INTRODUCTION

We’ve all experienced it on our travels - whether watching a sunset in Italy with a glass of chilled Prosecco or at a barbeque in Australia with a beefy Shiraz - when a local wine could not be more perfectly suited to the moment.

Tasting wine in the place it was made can be a revelation. This book plots a course through 52 of the world’s greatest wine regions, with weekend-long itineraries in each. We encounter California’s cutting-edge wine scene, and the idiosyncratic wines of France’s Jura mountains, and we venture into Spain’s extraordinary wineries and along Portugal’s beautiful Douro River. And we even reach the cultural frontiers of winemaking in Lebanon and Georgia.

In each, our expert writers, including wine buyers and sommeliers, review the most rewarding wineries to visit and the most memorable wines to taste.

This is a book for casual quaffers; there’s no impenetrable language about malolactic fermentation or scoring systems. Instead, we meet some of the world’s most enthusiastic and knowledgeable winemakers and learn about each region’s wines in their own words. It is this personal introduction to wine, in its home, that is at the heart of wine-touring’s appeal.
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