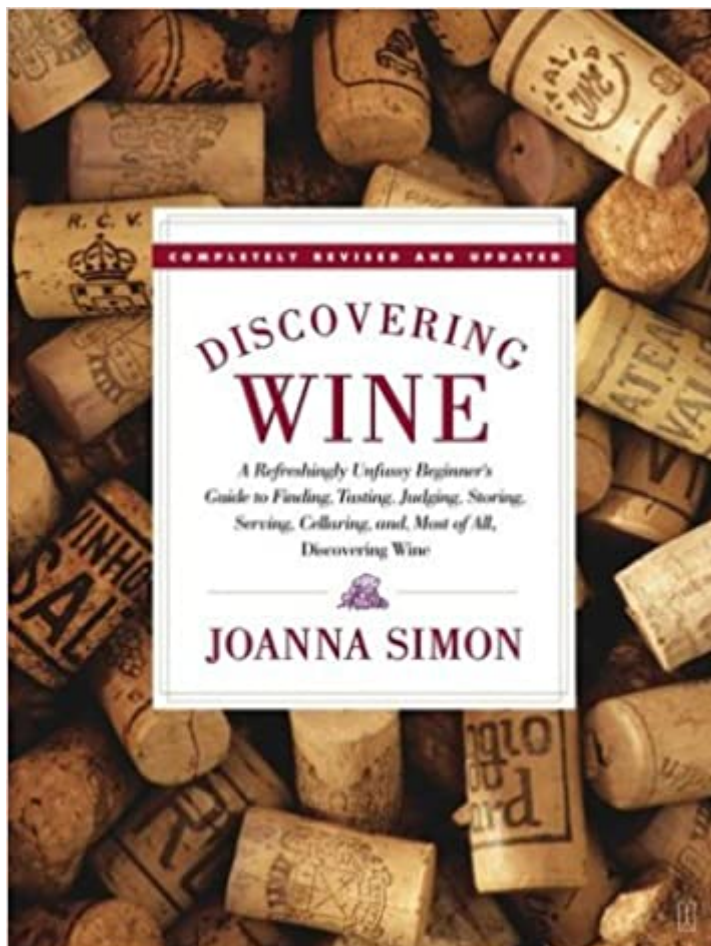


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# Discovering Wine



## Synopsis

Discovering Wine has been hailed by new and experienced wine lovers everywhere as the classic, approachable introduction to the luscious world of wine. In this revised and updated edition, Simon addresses the latest wine trends and provides brand-new information on vintages recently established in countries and continents around the globe. More than 250 full-color photographs, maps, and charts beautifully complement Simon's effervescent approach to the fascinating world of wine, and help to dispel the mystique that so often surrounds the subject. She provides the crucial hints that will help you to become a wine aficionado—virtually overnight. You will learn how to

- Taste and judge wine like an expert
- Correctly match food and wine
- Follow the newest guidelines for serving and storing your wines
- Discern classic wines from those that emulate them
- Understand the importance and role of grapes
- Know when a particular wine is ready to drink

In addition to demystifying wine, Simon explores famous vineyards and explains how the winemakers use grapes to their most delicious advantage. And after a concise but thorough roundup of today's wine styles, Simon conducts a tour through the wine regions of the world—from Chianti to Coonawarra, from Médoc to Moldova, and everywhere in between. As entertaining as it is informative, Discovering Wine is destined to remain the definitive beginner's guide to wine.

## Book Information

Paperback: 157 pages

Publisher: Touchstone; Subsequent edition (November 4, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0743253361

ISBN-13: 978-0743253369

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,291,297 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in [Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Beverages & Wine > Wine & Spirits > Cellars](#) #283 in [Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Beverages & Wine > Wine & Spirits > Buying Guides](#) #317 in [Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Beverages & Wine > Wine & Spirits > Wine Tasting](#)

## Customer Reviews

The subtitle says it all: Discovering Wine is, indeed, "a refreshingly unfussy beginner's guide to finding, tasting, judging, storing, serving, cellaring, and, most of all, Discovering Wine." If you

thought you'd have to make a spectacle of yourself in public--sniffing corks, gargling bordeaux, etc.--in order to become educated on the subject of wine, relax. Author Joanna Simon makes it clear that even the most retiring persons can learn to judge wine without drawing attention to themselves. Using a combination of pictures and text, Simon describes the steps involved in tasting, serving, and storing wine. She offers suggestions for matching wines with different foods, then takes the reader on a tour of famous vineyards, explaining just what goes into a really fine vintage. Finally, she includes brief descriptions of the best-known wines from wine-growing regions the world over. So if you don't know your Asti from your Madeira, let Joanna Simon set you on the road to knowledge with *Discovering Wine*. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Joanna Simon, a former editor of *Wine* magazine and *Wine & Spirit International*, is the award-winning wine writer of *The Sunday Times* (London) and a contributor to *Style* magazine. She was the broadcaster of BBC Radio 4's first series devoted to wine and has made numerous television appearances on wine-related subjects. She divides her time between London and France.

Better one is *Wine for Dummies*

older book, but still has a great amount of good need to know stuff.

This is the best one I ever bought. Strongly recommend. Can't fault it so far. It does a good job. Nice. They are so worthy for the price, Highly recommend this product Thing received, very good oh, like very much, very good seller. the evaluation is good also, the owner is very careful, also sent the gift to me. it has a good cost performance.

I'm a beginner. When I received "*Discovering Wine*" by Joanna Simon as a gift, I felt intimidated. Would it be stuffy or over my head? Its strength is in the simple presentation of the facts. The chapters are clearly titled, like "Matching food with wine" and "Ways to store your wine." The writing is clean, though it comes across slightly elitist (ex: choosing 'wend' instead of 'wind,' noting a certain country produces a 'credible' variety of wine). It is balanced by an encyclopedic style, providing insight into the basics of wine appreciation. Many countries are highlighted for their vineyards and wines. Learn which wines are made where, and how the process is distinguished from country to country. The pictures are sharp, beautiful and informative. You'll see terraces of Germany, hills of Tuscany, and the mountains of Peru in sheer splendor and relevance. Especially useful for me was

the lexicon of tasting terms, a brief lesson on wine tasting and what to look for, and a discussion (with perfect pictures) on which glasses and decanters to use. The weakest aspect of the book was the chapter on matching food and wine, but the weakness was not in the content, but in the brevity. Ten pages should have been 20. I fully recommend "Discovering Wine" by Joanna Simon as a first book. Anthony Trendl

Overall, this was a nice introduction to wine. However, it was obviously written in the early nineties, so the good year/bad year tips on many of the white wines that were not meant to age for ten years are kind of useless today (For some wines, 1987 may have been a good year if you drank it in 1991, but in 2001 it might taste a little closer to vinegar than you prefer.) But if you learn enough to know that the book you are reading is outdated, then you must have learned something. Three stars.

The book does a good job of briefing novice and experienced wine drinkers. I like the section on regions and explanations of varietals. Great coffee table book to educate and get friends interested in wines.

This is a really nice book, to get you started in wine appreciation. I also bought a Perfect Sommelier, because I wanted to taste the wine as soon as I bought it, instead of waiting years for it to be cellared. Use Google to search for it. The book really helped in locating some of the many varieties of wine that are available today. I love the 'Dummy' book too!

I thought that all the pictures were very helpful. There is a lot of background information on the countries that make wine. The reading is positively refreshing and easily read. Unfortunately, as an amateur wine connoisseur I wished that they would have something a little more tangible. For example I like to drink zinfandel, but there are many different companies that make zinfandel. Some are good and some are bad. I was hoping to get a list of some of the more well liked as well as less liked brand names. That way I could have more of an idea what professional wine-tasters look for. Instead of thinking that my second rate 10\$ bottle of wine is the same as some 50\$ bottle of wine.

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