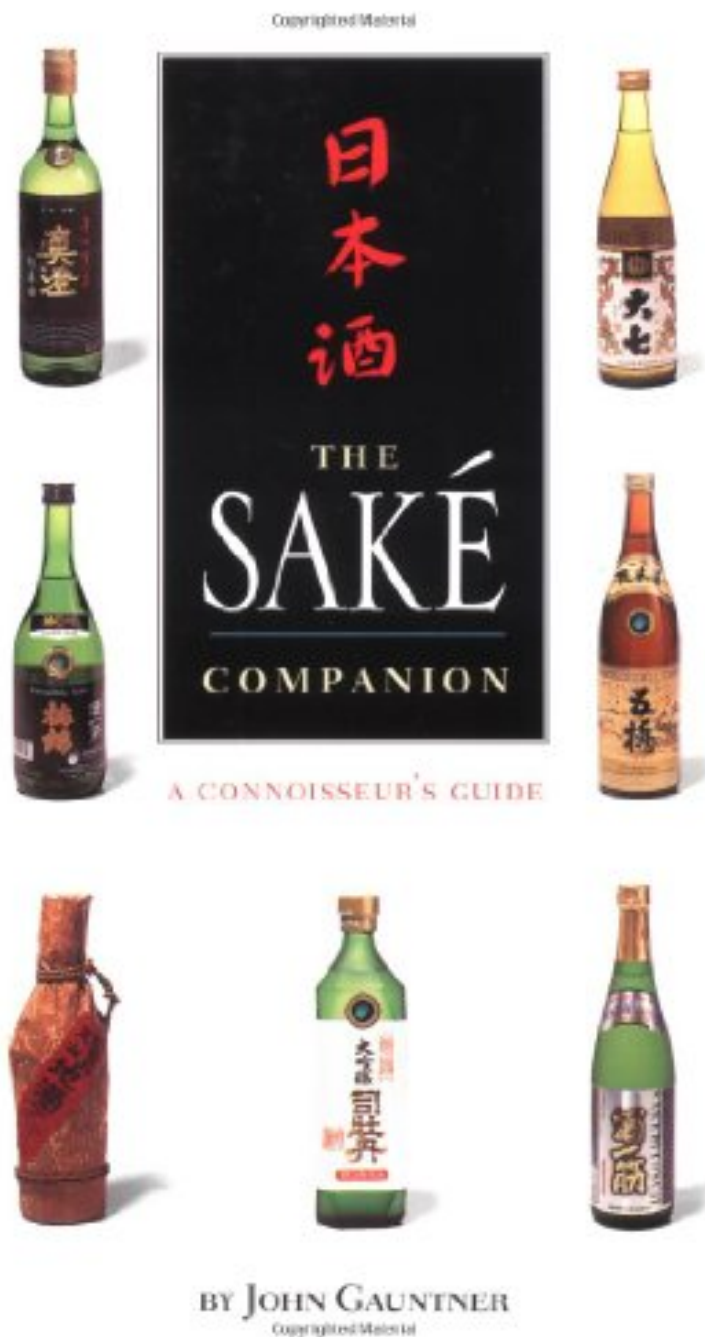


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The Sake Companion

John Gauntner

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John Gauntner : The Sake Companion before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my

time, and all praised The Sake Companion:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Winkgreat book great author!!!10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. A nice (but short) intro to the world of sakeBy Paul FiniThis compact, concise book is a nice starting point if you're interested in delving into the multifaceted, complex world of sake. The author makes clear the many classifications and styles that this ancient Japanese beverage can have, in a way that's (hopefully) not too confusing to the novice. The directory of Japanese and American sakes he includes later in the book (listed by brewery, and including bottle label pictures) gives enough info to make an informed decision on which sake(s) you should try to find, depending on your preferences. He also provides the reader with plenty of references in the way of sake organization addresses and websites, etc. However, my biggest gripe with this slim volume is the lack of explanation of any of the Kanji (Japanese symbolic characters) which correspond to the classifications he describes earlier in the book. On a sakeacute; bottle label, not only are the brewery and sake names written in Kanji and Hiragana (a simpler Japanese alphabet), but the classification and style often are as well. Thus, knowledge of what the Kanji for "junmai" is, for example, is essential in many cases, and should've been included in this book.

Written by a leading expert on the subject of the fermented Japanese rice beverage that has exploded in popularity in the United States, this connoisseur's guide provides a fascinating look at the drink's cultural history, plus sections on the venerable craft of making sakeacute;;, an up-to-date alphabetical directory of more than 100 Japanese and American sakeacute;;s, ratings, tasting notes, full-color pictures of labels, and a complete listing of breweries. John Gauntner lives in Japan and publishes the newsletter Sakeacute;; World.

About the AuthorKnown as "The Sakeacute;; Guy," John Gauntner is a leading authority on Japanese sakeacute;,. He writes a semi-monthly column on sakeacute;; for The Japan Times, as well as a free newsletter, and an informative English-language sakeacute;; webpage, www.sakeacute;;-world.com. He is the author of The Sakeacute;; Handbook and co-author of Sakeacute;;: Pure and Simple.