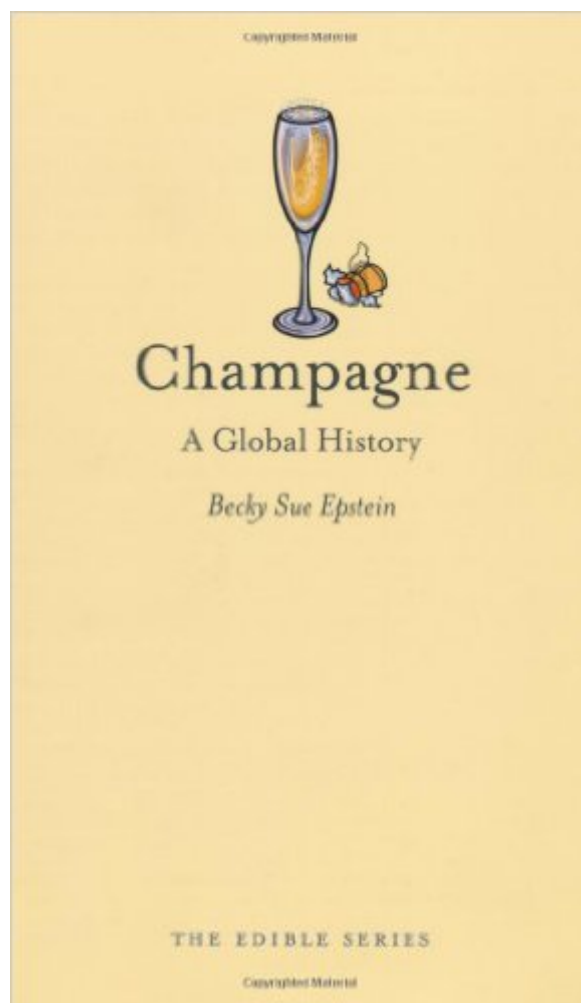


The book was found

Champagne: A Global History (Reaktion Books - Edible)



Synopsis

From the smash of a bottle on the side of a new ship to the pop of the cork at a New Year's Eve party champagne signals celebration, fun, and camaraderie all over the world. Bubbly, as we affectionately call it, is a symbol of luxury and decadence and the go-to drink whenever there is an important toast. This history from Becky Sue Epstein is a celebration of the world's most celebratory drink. Here, Epstein chronicles champagne's story, from the world's first sparkling wine, produced in Limoux, Languedoc, in 1531 by monks at an abbey in Saint-Hilaire to the celebrities who made champagnes famous and continue to do so today from Dom Perignon to the widow Veuve Cliquot. Most important, Epstein fully explains the distinction between champagne and sparkling wine. In this informative chronicle, she answers whether French champagne is really better than other sparkling wines and elucidates the science behind that characteristic fizz and bubble. She takes the reader on a tour of vineyards in wine regions around the world and teaches the correct techniques for storing and serving champagne and sparkling wines. Whether you prefer magnums of Cristal or the affordable thrill of Cold Duck, Champagne is an invaluable complement to any bubbly glass and an informative, elegant gift for connoisseurs, beginners, and wine lovers of all kinds.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a lovely little book, full of solid historical information, as well as funny, trendy modern details

of champagne about and why we love it. I thought I knew a lot about the region, Champagne, and the beverage, champagne, but then I read Ms. Epstein's book and found out how much more there was to know. I plan to buy a few copies of the book, get some baskets and put a book and bottle in each, tie them up with a ribbon and then I'll have handy gifts for the holiday season. Now wait, does sell champagne?

In today's busy world this fact-filled book is just the thing when you are at a wine store searching for the perfect bottle to bring to a party, or more important, the "story" behind the bottle! Or at a restaurant, you can zip past those \$300 bottles of fine champagne and find an excellent Spanish or Italian sparkler for under \$30. The writer has a fun style that engages the reader and keeps one interest.

It's amazing how much information, anecdote and effervescence is packed into this compact, champagne-coloured, volume by wine and spirits expert Becky Sue Epstein. Compelling reading that celebrates while also demystifying the mystique of champagne, this is an accessible and entertaining book that should appeal to connoisseurs and beginner bubbly-lovers alike. Epstein manages to take the guilt out of buying inexpensive sparkling wine by pointing out that champagne is, after all, ONLY a sparkling wine - dignified by its colourful history and careful marketing by the fiercely protective producers in the Champagne region of France. She made me feel better about what I'd previously seen as settling for a sparkling wine such as a Spanish 'Cava' - or a Californian 'Brut' that I've learned from this book uses the same grapes as champagne. So now if friends seem to look down their noses as my bubbles go up them I can quote chapter and verse to show them that there is no excuse for being a champagne snob. This is an ideal gift book for actual or aspiring lovers of the good life.

Useful information

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