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Wine: A Tasting Course



Synopsis

Offering a visual tour of wine styles, explaining the big-picture concepts, and encouraging readers to recognize the connections between wines, author Marnie Old, a renowned American sommelier, challenges all the stuffy orthodoxies about wine, and teaches that best way to learn is through tasting. Providing a fresh take on the world of wine, showing you what you need to know, and debunking wine-snob myths, *Wine: A Tasting Course* is the ultimate visual wine course for wine lovers seeking no-nonsense, practical information. Explore and develop your palate in your own time and at your own pace with *Wine: A Tasting Course*.

Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: DK (December 23, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1465405887

ISBN-13: 978-1465405883

Product Dimensions: 8.1 x 1.1 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 52 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #61,853 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Beverages & Wine > Wine & Spirits > Buying Guides #19 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Beverages & Wine > Wine & Spirits > Wine Tasting #56 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Beverages & Wine > Wine & Spirits > Wine

Customer Reviews

"[F]ull of eye-catching visuals and a lot of fun exercises (e.g., comparing sweetness levels in wine or varying shades of red wines) but it also contains plenty of that more structured information, such as facts on countries and grapes." — The Wall Street Journal "[P]erhaps the best wine basics book I've seen to date" [author] Marnie [Old] gets that detailed and crowded are NOT interchangeable, and proves it with her stunning, unpretentious graphics." — Anthony Dias Blue, James Beard Award Winner and Editor-in-chief of Tasting Table

Sommelier and author Marnie Old is formerly the director of wine studies for Manhattan's esteemed French Culinary Institute, and served as the founding education chairperson for the American Sommelier Association. Her books include *Wine Secrets* and DK's *He Said Beer, She Said Wine*.

Such an awesome book! I currently work at a winery, have recently read another wine book, listen to wine podcasts, subscribe to wine blogs, and research wine information online on a constant basis, but nothing has helped me understand wine, types of wine, the science of wine, the taste of wine, etc. like this book has. It explains everything so clearly and the infographics are awesome!

Although I very much like wine, and am now living in the heart of a major California wine producing area (Paso Robles), I don't know very much about wine. It's shameful, really, because I'm such a foodie. So, I have decided to embark upon wine self-education. Where to begin? Based on reviews, I settled on this book. Boy, was that ever the right decision! Marnie is leading me, manageable step by manageable step, through a thorough, if not expansive, introduction to wine, all in manageable bites. I mean, sips. I love the graphic presentation of information that she uses, since I'm a hands-on, visual learner. The format also makes it easy for me to find information when I want to review and want to search ahead for something specific. I'm looking forward to her comparative tasting suggestions as soon as I can lay in the proper bottles. I am keeping a wine tasting journal to go with the Tasting Course (my husband calls it my lab manual), so we usually have both books spread out on the dinner table as we sip and study. I think this is great fun. There isn't a hint of snobbery anywhere in Marnie's approach, thank heaven. I recommend Marnie's book to anyone who wants to seriously learn about wine, but who doesn't want to be too serious about it. It could be the only wine book you ever own, or it could be the start of a more serious study. For me, either way, it was a thrill to be able to decipher a Spanish wine label the very first day after the book arrived. (Did I mention that I love the graphics? I do!)

This is the ultimate book for the right-brained wine obsessed. It's not for the advanced taster, but it's loaded with great info and exercises for someone who is serious about developing their wine tastes and need some good guidance. As a graphic designer, I love that it's loaded with pictures and graphics as that's how my brain likes to see things, but the graphics serve a practical purpose too. What you see while you read helps clarify information and makes it stick in a way that just reading text alone won't. It's a joy to read and a joy to look at.

Seriously, I thought I knew wine before I read this book, but this put the pieces in place. Unlike most wine books, this one can be both basic and advanced. By that, I mean if you have no knowledge of wine, this has enough material to get you on the road to appreciating wine. Even if you can tell the

difference between a bottle of Bordeaux, Burgundy, or Alsatian wine without looking at the label, this book will fill in some blanks that were otherwise missing in the picture. What I am trying to say is that Marnie manages to present a lot of information in a way which is accessible to someone with no wine knowledge, but fills in the cracks if you do know your wine. I think this book presents information in such a way that it will not be dated by the taste trends which are common in the wine world. Actually, there's quite a bit of good information which is well presented in this book. I'm really amazed at how much useful material is here. In fact, if I were to clear out my wine library for one book--it would probably be this one. One thing I have noticed in my 35 years of drinking wine is that wines have come and gone from popularity: e.g., French, Californian, Australian. Let's take the last one since Australian wines were once known as Chateau Chunder (you may also be familiar with the Monty Python sketch). Australian wines now have a very good reputation. Ms. Old's book will tell you WHY that is. Anyway, if you want a book that won't age on you, this is the one. Or, if it does age, it ages well because it is a very full bodied book.

I've picked up bits and pieces of information at wine tasting events, including a recent one in Paris, and read articles in newspapers and magazines but this book puts it all at your disposal, in one simple volume. The various types of wines are discussed and it is well illustrated, with explanations of the type of grapes, climate, fermentation length and method, and other factors that go into determining a wine variety. It is clearly written with lots of illustrations. It compares wine types, how to choose, how to interpret the label, pairing with foods, and much more. Great book for reading and to keep handy as a reference.

My wife isn't as thrilled as I am about gifts. But she REALLY enjoyed this book from the moment I brought it home! She's read thru it each day and last night we were reading thru it together while having some wine! Really informative and easy to read!

I wanted to learn more about wines and could not find a suitable course. They were either too far to travel or college courses that were far too expensive. I am so happy I purchased this book! It is an excellent. In a short time, it has helped me to better understand wines and make much more informed purchases. I love the easy to understand illustrations and "The Tastings" are a wonderful way to develop your senses.

Full of activities. Would recommend to anyone who wants to learn more about wine tasting. Activity

example: Book outlines different types of wines to purchase to taste the spectrum. Purchase wines by Region and Type Taste and learn

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