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2000 Champagnes



Synopsis

- The #1 champagne expert in the world. - Famous for his skills in blind tasting. Mr. Juhlin is renowned for his expertise in all things champagne. He blogs about his experiences on "The Champagne Club".

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Juhlin's "2000 Champagnes" has one major strength: copious and detailed tasting notes from a well-seasoned expert. If your palate is similar to his, you've got a great guide to the wines made and released up until about 1990. It also has many excellent photographs and information-packed sidebars. The first half of the book is given over to the history of Champagne, how it's grown and made, how to buy, store, and taste it, and different types of Champagne. Juhlin is clearly knowledgeable and enthusiastic, but the text seems to assume that the reader already knows a fair amount about Champagne. This is not a good book for beginners who want an introduction. There are a lot of good details about terroir and growing conditions, but there are also generalizations which left me wishing for a more comprehensive explanation. The book's biggest flaw, however, is that it is very poorly organized. It lacks an index. This is unforgivable in almost any non-fiction work, particularly one that is designed to serve as a reference. Say you want to know the size of a Nebuchadnezzar. You have to take a guess from the Table of Contents. If you guess right (it's in the Buy, Store and Taste chapter), you still have to turn 20-some pages to find it. Or say you want to know the difference between Krug Vintage and Krug Collection Champagne? First, you realize that the Producers section is not alphabetical, but subdivided by region and then by Juhlin's ranking of the producers' quality level, so a trip to the back of the book to look up the page number

in the "List of Producers" is required. Once found, you see that the listing for Krug contains many tasting notes on these 2 wines in various vintages, but no explanation of the difference between them.

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