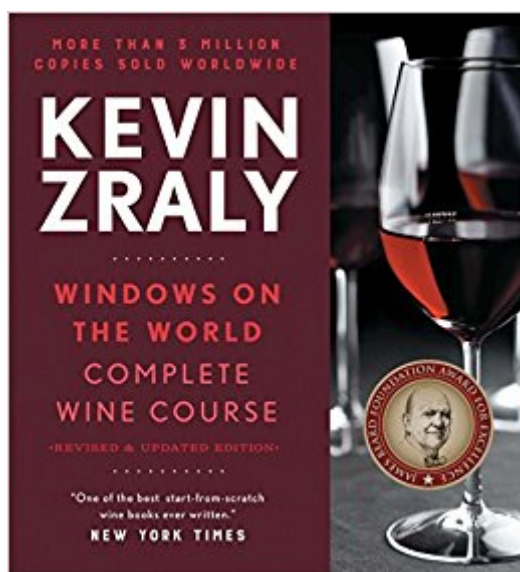


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# Kevin Zraly Windows On The World Complete Wine Course: Revised And Expanded Edition



## Synopsis

With more than three million copies sold, this perennial bestseller by James Beard Lifetime Achievement Award Winner Kevin Zraly is the most popular wine guide on the market. “When it comes to beginners’ wine guides, *Windows on the World Complete Wine Course* is one of the perennial best.” —*Wall Street Journal* In the clear, engaging style that has made this comprehensive book a national and international favorite for more than three decades, Kevin Zraly — America’s ultimate wine educator and the creator of the *Windows on the World Wine School* — demystifies every aspect of wine: from grape varieties and their flavors, different types and styles of wines, and how they’re produced, to the latest winemaking developments, how to read a wine label, and the physiology of smell and taste. Covering the world of wine from the renowned reds of Bordeaux and California to the cutting-edge whites of Washington State and New Zealand, this essential volume features lush new photographs, a wealth of enlightening infographics, clear maps of each region, guided tastings, the best 500 wines in the world under \$30, and hundreds of labels to help you identify wines worth tasting. Completing this must-have guide are notes on food pairings, frequently asked questions, a directory of resources, and a glossary of select terms. This newly revised and expanded 2017 edition introduces a fresh new interior design, the latest vintages to savor, and much more for beginners and experts alike. The *Windows on the World Complete Wine Course* will give you all the tools you need to discover and enjoy the perfect wines for you.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Quick, what's the correct way to open a wine bottle? Bonus round: what are the 13 grape types permitted in Chateauneuf-du-Pape? Whatever your score on the above, you're bound to enjoy the *Windows on the World Complete Wine Course*. Subtitled Millennium Edition, this 14th annual update is again authored by Kevin Zraly, founder and teacher of the Wine School, begun in 1976 as an offshoot of New York's *Windows on the World* restaurant. On 200 colorful and clutter-free pages full of maps, wine labels, and sidebars full of facts and anecdotes, Zraly acts as your Sherpa through eight classes. Chapters 1 through 3 circumnavigate the white wines of France, the New World, and Germany; 4 through 8 explore the reds of France, California, Iberia, Australia, and South America, concluding with a section on champagne, port, and sherry. As wine guru, Kevin Zraly is opinionated, knowledgeable, and patient. His skill at talking novice wine devotees off the ledge is especially evident in the chapters on Burgundy and Germany, with their notoriously confusing wine labels. Study Zraly's careful parsing and annotation of a German label and you'll be able to tell the region from the town from the vineyard the next time someone hands you a Mosel-Saar-Ruwer *Ärziger WÄrzgarten Riesling SpÄrtlese*. But any book that calls itself a "Complete Wine Course" sets the Barbera pretty high--sometimes too high. Oregon and Washington States share one page while New York State rates two and a half. Certainly a millennium edition could scare up another paragraph for the red-hot Pacific Northwest. And two chapters following the classes--"Creating an Exemplary Restaurant Wine List" and "Award-Winning Wine Lists"--seem little more than padding. But these are small quibbles about a handsome and approachable volume that will take you from Amarone to Zind-Humbrecht with confidence. Whether you're a true cork dork or someone who doesn't know their Alsace from their elbow, you could certainly do worse than pressing your nose up against these windows on the world. --Tony Mason --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The silver anniversary version of this perennial bestseller by legendary wine personality Zraly still emphasizes consumer enjoyment and user friendliness in the pursuit of education and appreciation. The DIY edition of his now-legendary class tackles the wide world of vini- and viticulture with a sense of humor, erudition and modesty, and includes expanded material on wine regions beyond France, Italy and California. The 25-year benchmark provides frequent opportunity to look back over changes in grape growing and winemaking over the past quarter century. While the book's frequently busy layout may reflect changes in traditional media and information acquisition--large sections are laid out like FAQs--it allows room for a broad range of

information without oversaturation. Tasting work sheets and self-administered questionnaires are included, while sidebars include lighter material, such as wine-related quotes and other assorted trivia. Among the handy visuals are wine-growing maps and wine labels included not merely for aesthetic appreciation but for useful comparisons in areas with complicated classifications like Burgundy. Appropriate for professional and layperson alike, the volume continues to be one of the most indispensable titles of its kind. (Oct.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I just completed my L1 Sommelier certification and this book is really helpful at laying down the basics for anyone who wants to learn more about wine. I love Kevin's story (see Chapter 1) and the margins are packed with great facts, its simply brimming with information but doesn't feel overbearing at any point. I will need more in-depth books to get to the next level but, this is an excellent starting point to lay a broad foundation of knowledge before diving into very specialized topics. I have plotted out a series of personal tastings over the next 8 weeks using Kevin's book as a framework. Very helpful, indeed!

Still reading the book but one thing I am finding VERY frustrating is none of the QR codes (or the Bitly addresses below them) are functional. They all go to error pages. I'm hoping the publisher sees this review and gets them fixed so readers can watch the videos. I will check them again and update my review when I'm done reading the book.

Ordered the hardcover edition. None of the promised QR codes are printed in the book. None of the video or pronunciation links work. These features would have made the book far more useful as an intro to wine. I suppose as a bare-bones introduction to wine I suppose it's okay, but there are better for that purpose, such as MacNeil's Wine Bible or Hugh Johnson's World Atlas of Wine. I find the graphics eye-salad, long lists, sidebars and stats hodge-podge to be distracting and annoying.

This is a great introductory course for people who want to go beyond just a cursory understanding of wine. The quizzes help structure the learning well, and they go fairly far in depth. Overall, I thought the book was the perfect way to provide structure that other excellent books such as The Wine Bible does not. The layout is friendly, and the side bars with wine labels and blurbs with info are interesting. Unfortunately a few obvious errors make it feel a bit cobbled together, and they aren't in

areas of the book I would have believed to just be about a recent update. For example, in the section on Australia, the main white grape varieties have Merlot listed but the section on Aussie reds has Semillon. I understand it's upside down world there, but I'm pretty sure this is incorrect. In another it says "Two of the best DOCG Tuscan wines come from... Barbaresco and Barolo." (This is under the correct Piedmont section) A few other examples are found in the book. None of these errors are disqualifying by any means. If you have any common sense at all you won't be more than momentarily confused. So I still highly recommend the book.

Being a sommelier with numerous wine books in my collection, I was hesitant to add another entry level book to my repertoire. After reading this the past few days, I'm glad I did. Even for seasoned wine professionals such as myself, there are a plethora of interesting facts, charts and unique perspectives which Kevin describes in this book. Furthermore, it is written in a layman style which makes it suitable for all levels. Highly recommended.

Amazing. Going back to school in my old age, and therefore, working as a server. This book is truly well-organized and has everything you could need. Knowing the basics of regions and types of grapes makes everything so much easier. Made every other wine book I bought obsolete. Only thing is the links to the expanded coverage no longer work, but it doesn't matter. If you go to YouTube, Zraly has more than a few fun to watch videos with Oz Clarke that will be well worth your time. I find myself reading this just for fun.

This is a great introduction for anyone new to wine, as I was. This is not intended to be the most complete reference for all wine, but is instead a colorful, focused, entertaining overview of wine today. Each chapter focuses on a different region or type of wine, providing background information on each wine area, the author's favorite wineries/producers from the area, a sample tasting (he picks several wines for you to try and also suggests alternatives if you can't find those particular bottles) and a quiz at the end to help you retain some of that information. A great book for any wine lover!

The book was well made and felt solid in my hands. The contents were also complete and helpful. The book pretty much followed what was taught in a university setting. I appreciate the attention paid to each wine producing region. There is no information on China, a important developing wine region with volume surpassing Germany and Chile, but it is same for most other wine books. The

contents feel a bit jumbled because the author list by wine types rather than region (thus you would visit many places twice) but that is more of a personal thing. My only complain is the amount of brand suggestions. While I don't believe that there is collusion between the authors and the winemakers, brand suggestions are just not that helpful. Such suggestions always go out of date and thus the value offer by the book diminish as time goes on. I would've liked more wine descriptions rather than long list of brands.

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