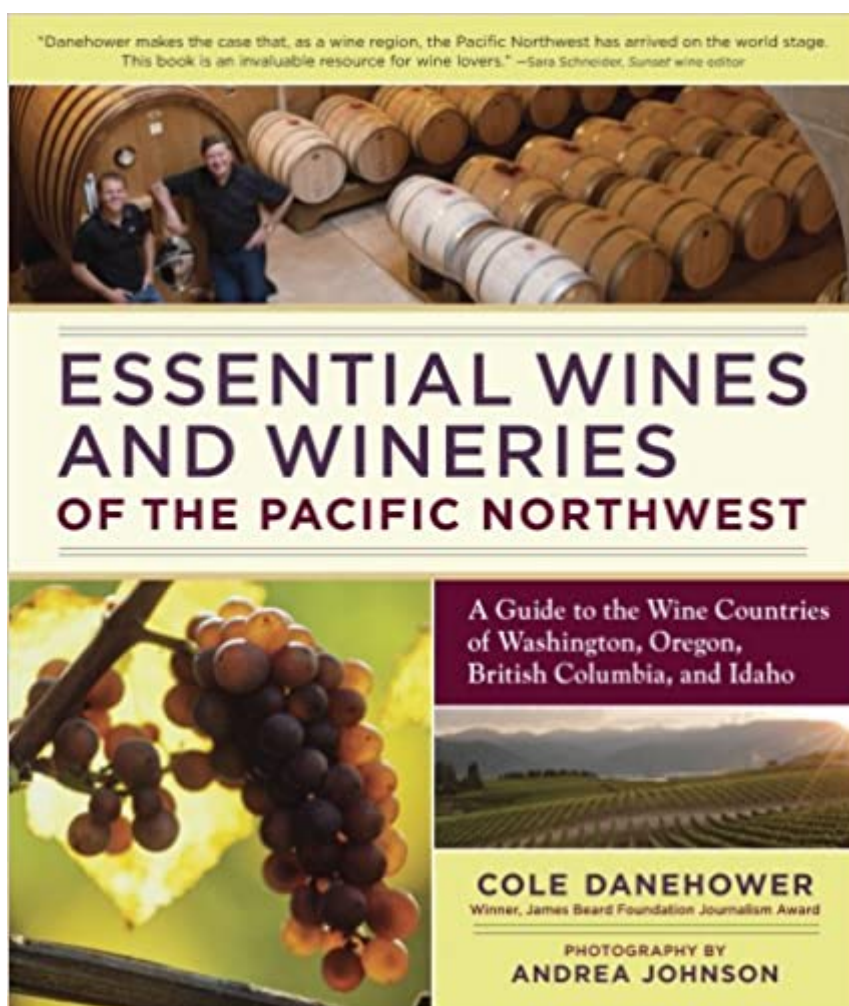


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# Essential Wines And Wineries Of The Pacific Northwest: A Guide To The Wine Countries Of Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, And Idaho



## Synopsis

Superbly balanced pinot noirs; crisp rieslings; rich, heady syrahs: these are only a fraction of the expertly crafted wines being produced in the Pacific Northwest's diverse and distinctive wine countries. Second only to California in production, the Pacific Northwest is the largest wine region in North America, home to more than 1,000 wineries. What was once a young wine-growing area with a reputation for eccentricity is today recognized as a dynamic region producing world-class wines, with a focus on ecologically sound practices. This definitive volume profiles the wines, the people who make them, and the wine countries of Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, and Idaho. The journey begins with the region's climates and geology, which create a fascinating tapestry of wine-growing areas. Next, the book focuses on the unique qualities of each wine region, with profiles of more than 160 representative wineries to visit. Included are legacy wineries that helped to build the region's reputation, prestige wineries with a national presence, under-the-radar artisan wineries that embody the pioneering spirit of the Northwest, and promising new wineries. Each profile lists the winery's signature, premium, value, and estate wines. Beautifully illustrated with photographs and helpful maps, this in-depth guide is a milestone in the North American literature on wine. It will enable wine lovers everywhere to plan their touring, select their wines, and explore and discover the riches of the Northwest's wine country.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Offer[s] much in the way of practical information. "The New York Times" Danehower

offers the most sparkingly concise and well-rounded primer on Northwest wines in recent years. • "The Oregonian" • "Crosscut.com" • "Read this book and you'll get a schooling, and not just in Pacific Northwest wines." • "NorthWest Stir blog" • "As I read about winemakers I know and vineyards I've visited while peering at photos of many of my favorite places in the great Northwest, I can only say, Bravo, and mission accomplished." • "Al Dente blog" • "Helps both industry newcomers and veterans explore new wines and new ways of succeeding in the restaurant wine business." • "Sommelier Journal" • "Finally someone has written a definitive book on the wine regions of Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, and Idaho. Certainly author Cole Danehower is the one most qualified to do it." • "The Prince of Pinot" • "The perfect wine-tasting tour guide." • "SciTech Book News" • "A travelogue of the region's representative wineries, [Danehower] touches on topics such as why wine grapes are superior to table varieties for wine-making purposes, climatic effects on grapes, stylistic differences in Northwest wines and key wine-making terms. A virtual operator's manual for Northwest winemaking." • "OregonLive.com" • "The gorgeous book includes maps, contact information, and production notes, and some truly breathtaking photos from the photographer." • "Daily Andy blog" • "A beautiful overview to Pacific Northwest wine country." • "Bellingham Herald" • "Offers a wealth of information for both the wine novice and the avid connoisseur, in a very easy to digest format. The book is technical and sophisticated enough for the wine savvy, while interesting and engaging even for the neophyte." • "Sip with Me blog" • "This is a book to savor. . . . a book wine writers, wine drinkers and Northwest wine lovers will turn to again and again" • "a testament to a young but exciting, exploratory and established wine region that has found a place on the world's wine stage." • "Oregon Wine Press Magazine"

Cole Danehower has been a leading regional wine journalist for more than a decade, reporting on the wines, winemakers, and wine countries of the Pacific Northwest. A winner of the prestigious James Beard Foundation Journalism Award, he is also copublisher of Northwest Palate and author of that magazine's popular "Inside Northwest Wine" column. His wine writing has also appeared in The San Francisco Chronicle, The Oregonian, The Register Guard, and Wines & Vines. A frequent judge for the Dallas Morning News Wine Competition, the Oregon Wine Competition, the Portland Indie Wine Festival, and numerous regional wine competitions, he is also a popular speaker on the region's wines. Award-winning freelance photographer Andrea Johnson specializes in the imagery of wine, food, travel, and adventure sport. With work appearing

regularly in such publications such as National Geographic, Wine Spectator, Sunset, and VIA, she was also co-photographer of the book *Passion for Pinot*.

This is a useful book for anyone planning a wine tour to the Northwest. It is not particularly useful for anyone wishing to learn about wineries and their wines. Reason: superficial information on climate, soils, vineyards, age of vines, clones, styles of winemaking, etc. In short, it is missing information of interest to readers with a serious interest in wines. Haeger's book "*Pacific Pinot Noir*" is far far more useful for those interested in PN. I bought this book in lieu of a Haeger update. It was a waste of money, learned little or nothing. To be fair there is a cursory description of each wine region's climate, geology, and soils. These writeup provide the only value in the book. The individual winery sections are (as one reviewer noted) "fluff". I gave it 3\* only because of its value as a visiting guide and the wine growing area descriptions. To be clear I do not have in depth knowledge of the Northwest, was seeking it along the same lines as provided by Matt Kramer in "*Making Sense of Burgundy*", Remington Norman's book "*The Great Domaines of Burgundy*" or Allen Meadows wine publication "*The Burghound*". Having read most serious wine books, focusing on Bordeaux, Burgundy, PN and CNDP (with an occasional into Brunello), I offer caution with this review because of concern my viewpoint may be misaligned with most readers.

I wouldn't say this is the best winery guide out there, but it's pretty amazing. Pros? Very nice photos that really take you to the wine regions included. Also very thorough listings of major wineries all broken down by sub-region. Each sub-region also has a brief write up describing the climate and soil as well as the style of wines produced. The wine regions include Southern Oregon, Oregon's Willamette Valley, the Columbia Gorge, Washington State (Columbia Valley, Walla Walla, and others) and British Columbia. The inclusion of Southern Oregon I felt was a nice touch. The Kindle edition loses some of the fun of having the actual book, but it's a great deal. At least you can preview the book by buying the Kindle version, then if you really like it you can get the paperback. I recommend that route. It's great for the NW wine lover or traveler.

great intro book to the NW wine regions.

Gave me everything I needed!

This book was an excellent overview of the many regions of wine growing in the Northwest. I

enjoyed the geographical history of each area which outlines the `terroir' of the regions and helped explain why each area produces quite unique grapes. As a beginning wine enthusiast, it is a well written book which I read prior to visiting Woodenville, WA and it help me focus on the regions and winemakers I found interesting from the book. Also purchased Washington Wines and Wineries: The Essential Guide which was also very well done. The new edition was not available before I traveled to WA. Much greater detail, nice to have both.

Really wanted to like this book but it's fluff, all of it, and feels written to a very rudimentary crowd. There is nothing in this book that you couldn't get from a quick google search on any of these wineries. The only plus is that the wineries are all listed under the cover, but even that falls short as there are so many omissions here that they are too numerous to list (and these omissions are some of the highest quality producers). I wasn't even looking for obscure wineries, just some I knew, and 7 out of 10 I looked in the index for are not in this book. Bad batting average. The author tries to make up for it with his copious amounts of photographs. But really, how many photographs of grape vines does one need to look at? Apparently on all 291 pages. Because there pretty much isn't a single page of this book that you open and do not see photos of either grape vines or grapes. It's unnerving. And these are not small photos, they take up over 1/2 to a full page. This book could have been written as a helper or primer for someone with really only a passing interest in the subject (but this book is a waste of money for anyone with any kind of real knowledge about the Pacific Northwest wine culture) for 1/2 the cost and with 1/2 the printing paper. Really, this is like a blurb book. It gives no more than a paragraph, sometimes two, to any winery (which really gives you nothing useful). It's fluff, all of it. I mean, it doesn't even include a comprehensive AVA list of the areas in which it's suppose to be providing you with 'essential' information. I'd skip this book, unless you're looking for something pretty for your coffee table to gather dust.

Just received this book as a gift and it's so lovely! My husband and I are planning a winery tour for next spring and really appreciated learning about some of the fine vineyards we were unaware of. Highly recommended.

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