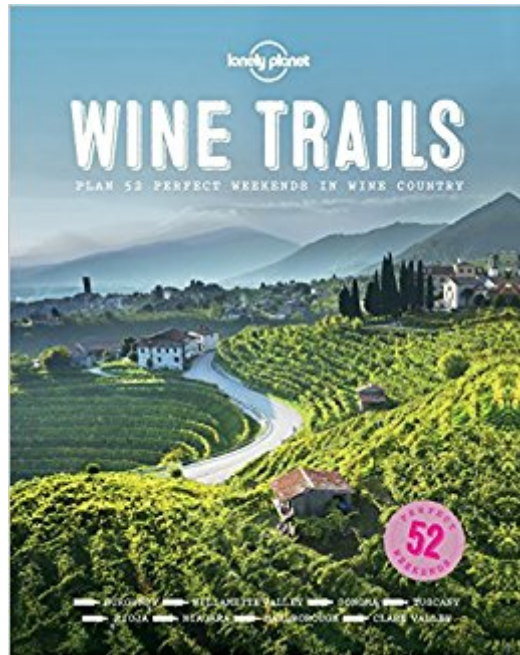


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Wine Trails: 52 Perfect Weekends In Wine Country (Lonely Planet)



Synopsis

From Lonely Planet, the world's leading travel guide publisher, *Wine Trails*, the first book in Lonely Planet's "Perfect Weekends" series, introduces the secret gems in well-known regions such as Napa and Sonoma, Tuscany, Burgundy and Rioja, and also explores off-the-beaten-path regions in Georgia, Greece and beyond. Detailed itineraries recommending the most interesting wineries and the best places to stay and eat in 52 wine regions near major cities make this perfect for travel enthusiasts who enjoy wine. Winemakers offer personal insights into what wines to taste and why they're special and help you to understand a place, its people and their traditions through the wine that is made there. Gorgeous photography, maps and in-the-know authors complete the package. Authors: Lonely Planet, Mark Andrew, Robin Barton, Sarah Bennett, Lee Snider, John Brunton, Bridget Gleeson, Virginia Maxwell, Jeremy Quinn, Helen Ranger, and Luke Waterson. About Lonely Planet: Since 1973, Lonely Planet has become the world's leading travel media company with guidebooks to every destination, an award-winning website, mobile and digital travel products, and a dedicated traveller community. Lonely Planet covers must-see spots but also enables curious travellers to get off beaten paths to understand more of the culture of the places in which they find themselves. 'Lonely Planet. It's on everyone's bookshelves; it's in every traveller's hands. It's on mobile phones. It's on the Internet. It's everywhere, and it's telling entire generations of people how to travel the world.' -- Fairfax Media 'Lonely Planet guides are, quite simply, like no other.' - New York Times Lonely Planet guides have won the TripAdvisor Traveler's Choice Award in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015.

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Customer Reviews

"Lonely Planet's guidebook series, a favorite of travelers on a shoestring, has introduced a compendium of weekend jaunts to 52 wine regions in 20 countries." (New York Times)"This lush coffee-table book provides your oenophile with 52 itineraries for wine regions nearby and across the globe." (Seattle Times)"The perfect companion for those looking to travel the world one winery at a time." (BookTrib)

I found it to be more of a memoir of their journey than a travel guide to mine.

Really nice--love how it covers the whole world so it can help you pick destinations for future trips! My only criticism is that the US locations are very west coast centric: California, Oregon, with the finger lakes as the token eastern region.

seems more like a paid brochure

I expected much more from this book. As a wine lover, I do not recommend it.

Fast delivery! I love it.

I've gotten many travel guides through Vine over the last several years. Some of them fell well short of being useful or informative in favor of pandering to today's ADHD readers. I'm slowly realizing that the days of actual travel books, the thick, well-thumbed, dog-eared ones that you toss into your backpack and schlep along with you on your travels, are numbered. When all the information a traveler could need is available with the swipe of a fingertip, who needs books? I accept that, although I don't have to like it. "Wine Trails," while not as bad as some of the current crop, is a case in point. I really don't see much use for it. In covering wine-producing regions in 20 countries, it necessarily scrimps on the breadth and depth of material on any one place. Each of the 52 regions gets about six or eight pages of text and photos containing a short introduction to the region itself and then brief descriptions of a handful of wineries in the region (I wonder what

criteria Lonely Planet used to decide which wineries to include). The obligatory “Essential Information” sidebars contain some pointers on lodging, restaurants, activities and local celebrations. Again, this information is so superficial that it is of little possible use to a traveler planning to visit the area. And the maps don’t get me started on the maps! Someone’s idea of “clever” graphic design was obviously much more important than usefulness of the material; the “maps” in each section are inside templates defined by the outline of a wine bottle. A tiny circular inset of the country with a red dot on it is supposed to provide context. Well, it doesn’t work at all, in my opinion. The maps, which should be a hallmark of a travel guide, are useless. I also question the accuracy of the information in “Wine Trails.” I haven’t traveled to all of the regions covered, of course, but I have been to some of them, and the statement on Page 312 that Seattle-Tacoma is the nearest major airport to Oregon’s Willamette Valley is wrong. Portland would be surprised to learn it doesn’t have a “major” airport. My three-star rating reflects my opinion that “Wine Trails” is not a bad book to flip through to find wine regions that might be interesting to visit, but it’s not very useful for trip planning. For that, I guess it’s back to the Internet.

As someone unlikely to take a trip specifically for the purposes of visiting wine country any time soon, this book enabled me to live vicariously through the experiences of the experts. A lovely, lushly illustrated volume, it’s an ideal read for whiling away many pleasant evenings, a nice glass of wine by your side. Some reviews comment that it’s a bit light on practical travel information and I’d have to agree. If you are keen on actually visiting the sites in the book, perhaps you’d need to research them a bit more thoroughly. For my own purposes, an interest in the romantic idea of travel in general, it served its purpose: whetting my appetite. A beautiful volume that would be a fantastic gift for lovers of wine and travel.

Wine Trails is a beautifully illustrated coffee-table book that gives readers a brief glimpse into some of the world’s most popular wine growing regions. As many have pointed out here, this is definitely not a travel guide with extensive information on each country or venue. It’s more for people who may have an interest in undertaking such an adventure, but who are looking for some inspiration as

to choosing a location for further study. As one would expect, major portions of the book are dedicated to well-known wine growing countries such as France, Italy and the United States. A significant portion of the book is dedicated to some less popular locales though such as Canada, Lebanon and Turkey. I believe that the reason for such geographical diversity is to fit in with the concept of spending 52 weeks on wine excursions from one side of the globe to the other. Of course, that would be a quite expensive, drunken road trip, but everyone needs something to aim for, I guess. I can't say as I really learned a lot from this book or now have my heart set on jaunting across the world to expensive places to eat and drink. It was certainly entertaining, light reading and visually stimulating though.

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