Welcome to The Classic Wine Library, summer 2018

The library is filling rapidly with books covering all winemaking parts of the globe and wine lovers can be sure to find something that intrigues, excites or inspires them in the list of titles being published this season. Old favourites are represented in books such as *The wines of Germany*, while new familiar regions are covered in the form of *The wines of New Zealand*. But our experts also explore the mysteries of the east, both near – in *The wines of Bulgaria, Romania and Moldova* – and far, in *Sake and the wines of Japan*.

We can look forward to more on France next year, with Rosemary George casting her expert eye over the great region of Chablis, Rod Phillips covering *The wines of south-west France*, some familiar, some less so, and Wink Lorch introducing us to the delights of three eastern regions, in *The wines of Jura, Savoie and Bugey*. We’re also very excited to be publishing Stephen Skelton’s *The wines of Great Britain* and *The wines of Portugal*, from Richard Mayson, whose bestselling *Port and the Douro* is also getting a comprehensive update. Although it seems a long way off we have already started to get excited about 2020, with Rosemary George returning to her love of the south of France for *The wines of Roussillon*, while on the other side of that country Matt Walls explores all that *Wines of the Rhône* have to offer. In *Fizz!* Anthony Rose celebrates the world of sparkling wine as we toast another vintage year for The Classic Wine Library.

**The wines of Bulgaria, Romania and Moldova**

Caroline Gilby MW

Eastern Europe is still largely undiscovered in western markets but is a source of fascinating, unique and authentic wine styles based on long-established history. This is the first book devoted to the region’s most important wine-producing countries, in all of which wine is a major employer and driver of economic progress. Gilby provides detailed information on the history of wine production as well as the climate and geography that help shape the wines, and analyses the parts played by culture and politics in the development of these wine industries. For each country, Gilby supplies details on key wine styles and important grape varieties and adds a human interest angle by speaking to those involved in the industry and highlighting wineries to look out for.

The wines of New Zealand
Rebecca Gibb MW

There is far more to New Zealand’s wines than aromatic, zingy Sauvignon Blancs. In this new book Rebecca Gibb opens our eyes to the huge variety of wines created in the two islands that make up the world’s southernmost wine-producing land. Gibb covers the history of winemaking in New Zealand and details the geography and climate of the country, the cultivation of the grapes and wine production methods. The bulk of the book is divided into two sections, covering the most prominent and interesting producers of the major wine growing regions, from the warmer North Island, with its riper and richer wine styles, to the cooler South, where wines are crisper and more pungent. The book concludes with an assessment of the challenges facing the country’s wine industry and the opportunities available to its producers.


Sake and the wines of Japan
Anthony Rose

Brewed in Japan for more than 2000 years, sake’s long history makes it culturally important, featuring in ceremony and religion, and associated with myths, legends and stories. The recent market for premium sake has revived a declining industry and seen sales flourish both within Japan and worldwide. Many misconceptions surround Japan’s national drink but Anthony Rose’s new book brings clarity to the confusion surrounding this fascinating rice wine. Rose explains sake labels and provides a detailed discussion of the parts played by climate and geography, water, rice, yeast and koji (fermentation mould) in creating sake’s flavours. An entire section is devoted to profiling the most important breweries across the main sake-producing regions. The book also includes several chapters on Japan’s burgeoning grape-wine industry.

The wines of Germany
Anne Krebiehl MW

Arguably Germany is the world’s most misunderstood wine country. Hobbled by confusing wine laws, labelling conventions that mean little to non-German speakers and still overcoming a residual Liebfraumilch image, Germany has been described as the bane of every wine lover’s life. But despite this baggage Germany today is a vibrant, creative and progressive wine country at the very heart of Europe. German wine expert Anne Krebiehl presents the new Germany to the world, and gets rid of a few misconceptions and prejudices in the process. Each region is profiled in terms of its specific climate, soils, history, predominant grape varieties and current dynamics, and there are key producer profiles, including the well-known estates along with some interesting newcomers.


The wines of Jura, Savoie and Bugey
Wink Lorch

This comprehensive guide to France’s three eastern wine regions is structured to highlight the differences between them, providing the facts and anecdotes behind the vineyards, the wines and the people making them. Beginning with a thorough evaluation of the respective geographies and histories the book goes on to provide an assessment of the climates and soils, grape varieties and methods of production in each region. A whole section is devoted to the producers themselves with an introduction to the trade structure of négociants, co-operatives and single growers in each region. The wines of Jura, Savoie and Bugey will broaden the knowledge of anybody already interested in this up-and-coming wine-growing area and entice new enthusiasts by introducing the region’s most exciting wines and producers.

The wines of Chablis
Rosemary George MW

Building on her pioneering books on the region, *The wines of Chablis and the Yonne* and *The wines of Chablis and the Grand Auxerrois*, Rosemary George brings the story of Chablis completely up to date. Beginning with the history of the region, from St Martin de Tours in the fourth century to the effects of disease and war in the twentieth and Chablis’ more recent fight back, George goes on to consider the vineyards, the *crus*, viticulture and vinification of Chablis. The bulk of the book is an invaluable who’s who of Chablis winemakers and estates. George also profiles the most important wine growers of the surrounding areas, the Grand Auxerrois, including the Côtes d’Auxerre, Irancy, Coulanges-la-Vineuse, St Bris le Vineux, Chitry-le-Fort, Joigny, Tonnerre, Epineuil and Vézelay. Appendices cover more than 100 years of vintages, with vineyard areas and *bans de vendanges* dates.


The wines of Great Britain
Stephen Skelton MW

Great Britain is a premium wine-producing region, with around 650 vineyards in England and Wales covering some 2,750 hectares and producing sparkling and still wines. In *The wines of Great Britain* Stephen Skelton MW, the leading authority on these wines, undertakes a comprehensive survey of the history of the country’s wines from King Alfred in the fifth century to the present day, as well as an examination of the current state of the wine industry and its future prospects. A substantial part of this book is the 21 detailed biographies of the most important, exciting and innovative producers and the wines they create. Wine businesses profiled in detail include Breaky Bottom, Chapel Down, Nyetimber, Oxney Organic Estate and Yorkshire Heart Vineyard. Shorter entries on other significant or up-and-coming producers also feature.

The wines of south-west France
Rod Phillips

Wine production in south-west France goes back a long way. The region includes some of the first districts in France to be planted with vines by the Romans, more than two thousand years ago. It is also the earliest-known location of scores of grape varieties, some of them precursors of international varieties such as Malbec and Cabernet Franc. Although south-west France is the country’s fourth largest wine producer, very few wine consumers are familiar with more than two or three of its appellations. Cahors and Madiran are well-known but we don’t hear much about less fashionable appellations such as Rosette and Béarn. The wines of south-west France covers the region in an accessible way, from the botrytized sweet whites of Monbazillac to the teeth-staining reds of Cahors, and the distinctive dry whites of Jurançon to the tannic reds of Madiran.


The wines of Portugal
Richard Mayson

A revolution has been taking place in the vineyards and wineries of Portugal during the last twenty years, bringing hundreds of new wines, many from indigenous grapes, onto the international market. Previously thought of as a producer of mainly red wine, Portugal is now proving it is capable of making world-class white wines too. In order to examine the terroirs that make this small but varied country so unique The wines of Portugal divides the country into four areas – Atlantic, mountains, plains and islands – providing detailed descriptions of the demarcated wine regions, the growers and the wines they produce. From crisp Vinhos Verdes in the Atlantic north-west through the Douro, Dão and Lisbon to the big, bold reds of the Alentejo and newcomers from the Algarve, this book is an up-to-date appraisal of Portugal’s vineyards and wine producers.

Wines of the Rhône
Matt Walls
One of the greatest, largest and most ancient wine regions of France, the Rhône remains remarkably accessible and true to itself despite growing in size and reputation in recent years. This new exploration of the wines of the region covers the history, geography, vine growing and winemaking methods of all the appellations of the Rhône, from timeless Côte-Rôtie and Châteauneuf-du-Pape to insider secrets such as the forgotten Brézème and Seyssuel. Featuring interviews with some of the most respected winemakers and personalities of the region, Wines of the Rhône also includes fascinating insights and anecdotes from experts based further afield. Vintage guides give a brief description of the quality and typical wine styles in both red and white from 1978 to the present day, detailing main vintage characteristics and any over- or underperforming appellations.


Fizz!
Champagne and sparkling wines of the world
Anthony Rose
Sparkling wine consumption is on the increase. Even as recently as 20 years ago, most sparkling wines were either attempts at copying The Real Thing or simply ways of getting bubbles in a glass as cheaply as possible. This has all changed. In Fizz! Anthony Rose brings us the stories behind the wines, exploring the changes in vineyard and cellar that have led to the blossoming of this wine sector and explaining why it’s worth paying more for the better wines. Fizz! sets out the huge diversity of wine styles now on offer, from champagne itself to pretenders to the throne such as Great Britain’s sparkling wines, to those produced in emerging countries like China, Japan and India, and presents profiles of the producers making a difference to fizz across the globe.


All books 234 x 156mm, paperback, £30
The wines of Roussillon
Rosemary George MW

Roussillon, the sunniest (and driest) region of France, currently produces around 22 million gallons of wine a year and is the ninth largest producer of wine in France. With its unique patchwork of micro-terroirs Roussillon offers a diverse range of wines, including dry, still wines and fortified sweet wines. George considers the rich history of the region, particularly the Spanish effect, and explains the predominance of vin doux naturel before moving on to the viticulture, winemaking and grape varieties, and the extraordinary variety of terroirs and soils of the region. The main body of The wines of Roussillon is the series of chapters by appellation, covering the key wine growers, with a balance of well-established and newcomers, as well as cooperatives.


Port and the Douro
Revised and updated edition
Richard Mayson

This ever-popular book has been updated to include vintages up to 2016 and incorporate recent changes in the industry. Telling port’s story from the beginnings of the wine trade in Portugal to the present day, it offers readers the inside story of these magnificent wines. An entire chapter is dedicated to vintage port and all the producers and shippers are included in a comprehensive directory. There is a chapter dedicated to Douro wines and a travel guide for those wishing to visit the region. Mayson closes by addressing some of the challenges and changes that continue affect port and Douro wines. Students and enthusiasts will find this an indispensable reference guide to the world’s greatest fortified wine.

Our bestselling backlist …

The wines of northern Spain, Sarah Jane Evans MW (344 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–96–8)
Over the last few decades Spain has become one of the most exciting wine-producing countries in the world. Indeed, such has been the growth in the number of producers that it is no longer possible to cover the whole country in one book. Although rightly famed for the wines of Rioja, the north of Spain has even more to offer the wine adventurer, as across the country a new generation is joining established producers in a remarkable blossoming of fine wines. Written by award-winning Spanish wine specialist Sarah Jane Evans MW, The wines of northern Spain is essential reading for all interested in the ongoing revival of Spanish wines.

Wines of the Languedoc, Rosemary George MW (374 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–86–9)
The Languedoc is one of the world’s largest and most exciting wine regions, with more than 2,500 wineries. In recent decades its relatively affordable land and exciting creative possibilities have attracted winemakers from around the world and it has finally found its place among the great wine regions. Wines of the Languedoc profiles a selection of those producers who have made and continue to boost the region’s reputation.

Wine, Rod Phillips (266 pages, 978–1–908984–89–0, £25)
Wine is a drink with a long history, produced in every continent apart from Antarctica, and there are very few places on Earth where its sale and consumption are prohibited outright. It should not then come as any surprise to discover that it has had a hand in shaping society and culture across the globe. Taking a thematic approach to his subject, wine historian Rod Phillips discovers the profound effect this seemingly simple grape-based drink has had on our landscapes, politics, language and social interactions.

The wines of Greece, Konstantinos Lazarakis MW (424 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–72–2)
The many responses of vine growers and winemakers to the Greek land have created a host of different wines – sweet wines from Samos, the famed Malvasia from the Peloponnese and new, surprising wines from oenological innovators throughout the country. It is to the work of these winemakers that the bulk of the book is dedicated; Lazarakis has tirelessly explored Greece’s 700 wineries and here focuses on some of the most inventive producers and interesting wines available.
Rosé, Elizabeth Gabay MW (334 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–13–5)
Rosé has seen a huge boom in sales over the last twenty-five years. Popular particularly with younger drinkers, its move into the spotlight seems to be part of a fashion for all things pink. The wines are often thought of as fresh and undemanding but while for many that is part of their appeal, here Master of Wine Elizabeth Gabay reveals the other side of rosé, discovering wines (some unavailable beyond the winery steps) that are every bit as complex and intriguing as their red and white cellarmates.

Amarone and the fine wines of Verona, Michael Garner (284 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–69–2)
The Veronese wine regions of Soave and Valpolicella – home to Amarone – are currently producing some of the world’s most drinkable quality wines. But both regions still struggle with a reputation for cheap, poor-quality wines brought about through industrial-scale production during the economic depression following the Second World War. In Amarone and the fine wines of Verona, Italian wine specialist Michael Garner traces a shift in focus towards new levels of quality driven by a generation of producers inspired by the area’s outstanding potential for producing fine wine.

Côte d’Or, Raymond Blake (292 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–93–7)
The narrow strip of the Côte d’Or holds some of the world’s most expensive vineyard real estate, where some of the great names of French wine are produced. In Côte d’Or Blake transports the reader to the heart of Burgundy to tell the whole story of this hugely influential region, painting a complete picture of life there: the history, the culture, the people, the place, the geography and the climate.

The wines of Canada, Rod Phillips (254 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–98–2)
Discusses key producers of the main wine-producing regions (British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia), and the styles of wine most characteristic of their production, as well as analysing vintage variation and noteworthy viticultural and winemaking techniques, such as the practice in some regions of burying vines to protect them from winter temperatures.
The wines of Faugères, Rosemary George (228 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–71–5)
A comprehensive guide to the wines of a small, distinct region of Languedoc, this covers the history, geography and climate of the region, as well as its grape varieties and viticulture, before profiling the individual producers and their wines, and contains an indispensable assessment of vintages going back to 1982.
The Circle of Wine Writers update called it, ‘a valuable and gently provocative contribution to professional literature on wine’.

The story of champagne, Nicholas Faith (280 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–68–5)
The new edition of Nicholas Faith’s landmark book is written from the wine-makers’ point of view. This masterpiece of storytelling and analysis that has for decades excited readers about the different types of champagne and the landscape, geology and climate that inspire them also contains an up-to-date evaluation of wines.
The Circle of Wine Writers update found it, ‘an enjoyable read; essential for students, a great aide for tourists and probably the most important Champagne book of the year’.

Madeira, Richard Mayson (282 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–64–7)
A unique guide to a unique wine. Mayson considers the physical character of the archipelago, the vineyards and the way in which the wines are made. A guide to the current producers follows, along with a detailed appraisal of their wines. There is also a chapter for collectors of older wines.
Wayward Tendrils says, ‘Richard Mayson, better than any earlier writer has managed to capture [Madeira’s] mystery and paint it clearly for the reader’.

Spirits Distilled, Mark Ridgwell (272 pages, 978–1–908984–67–8)
This third edition is a comprehensive guide to all of the major spirits categories. Mark Ridgwell explains the principles of distillation and how to taste spirits as well as the history and legends behind both popular and less fashionable spirits. The new edition also features cocktails from expert mixologist Michael Butt.
Michael John Sweetman, National Vice President of the UK Bartender’s Guild, says that ‘This is an absolute must for anyone who is thinking of becoming a bartender, the information in here is invaluable’.

All books 234 x 156mm, paperback, £30
Sherry, Julian Jeffs (272 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–63–0)
This sixth edition, fully updated for 2016, explores the links between Jerez’s history and culture, and the development of the sherry trade. It provides extensive details of shippers, from the traditional family firms to the new boutique bodegas, along with thorough appendices for those who wish to delve into the fine details.
‘[Jeffs’] intimate knowledge of this most versatile of fortified wines shines through every page’ – TLS

Cognac, Nicholas Faith (224 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–65–4)
This fully revised third edition provides an authoritative account of how the much-loved spirit is produced and matured, an engaging review of the history and personalities, and a comprehensive directory of cognac producers and their products.
‘the essential companion for every cognac enthusiast’ – Brandy Classics

The wines of Austria, Stephen Brook (318 pages, colour plates, 978–1–908984–66–1)
Regarded as a marvel in the wine world, Austrian wine has experienced a sensational quality boom in the last 20 years. Brook’s The wines of Austria introduces Austrian terroir and grape varieties before supplying a comprehensive guide to the 16 key wine regions. A final chapter assesses vintages, analysing the last 10 years in detail.

Biodynamic wine, Monty Waldin (238 pages, 978–1–908984–70–8)
Monty Waldin’s Biodynamic wine is a comprehensive and entertaining guide to the most argued-about green wine-making phenomenon of recent years. It is both an ideal how-to manual for growers and a fascinating guide for wine professionals and wine lovers alike.