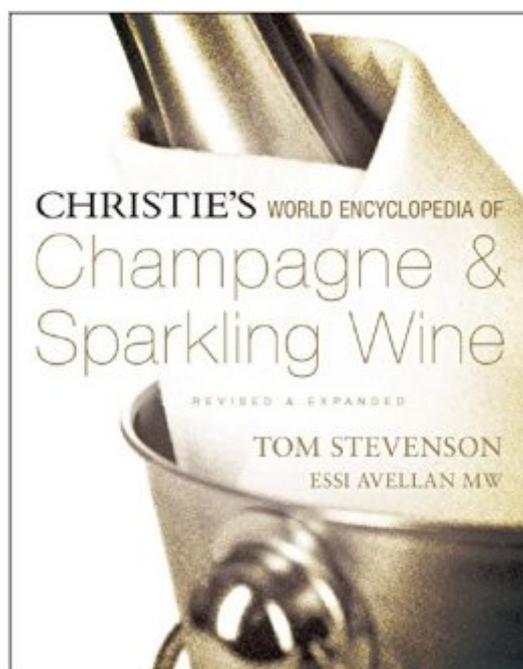


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# Christie's World Encyclopedia Of Champagne & Sparkling Wine



## Synopsis

The classic, award-winning book on Champagne and sparkling wine is now fully revised, updated, and expanded! Created for Christie's, the world's largest wine auctioneer, this edition features all-new photography, nearly 175 additional pages including expanded sections on up-and-coming sparkling wine territories and Champagne itself and freshened-up tasting notes. Throughout, Tom and Essi have fascinating and illuminating exchanges about their personal preferences and opinions. With wine auctions at an all-time high, this definitive guide is a must-have for anyone in the market to buy a fine bottle of Champagne.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book mentions every sparkling wine you've ever heard of and many more that you haven't. I own several other good champagne books, but if I could only choose one, this would be it. My favorite feature: Stevenson mentions the best wines for each vintage -- something no other book I've found does. Highly recommended.

This is the bible about all what you always wanted to know about champagne. Who invented it (Dom Perignon), who is the oldest wine producer in the Champagne (Gosset), which is the oldest champagne company (Ruinart) and which is the best champagne (Krug)? Find out all about the difference between Grand Crus, Premier Crus and Grand Marques. But also learn all about the history and the production process of the methode champenoise. Lastly, there is a comprehensive

list of all French champagne houses, including a brief description and rating, as well as a concise overview of the other sparkling wine regions in the world which, however, are not allowed to call their produce champagne anymore nowadays. The real champagne is restricted to the world-famous region East of Paris.

The only book I have found that covers California sparkling wines in depth and provides comparative notes to French Champagnes. Has a lot of weird stuff in it like sparkling wine made in India and Kenya. Stevenson is quite witty and acerbic in some of his comments and pulls no punches.

This text covers sparkling wines from every major wine producing country in the world. The bulk of the text does cover Champagne, and there are large sections devoted to Sekt, Cava, and Italian sparkling wine (Franciacorta, Asti, etc...). The text has a broad overview of sparkling wine production, then each section has a preface with information pertaining to said region. Within the regions, the text has individual producer entries. While this isn't something that one would necessarily need for passing WSET or CMS exams, it is a handy reference for broadening knowledge of the producers of sparkling wines. Each entry also has a score indicating quality and potential. Champagne houses seem to have the edge, which is natural, but the authors have given some good scores to producers outside the classic region, though with a lower overall average. And while many folks may agree or disagree with the scores, it nonetheless makes for a good barometer for those navigating the thousands of producers in this book. Also of note, Champagne producers are listed with the type of establishment they operate: RM, NM, and so on. This can help readers determine which producers grow their own grapes and which purchase grapes (though it is generally not a quality indicator). If you have someone who loves Champagne and gets really geeky about individual producers, then this is a great gift idea. It can be quite technical, but the information is heavily researched and well laid out. For those more interested in the drink but not the technical information, there are some books which discuss more of the history and have less technical information.

Champagne connoisseurship is probably one of the most hedonistic pursuits (or occupations) anyone could dream of. Although clearly opinionated, the reviews are agreeable and, as far as books specializing in Champagne go, probably the most complete. It's not a book that tries to evaluate individual wines on a 100 point scale, but it gives relative ratings for the domaines as well as certain

luxury cuvees. It's not for everyone, or even every wine enthusiast, but it is indispensable for any Champagne nut.

I bought the new edition, reviewed by Essi Avelan MW and the book is great. A true encyclopedia with wines from all over the world, including Brazil. It is heavy, hardcover, but works great as decoration too. Excellent price!

Great book if you like the fizz. It covers far more than the original book which I believe was published in 1994. It's very thorough and complete. I found the sections on all of Europe and California very well written and insightful.

Fantastic resource for both the novice and the expert. Anyone who enjoys champagne will find this book informative and compelling. Great to read and reference. Nicholas Daddona  
Advance Sommelier, Court of Master Sommeliers

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