

Wine

*"No poems can please for long or live that
are written by water drinkers."*

- Horace, 65BC

Dedication

*This book is dedicated to all the wine enthusiasts
of the world*

Chapter 1

**A glass of wine a day keeps
the doctor away**

Champagne & Sparkling by the glass

- Ployez-Jacquemart 'Extra Brut' NV, France 28
*Lemon blossom, white flowers, roasted pecan & graham cracker.
Flirtations of a first kiss.*
- Ruinart Brut **Rosé** NV, France 50
Velvety, textural and romantic. Rosehip, soft spice and wild strawberry.
- Louis Roederer 'Cristal' Brut 2009, France 110
Radiant, dried apple & pineapple custard, flower petals, gingersnaps
- Gruet Brut **Rosé** NV, USA 16
Dry, bright and fresh. Crushed cranberry and sun-warmed pomegranate
- Cantine Ferrari Brut NV, Italy 18
Silky textured, liquid intelligence. Honeysuckle & tangerine dreams

White by the glass

- LangeTwins **Moscato** 2015 - Clarksberg, USA 15
lychee, peach, tangerine blossoms, meadow flowers, light sweetness, delicate
- Hanna **Sauvignon Blanc** 2014 - Russian River Vly, US 18
quince blossom, fresh fig, savory lemon, summer hay, ginger, grapefruit
- Chapoutier 'Belleruche' **Grenache Blanc Blend** 2015, France 12
white peach, apricot stones, almond skin, herbal, crisp
- Le Vieux Pin 'Ava' **Viognier blend** 2016 - Okanagan Valley, BC 17
nectarine, peach, summer flowers, roasted pecan, round, textural
- Laughing Stock **Pinot Gris** 2016, Canada 13
honeydew, ambrosia apple, nectarine, white flowers, clean, dry
- Davis Bynum 'River West' **Chardonnay** 2014, USA 18
grilled pineapple, soft butterscotch, toasted vanilla, medium-full body

Rosé by the glass

Viña Eguía **Tempranillo Blend** 2015, Spain 12
red apple skin, cherry blossoms, pomegranate, crisp, clean & dry!

Red by the glass

Sanguinhal 'Casabel' **Castelao blend** 2015 - Lisboa, PT 14
creamed blueberry, savory herb, smoky mocha, violets, light to medium

Spy Valley **Pinot Noir** 2014, New Zealand 18
fresh & lively, cinnamon, crunchy cherry pie, mocha, light to medium

Great Northern **Zinfandel** 2014 – Similkameen Valley, BC 15
spiced strawberry, cedar, blackberry, fine tannins, medium-full

Punto Final Reserva **Malbec** 2014 - Mendoza, AR 16
plum confit, saturated boysenberry, graphite, French-press coffee, full

Wente 'Charles Wetmore' **Cabernet Sauvignon** 2014 20
Livermore Valley, USA
*cassis, black plum, tobacco, coffee, leather, melted chocolate,
silky tannin, full-bodied*

Antica Vigna **Corvina Blend** 2012 Amarone, Italy 23
cocoa, cedar, dried Morello cherry, worn leather, baked earth, full

Chapter 2

A taste of Japan

Sake

Spanning the timeline of history, Sake can be documented back 4000 years. The methodology used to craft these unique libations is unlike any other alcoholic beverage. Though technical and meticulous in production, we believe Sake is an artisanal beverage that you can simply enjoy the fruits of its craft free of complication. The applications and enjoyment for Sake with our food are endless.

Kozaemon Junmai 'Goddess of Sake' (2oz | 720ml) 11 | 79
Cocoa, earthy, round, supple

Gold Omachi Junmai Dai Ginjo (2oz | 720ml) 15 | 75
Rich, textural, dry, pineapple, caramel, balanced

Yu Junmai Nigori (2oz | 375ml) 8 | 45
Creamy, toasted banana, marzipan, cherry stones - unfiltered

Kocha Tea Umé-shu (2oz | 300ml) 10 | 50
Refreshing, exotic, sweet plum, savory Darjeeling, almond

Kuheiji Junmai Dai Ginjo 'Eau du Désir' (720ml) | 145
Banana, dried strawberry, tapioca, green coconut

Kozaemon Junmai Dai Ginjo (720ml) | 225
Intense, rich, white flowers, fennel, quince, textural

Chapter 3

La Vie en Bulles

Champagne

'A wine by any other name'....The term 'Champagne' is protected by the EU. The name can only be used if the wine is made within the region of Champagne itself. Even other sparkling wines made in France outside the Champagne region, have a different name. Usually 'Cremant' followed by their place of origin.

Pierre Dom Perignon was the Cellar Master at the Abbey of Hautvillers. (1668-1715) He, in fact, was not the creator of Champagne and was actually charged with the task of removing the bubbles. In doing this, he actually ended up refining the techniques that became essential to Champagne's production and success

'Moët'....the most mispronounced name in wine? Yes! The winery was started in 1743 by Claude Moët. The family name is actually of Dutch decent and not French. This means the correct pronunciation is 'Mo-Wett'

History reveals that the first winery in Champagne to produce wines that sparkled, was in the year 1729 by Ruinart.

Amazingly, the techniques used to make these wines then, are still used today with little change. They even use the same three primary grapes to make these brilliant wines; Chardonnay, Pinot Noir & Pinot Meunier.

The styles of wine that each winery creates can vary greatly from one to another. The common thread that binds these artisans together is the simple fact that they all produce wines of purity, elegance and luxury. To simplify matters we present these wines for your enjoyment in the major categories they are created.

Non-Vintage Champagne

A masterful blend to showcase the particular style of a specific winery. Often a meticulously blend of up to 200 separate wines to arrive at a consistent, single taste every single year. These are wines from multiple vintages, not specifying any one particular year. A great value considering they are the hardest to make and they are always the least expensive to enjoy!

Billecart-Salmon 'Reserve' Brut NV, Mareuil-sur-Aÿ	185
Tendil & Lombardi Blancs de Noir NV, Balnot sur Laignes	150
Delamotte Brut NV, Le Mesnil-sur-Oger	169
Barons de Rothschild Brut NV, Reims	198
Baron-Fuenté 'Grand Cépages' Chardonnay NV, Vallée de la Marne	245
Bollinger 'Special Cuvée' NV, Ay	225
deVenoge 'Cordon Bleu' Demi Sec (Off Dry) NV, Épernay	175
Louis Roederer 'Carte Blanche' Demi Sec (Off Dry) NV, Reims	165
Bollinger 'Special Cuvée' NV, Ay (1.5ltr)	480
Laurent-Perrier Brut NV, Tours-sur-Marne (1.5ltr)	350
Moët & Chandon NV, Reims (1.5ltr)	370

Vintage Champagne

Made using grapes harvested only in the specified vintage [year] stated. In years when mother nature provides an outstanding vintage, a Marquis will often declare it a 'vintage year' and create a vintage bottling to showcase the additional depth and complexity Mother Nature created.

Pol Roger 2006, Épernay	265
Veuve Clicquot 2008, Reims	250
Philipponnat 'Grand Blanc' 2005, Mareuil-sur-Aÿ	325
Dom Pérignon 2006, Épernay	525
Krug 2002, Reims	750
Ruinart Blanc de Blancs 2004, Reims	525
Krug 2003, Reims	800

Rosé Champagne

Although a small category, Rosé Champagne is a brilliant libation. Made through the traditional method of saignée (bleeding) or by blending red and white wines together they are virtually always fresh and vibrant. These are specialty wines from a Marquis and not made often.

Charles de Cazanove <i>Brut NV</i> , Reims	159
Ruinart <i>Brut Rosé NV</i> , Reims	250
Lanson ' <i>Rosé Label</i> ' <i>Brut NV</i> , Reims	180
Billecart-Salmon ' <i>Reserve</i> ' <i>Rosé</i> , Mareuil-sur-Aÿ	285
Laurent Perrier ' <i>Cuvée Rosé</i> ' <i>NV</i> , Tours-sur-Marne (1.5ltr)	600
Dom Pérignon 2004, Reims	750
Louis Roederer ' <i>Cristal</i> ' 2009, Reims	1350
Laurent-Perrier ' <i>Cuvée Rosé</i> ' <i>NV</i> , Tours-sur-Marne (1.5ltr)	650

Grower Champagne

These small production wines are crafted by winemakers who actually own the vineyards. Considered the top echelon of artisanal wine making with terroir (growing environment) being the center of attention. They represent remarkable value.

Delahaie 'Brut Prestige' NV, Épernay	170
Michel Lorient 'Palmyre' <i>Nature Brut</i> NV, Festigny	129
Ployez-Jacquemart 'Extra Brut' NV,	140
Serge Mathieu 'Select' <i>Brut</i> NV - Aube	200
Chanoine Frères 'Grande Reserve' NV, Reims	135
Cuiller Père & Fils <i>Sélection Brut</i> NV, Reims	140
Pierre Paillard 'Les Parcelles' <i>Brut</i> NV, Bouzy	165
J-M Sélèque 'Solesse' <i>Brut</i> NV, Pierry	140
Château de Bligny <i>Blanc de Blancs Brut</i> NV, Aube	150
AR Lenoble 'Brut Nature Zero Dosage' NV, Chouilly	188
Eric Rodez <i>Blanc de Blancs</i> NV, Ambonnay	215
Nicolas Maillart 'Extra Brut Platine' NV, Écueil (1.5ltr)	325
Pierre Péters 'Cuvée de Reserve' <i>Blanc de Blancs</i> NV, (1.5ltr)	375
Serge Mathieu 'Cuvée Prestige' <i>Brut</i> NV - Aube (1.5ltr)	350
Fleury Blanc de Noirs <i>Brut</i> NV, Aube (3ltr)	825

Prestige Cuvée

The purest expression of luxury that a Marquis has to offer. Traditionally they are only created in exceptional vintages. These wines offer the consciousness of elegance to deserving guests who desire the very best life has to offer.

Nicolas Feuillatte 'Cuvée Palmes d'Or' Brut 2006, Chouilly	395
Ployez-Jacquemart 'd'Harbonville' 1998, Ludes	500
Ployez-Jacquemart 'd'Harbonville' 1999, Ludes	500
Ployez-Jacquemart 'd'Harbonville' 2000, Ludes	500
Perrier Jouet 'Belle Époque' 2008, Épernay	495
Louis Roederer 'Cristal' 2009, Reims	550
Salon Blanc de Blancs 2004, Le Mesnil-sur-Oger	1395
Krug Grand Cuvée NV, Reims	550
Krug 'Clos du Mesnil' Blanc de Blancs 2003, Reims	1600

Chapter 4

Sparkling Wine

Adventure Bubbles

Sparkling wines are crafted the world over in a myriad of styles. Every country on earth that makes wine, makes sparkling as well. All share a common message; they are crafted with purposeful intentions and offer bounty with their grace. The jubilation to this is simple; bubbles are for everyday. Reward, benefit and comfort can be found in every bottle.

France

The Limoux region in the Languedoc of Southern France is home to not only the first sparkling wine made in France but the first in the world. Monks at the Abbey in Saint-Hilaire first crafted sparkling wine in the year 1531. Still made today with the same methods and, Mauzac, the same grape.

Sieu D'Arques Première Bulle NV, Blanquette de Limoux	68
Antech 'Emotion' Rosé 2014, Crémant de Limoux	85
Vincent Caillé Methode Ancestrale 'X Bulles' NV, Loire Valley	69
Dominique Belluard 'Les Perles de Mont Blanc' 2011, Savoie	96
Varichon & Clerc 'Privilèdge' Brut NV - Savoie, France	58

Canada

The first Traditional Methode sparkling made in Canada was released in 1989 by Sumac Ridge. Their Stellar's Jay Cuveé has been a pinnical wine in the model of development for sparkling wine in Canada and is still made using Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Blanc.

Sumac Ridge 'Stellar's Jay' 2010, Okanagan Valley	65
Tantalus Blanc de Noir 2013, Okanagan Valley	75
Sperling Brut 2010, South Kelowna Benches	89
Blue Mountain Blanc de Blancs 2009, Okanagan Valley	110

Australia

Sparkling wine began here as “Sparkling Burgundy” and was in fact red. Records show in 1881 the Victorian Champagne Company selling its first bottles. Sparkling Shiraz is still made today across Australia, however the sparkling white area is packed with stunning depth of complexity and amazing value.

Longview Vineyards ‘W. Wagtail’ Brut 2013, Adelaide Hills	69
Heemskerk ‘Abel’s Tempest’ 2011, Tasmania	92
Jansz ‘Premium Cuvée’ NV, Tasmania	79

Portugal

Offering brilliant value, the quality - sparkling wines of Portugal are known as Espumante. The are made from a handful of native grapes like Arinto, Bical and Sercial. The first Espumante of repute is known as the Wine of Shakespeare who first wrote about it in 1594.

Quinta da Murta ‘The Wine of Shakespeare’ Brut Nature NV,	78
São João Brut 2013, Bairrada	58

Spain

Sparkling wine from Spain is called Cava. It is primarily made from the Macabeo, Parellada and Xarel-lo grapes. Although not available here, the first sparkling made was in 1851 by Mont-Ferrant Winery. (Augusti Vilarte) The first produced using the Traditional Method was in 1872 by Josep Ravenós at the famed Codorniu Winery.

Codorniu 'Seleccion Raventós' Rosé NV, Penèdes	53
Bodegas Muga 'Conde de Haro' Brut NV, Rioja	79
La Vida Al Camp Brut NV, Sant Sadurní d'Anoia	68
Segura Viudas 'Grand Cuvée' Reserva Brut NV, Penèdes	59
Alta Alella 'Privat Laietà' Gran Reserva 2011, Calatolia	99
Raventós i Blanc 'l'Hereu' Brut 2013 - Catalunya, Spain	88
Raventós i Blanc 'Manuel Raventós' Brut 2007 - Catalunya	235

United States

Sparkling wine dates back to 1842 in the United States. The first bottles made were handcrafted by Nicholas Longworth from the historic Catawba grapes grown on the banks of the Ohio River. Sadly not available here, we can say that in 1967 Schramsberg produces the first sparkling in California. Their wines offer an experience on par with Champagne from France.

Schramsberg Blanc de Blancs 2013, North Coast	150
Trump Winery Blanc de Blanc 2009, Montecillo	118
Gloria Ferrer ' Royal Cuvée ' 1996, Carneros	120
Domaine Chandon Blanc de Noir , Napa Valley	75
Gruet Brut Rosé NV, Albuquerque	75

Germany

Sparkling wine made in Germany is known as Sekt. In 1826, Georg Christian Von Kessler created Germany's first sparkling wine after working in the Champagne region of France. Today this wine is still crafted at the family's estate.

Kessler Hochgewächs Chardonnay Brut NV, Württemberg	89
Schloss Reinhartshausen Riesling Brut NV, Rheingau	95
Selbach Oster Riesling Brut 2011, Mosel	100

Italy

Italy has two purposeful sparkling wines. Franciacorta and Prosecco. Franciacorta is created in the Lombardy region using the Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Blanc grapes. It is considered a pinnacle wine on par with those of Champagne using the same methode of production. Despite dating back to 1570 it was Guido Berlucchi in the 1960's, who started it commercially. Among the original 11 was the revered Ca' del Bosco. Prosecco hails from the Veneto region and is actually the grape it is produced from. Using a different production method [Charmat - aka Tank] , these wines are accessible for everyday enjoyment.

Ca' del Bosco Franciacorta NV, Lombardy	140
Ferghettina Franciacorta 2006, Lombardy	149
Lo Sparviere 'Cuvée n.7' Franciacorta NV, Lombardy	115
Braida Brachetto d'Acqui NV, Piedmont	75
Gancia <i>Brut Rosé</i> NV, Piedmont	49
La Tordera 'Alne Millesimato' Prosecco Extra Dry - Trevio	65
Mionetto Sergio <i>Prosecco Extra Dry</i> NV, Veneto	69
Adami Vigneto Giardino <i>Prosecco Superiore</i> 2013, Veneto	77
Bottega 'IL Vino dei Poeti' <i>Rosé Gold Brut Prosecco</i> NV, Veneto	88
Cantine Ferrari <i>Brut</i> NV - Trentino, Italy	75

Chapter 5

A Bottle of White Never Hurt Anyone

White by the bottle

LangeTwins <i>Moscato (dry)</i> 2015, USA	65
Thornhaven <i>Gewurztraminer</i> 2016, Canada	55
Eblin-Fuchs Zellenberg <i>Riesling</i> 2014, France	64
Chapoutier 'Belleruche' <i>Grenache Blanc Blend</i> 2015, France	48
Colterenzio 'Lumo' <i>Pinot Grigio</i> 2014 - Alto-Adige, IT	60
Bischöfliche Weingüter Trier 'DOM' <i>Riesling</i> 2013 - Mosel	75
Laughing Stock <i>Pinot Gris</i> 2016, Canada	52
B. Vintners 'Haarlem of Hope' <i>Chenin Blanc</i> 2014, South Africa	80
Hanna Estate <i>Sauvignon Blanc</i> 2014, USA	75
Pascal Jolivet <i>Sauvignon Blanc</i> 2016 - Sancerre, FR	99
Domaine Garnier & Fils <i>Chardonnay</i> 2015 - Chablis, FR	98
Rudolf Rabl 'Käferberg' <i>Grüner Veltliner</i> 2011 - Kamptal	85
Jadot Pouilly Fuissé <i>Chardonnay</i> 2014, France	115
Little Engine 'Silver' <i>Chardonnay</i> 2015, Canada	99
David Bynum 'River West' <i>Chardonnay</i> 2014, USA	79
Trump Winery <i>Chardonnay</i> 2015, USA	89

Chapter 6

**99 Bottles of Red on the Wall,
99 Bottles of Red**

Red by the bottle

Spy Valley <i>Pinot Noir</i> 2014, New Zealand	75
Wente 'Charles Wetmore' <i>Cabernet Sauvignon</i> 2014, USA	88
Alpha Box & Dice 'Kit & Kaboodle' <i>Montepulciano</i> 2011, AU	65
Tamaya Reserva <i>Carménère</i> 2010, Chile	56
Great Northern Vineyards <i>Zinfandel</i> 2014, BC	59
Domaine du Cause 'La Lande Cavagnac' <i>Malbec</i> 2012, France	82
Punto Final Reserva <i>Malbec</i> 2014 Argentina	65
Les Jamelles <i>Syrah</i> 2014, France	48
Torbreck 'Wood Cutter' <i>Shiraz</i> 2015, Australia	89
Laughing Stock <i>Syrah</i> 2015, Canada	95
Angels & Cowboys <i>Zinfandel</i> blend 2013 – Sonoma	108
Daydreamer 'Meritage' <i>Cabernet Sauvignon Blend</i> 2013, Canada	59
Trump Winery 'Meritage' <i>Cabernet Sauvignon Blend</i> 2014, USA	89
Kettle Valley 'McGraw' <i>Merlot</i> 2013, Canada	85
Antica Vigna <i>Corvina Blend</i> 2012, Italy	110
Santa Ema 'Catalina' <i>Cabernet Blend</i> 2013, Chile	135
Fontodi Chianti Classico <i>Sangiovese</i> 2013, Italy	95
Vanessa Meritage <i>Cabernet Blend</i> 2012, Canada	98
Stonestreet 'Estate' <i>Cabernet Sauvignon</i> 2013, USA	145
Duck Pond 'Reserve' <i>Pinot Noir</i> 2015 – Willamette Valley	120

Reserve Wines

White

Schloss Lieser Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese 2015 Mosel, DE	115
Zind-Humbrecht 'Hengst' Grand Cru Gewurztraminer 2013 Alsace, FR	265
Domaine Seguin-Manuel 'Vieilles Vignes' 2014 Puligny Montrachet, Burgundy, FR	250
CheckMate 'Fool's Mate' Chardonnay 2013 Golden Mile Bench, BC	159
Shafer 'Red Shoulder Ranch' Chardonnay 2014 Napa Valley/Carneros	235
Quintarelli 'Ca' del Merlo' Garganega blend 2015 Veneto, IT	175

Red

Santa Ema 'Catalina' Cabernet blend 2013, Maipo, CH	135
Castiglion del Bosco Brunelo di Montalcino 2011, Tuscany, IT	169
Brovia 'Villero' Barolo Nebbiolo 2012, Piedmont	275
Stonestreet 'Estate' Cabernet Sauvignon 2013 Alexander Vly, US	145
Hall Winery Cabernet Sauvignon 2013, Napa Valley	250
Domiane Leroy 2009 - Santenay, Burgundy, FR	500

Glossary

Appellation controlee (AC/AOC): *French wine laws that dictate which varieties can be planted in specific regions, certain production methods, etc. These tight controls are not a guarantee of quality, unfortunately.*

Barolo: *A big, dark, tannic and heavy red wine grown and produced near the town of Barolo in the Piedmont region of Italy. Often seen as one of Italy's best table wines, Barolo is made from the Nebbiolo grape. The best Barolos are given considerable age prior to release for sale.*

Blanc de Blancs: *A Champagne or Sparkling Wine term referring to white wine made from only white (usually Chardonnay and Pinot Blanc) grapes.*

Blanc de Noir: *A Champagne or Sparkling Wine term referring to white wine made from black (Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier or, ahem, Wrotham Pinot) grapes.*

Brut: *French term referring to the driest (least sweet) Champagne. Pronounce Brut to rhyme with foot. Brut is always drier (less sweet) than "Extra Dry." Wouldn't you think that anybody smart enough to figure out how to use density as a substitute for sugar analysis would avoid stubbing his toe by using the term "Extra Dry"*

Burgundy: *One of the most well-known and finest wine regions in the world, Burgundy is located in eastern France, just southeast of Chablis. It includes the famous Cote d'Or in the north, which itself is divided into two parts, Cote de Nuits as the northern half and Cote de Beaune as the southern half. Three lesser regions of Burgundy lie to the south of the Cote d'Or: Chalonnais, Maconnais and Beaujolais. The early Romans found vines already growing in Burgundy when they arrived and it is not known with certainty from*

whence they were brought or when. The finest red Burgundies are produced from Pinot Noir grapes; the finest whites, from Chardonnay. Other red varieties are grown (Gamay and Pinot Gris) and there are many, many clones of Pinot Noir in Burgundian vineyards as well. Additional white varieties include Pinot Blanc, Aligote and Melon de Bourgogne.

Cabernet: "The" grape variety in the Medoc district of Bordeaux, France. Two true Cabernets exist, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon, but only the latter is meant when the single word "Cabernet" is spoken. Both varieties are superior for winemaking provided they are grown in a proper climate and, predictably, they blend together beautifully in table wine.

Chablis: A wine region in central France named for the village near its center. By appellation rules, these wines are produced 100% from Chardonnay.

Champagne: The sparkling wine produced in the Champagne region of France. By treaty, other European countries may not use the name "Champagne" for their sparkling wines (similar to the situation with "Chablis," above). However, in the United States, the name is not proscribed and some producers still use it. The practice is changing, especially among American producers of higher priced Sparkling wines and, today, most simply call their products "Sparkling Wine."

Chateau: French word meaning a wine estate, used especially in the Bordeaux region of France.

Chianti: Medium to full-bodied red table wine of Tuscany in Italy. Chiantis are blends, but the primary grape variety used is Sangiovese.

Cremant: *A category of champagne or sparkling wine that contains less carbonation than standard champagnes or sparkling wines. Cremant Champagnes are usually quite light and fruity.*

Cru: *French word for growth. It refers to a vineyard of especially high quality, such as a classified growth or "cru classe."*

Cuvee: *A given lot or batch on wine usually held in a single tank or large cask. Cuvee often refers to a specific blend of still wines that was blended purposely for later champagne making.*

Demi-sec: *Champagne term signifying that the product is medium-sweet.*

Dosage: *The few ounces of wine, often sweetened, which is added to each bottle of Champagne after disgorging to make up for the liquid volume lost by disgorging.*

Dry: *In the wine world, dry is never the opposite of wet. Whether in a fermentation tank or in a wine glass, dry means the complete absence of sugar in the wine.*

Èpernay: *City on the Marne River in the Champagne region of northern France. The city is located very near the center of all the vineyards of the Champagne region and it is a major center for the business of Champagne production.*

Extra Dry: *In Champagne this term usually means "extra sweet." You knew that already if you've checked the Brut entry. Only in Sherry can you rely on the term to mean that the wine is really dry. This is one of the confusions that surround wine for no good reason other than to keep you intimidated.*

Fume Blanc: *A name that has come to be synonymous with Sauvignon Blanc table wine. The best ones are dry but there are some Fume Blancs that are sweet.*

Lambrusco: *Not to be confused with Labrusca (though it sometimes is). Produced in northern Italy, Lambruscos are sparkling red wines, usually sweet, light, fruity and pleasant to drink.*

Loire Valley: *One of France's larger wine regions located along the Loire River in west-central France. Major districts within the Loire are: Anjou, Muscadet and Touraine.*

Malbec: *One of the five major red wine grape varieties of Bordeaux. Malbec produces excellent wines in Argentina but is little planted in California because of its history of sparse crops there. No one has determined why that should be true but it may be related to the rootstocks used.*

Merlot: (*mer-lów*) *One of the great red varieties of Bordeaux. Also produces fine red wines in California, Chile, Australia, Argentina and in many other regions where it is often blended with its cousin, Cabernet Sauvignon. However, it must also be said that in head to head competitions, it is unusual for the best Merlot wines to rank higher than the best Cabernet Sauvignon wines.*

Methode Champenoise: *Literally, "made by the Champagne method" the classic, time-consuming way to produce Champagne and many other sparkling wines. This is the traditional bottle-fermented method for producing sparkling wines, including fermenting, aging, riddling and disgorging – all in the same bottle that will eventually reach the consumer.*

Napa: *Town 50 miles northeast of San Francisco; it is at the entrance to Napa Valley, one of California's prime vineyard and wine areas (and now containing well over 300 wineries).*

Pinot: *One of the world's most important family names among the world's wine grape varieties. The most famous member is Pinot Noir, although its white-fruited variant, Pinot Blanc, deserves special*

recognition as well. Chardonnay was incorrectly called "Pinot" for many decades in France and America, but that has changed in recent years. The Chardonnay grape has never been a member of the Pinot family. This web site is partial to a very special clone of Pinot Noir called Wrotham Pinot, which developed naturally over 2000 years in Southeastern England. Cuttings from the one surviving vine in England have been imported into Napa Valley, where Wrotham Pinot vines now produce very small amounts of well-aged Richard Grant Sparkling Wine.

Reims: (pronounced "rans") Beautiful cathedral city in northeastern France. Along with the town of Epernay, Reims is the center of the Champagne region.

Rhone: A major river in southeastern France, flowing from Switzerland to the Mediterranean. The name is commonly given to all the wines produced from vineyards along the river.

Rioja: (re-ó-ha) Spain's best and most well-known region for table wine production. Located just south of the Pyrenees Mountains on the French border with Spain.

Rosé: French word for pink wine, the word is in common use all over the world.

Sauvignon (Sauvignon blanc): White grape, second only to Chardonnay for table wines in many quarters. Used around the world for its ability to produce fine wines in regions a little too warm for the best Chardonnays. Often blended with its sister variety, Semillon.

Sonoma: A coastal county north of San Francisco and one of the top wine producing areas of California. Many Sonoma wines are fully as acceptable, quality wise, as the finest of Napa Valley. Sonoma and Napa Counties have a common border from San Francisco Bay northward along the ridge of the Mayacamas Mountains.

Terroir: Earth or soil, used in the special sense of "place," which includes localized climate, soil type, drainage, wind direction, humidity and all the other attributes which combine to make one location different from another. This word is often mis-translated to mean simply "soil type," giving rise to a great deal of further misunderstanding and argument in which both sides are wrong.

Vintage wine: Wine which was produced from grapes harvested in a single calendar year. Government records must be associated with vintage the wine to prove its identity. If records have been kept, the winemaker is allowed to state the vintage year on the label.

Viognier: A grape variety used for white wine blends in the Rhone Valley of France. It has a distinctive, though difficult to describe, character. Expect to see this used more and more in California.

Zinfandel: A black grape variety, well known in California but almost a total stranger elsewhere in the winegrowing world. Historically, for many decades, Zinfandel has been the most widely planted and important wine grape variety in California. It is certainly similar to the variety called Primitivo in extreme southern Italy