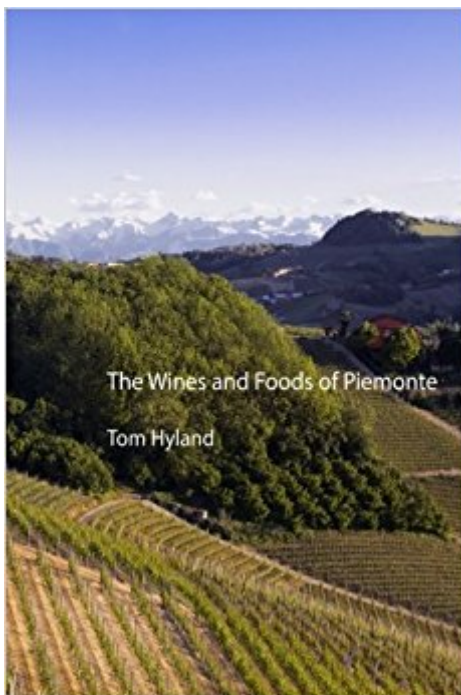


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The Wines And Foods Of Piemonte



Synopsis

Piemonte in northwestern Italy, is one of the world's greatest wine and food regions. This book, written by Tom Hyland, a specialist in Italian wines for more than twenty years, is divided into two parts: the first is the author's overview of the region's wines, from the great reds, such as Barolo and Barbaresco, to the whites, sparkling, and dessert wines. The second part contains interviews with twenty of the region's leading winemakers, winery owners and chefs. There is also an appendix that covers the leading restaurants of Piemonte, along with a list of more than 200 local wines recommended by the author. There are more than 40 photos, many of them in color, all taken by the author, encompassing the the landscape and the foods. The maps, illustrating the wine districts of the region, were created especially for this book by famed cartographer, Alessandro Masnaghetti.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This review is based on a pre-publication of the book. By Bill Marsano.

Piemonte, or Piedmont in English (not to mention California, South Carolina, Oklahoma and Alabama) means *foot of the mountain* and it is indeed a magnificently beautiful mountainous region of northwestern Italy, and it is also magnificent in its array of food and wine. Piemonte is home to the glorious white truffles and wines of renown: Barolo, Barbaresco, Nebbiolo and Barbera are the best-known reds, and the whites are led by the likes of Moscato d'Asti, Arneis and Gavi. It takes an expert to navigate Piemonte's centuries-old culture of food and wine, and that's what Tom Hyland is. For 20 years he's

specialized in Italian wines, and his previous book, *Beyond Barolo and Brunello: Italy's Most Distinctive Wines*, like this one, shows that he sees the fine details as well as the big picture and the big names. And it's no easy task: Italians do for wines and wine zones what the French have done for cheese: that is, they multiply them. A recent example is Arneis, created from what had traditionally been a mere filler grape, but there are many others that are unfamiliar: Brachetto d'Acqui, Ghemme, Grignolino, Gattinara and more, including a pair of my own favorites that have names like songs: Erbaluce di Caluso and Rubino di Cantavenna. Hyland manages this judiciously and graciously, with a minimum of geekiness and absolutely no snobbery. He might have been content to stop there but instead goes on, in the second part of his book, to recommend a couple of hundred wines and interview leading Piemonte winemakers. The dozens of photos, maps of the wine zones and details on the region's best restaurants are the finishing touches that make this the best wine guide to Piemonte to come along in quite some time.

• Bill Marsano was formerly the Wine and Spirits Editor of *United Airlines* and *Hemispheres Magazine*.

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