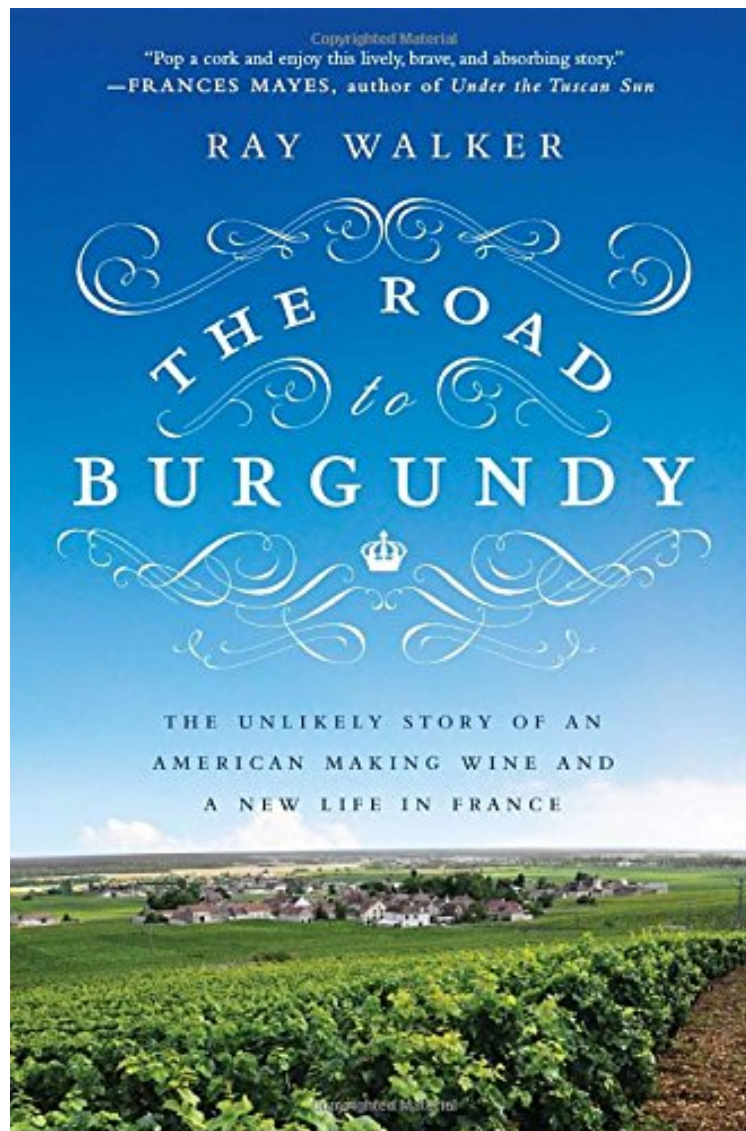


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The Road to Burgundy: The Unlikely Story of an American Making Wine and a New Life in France

Ray Walker

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Ray Walker : The Road to Burgundy: The Unlikely Story of an American Making Wine and a New Life in France before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Road to Burgundy: The Unlikely Story of an American Making Wine and a New Life in France:

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following review helpful. For wine lovers. By K A. If you are a true lover of wine, especially French wine, you will enjoy the journey the author takes to making wine in France. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An excellent read. By Douglas C Smoot Inspiring well written book. An excellent read.

An intoxicating memoir of an American who discovers a passion for French wine and gambles everything to chase a dream of owning a vineyard in Burgundy Ray Walker had a secure career in finance until a wine-tasting vacation ignited a passion he couldn't stifle. He quit his job and moved to France to start a winery with little money, limited command of the French language, and no winemaking experience. He immersed himself in the extraordinary history of Burgundy's vineyards and began honing his skills. Ray shares his journey to secure the region's most coveted grapes. The Road to Burgundy is a glorious celebration of finding one's true path in life and taking a chance; whatever the odds.

From Booklist Walker wasn't just indifferent to wine, he actively disliked it. But the chance tasting of a light red wine while vacationing in Italy triggered an obsession. A few months later, he quit his finance job to work a wine-grape crush in his native Bay Area. Unwilling to climb the wine-job ladder, he went to Burgundy, France, to buy grapes and make wine. With charm, hustle, and too-good-to-be-true financial backing, he became the first non-Frenchman to make wine from some of the tiny land parcels that form the world's most exalted vineyards. Walker's energy and warmth lift this book, but he fails to anticipate inevitable demand for details on how he cast a spell over the French. How, in a matter of months, despite never having actually made wine, and speaking guidebook French, did he penetrate such a storied locale? Told from the perspective of Walker's platitude-flinging early days, the opening chapters are discouraging. Walker learns much, but his sea-parting good luck and narrow focus on a subject as multidimensional as wine might leave readers skeptical. --Dane Carr "Easy to read and engaging...I, for one, am eager for another volume on life in Burgundy." --Eric Asimov, The New York Times "Wine lovers, Francophiles and anyone who roots for dreamers will want to raise a glass to Ray Walker." --USA Today "Walker is a deft writer; as with the wines of his beloved destination, a light touch makes for a more engaging product. . . . riveting reading. But the human side, especially the thoroughly French characters and Walker's saintly spouse, makes this an engaging account for anyone to savor on the patio or by the fireplace; a glass of wine optional, but recommended." --Minneapolis Star Tribune "An intoxicating tale . . . Mr. Walker's story is sure to inspire a few more leaps of faith." --The Economist "Completely disarming . . . utterly charming writing voice . . . If Ray Walker is the new face of winemaking . . . let the counter-reformation begin." --The Oregonian "An appealing success story and a wide-eyed homage to Burgundy." --Kirkus "In this rich account, Walker chronicles his five-year journey from Northern California to the French countryside with self-deprecating humor and earnestness. . . . Wine geeks will enjoy Walker's blow-by-blow account of the winemaking process. Those less inclined to appreciate wine's back story can revel in his descriptions of Burgundy's food and lifestyle. Walker's tale evokes the exquisite thrill of finding and following your passion, no matter how crazy it might seem." --Publishers Weekly "Walker's energy and warmth lift this book." --Booklist "The main appeal is the amazing story of how someone was able to realize his seemingly farfetched dream." --New York Journal of Books "True oenophiles will love it. . . . a great summer read." --Biographile "Readers who share his passion for fine wine will be entertained by his detailed descriptions." --BookReporter.com About the Author Ray Walker is the Los Angeles Times best selling author of The Road to Burgundy. Ray was a former real estate agent and financial advisor before making wine at his winery in Burgundy, France. The proud father of Isabella, Siena, and Thea, he resides in Oakland, California.