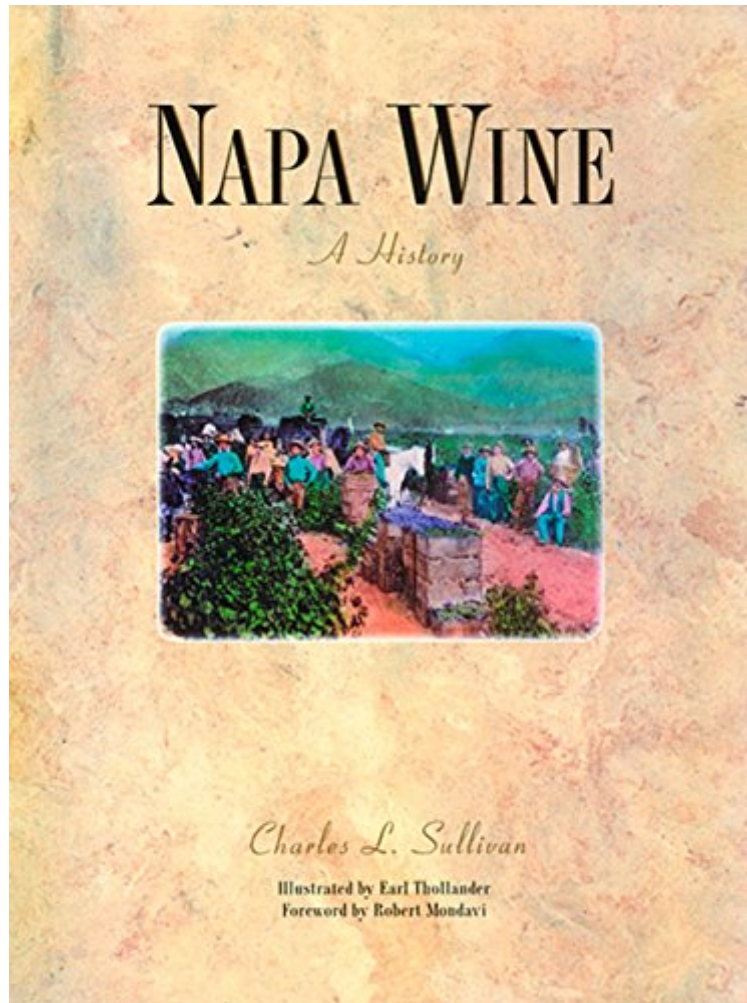


[Ebook pdf] Napa Wine: A History from Mission Days to Present, Second Edition

Napa Wine: A History from Mission Days to Present, Second Edition

Charles L. Sullivan

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Charles L. Sullivan : Napa Wine: A History from Mission Days to Present, Second Edition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Napa Wine: A History from Mission Days to Present, Second Edition:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The most thorough history of Napa Valley I have found!By Trader BillThis book was recommended to me by a California winemaker - in fact the ordered me to buy it. It is a phenomenal history from the Spaniards to and past the attempt at the 'Santaclarification' of the Valley. Be sure to buy the 2nd edition! I bought it in both hardbound and Kindle editions.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Like his work on Sonoma CountyBy CustomerLike his work on Sonoma County, Charles depicts an in depth knowledge (research) idea of the history of the Napa Valley. The only complaint I have about both books is a

somewhat cavalier attitude towards editing. Many editorial errors in spelling and sentence construction. But, Fascinating, and thoroughly researched. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Book to Own on Napa Valley Wine History By John-Marc C. Super interesting and definitive book on Napa Valley Wine. Buy it!

Charles Sullivan's *Napa Wine: A History*, is the engaging story of the rise to prominence of what many believe to be the greatest winegrowing area in the Western hemisphere. This new edition completes that picture, bringing to light more than a decade of dramatic changes and shifted norms visited upon the valley, from phylloxera-wasted vineyards to High Court-officiated territorial battles, told in a rousing, transportive narrative. Beginning in 1817 with the movement of Spanish missions into the San Francisco Bay area, Sullivan winds his way through the great wine boom of the late 19th-century, the crippling effect of Prohibition, and Napa's rise out of its havoc to its eventual rivaling of Bordeaux in the judgments of 1976 and 2006. Published in cooperation with the Napa Valley Wine Library, the book includes historic maps, charts of vineyard ownership, and vintages from the 1880s to present.

A marvellous resource, telling the story of virtually every Napa vintage from the 1860's to present... special emphasis is placed on the modern wine revolution and Napa's unique contributions since the 1960's --Robert Mondavi Sullivan has given us, in gripping detail, a history of wine in the state. Napa Wine makes a rich and exciting contribution to our understanding of who Americans are and why. --Gerald Asher, *Gourmet Magazine* First published in 1994, this Napa history has been revised and brought current through 2007. However, as is the case with any history and especially one where the target moves as rapidly as wine in Napa, it is not complete. Yet, it is as complete as can be expected and covers almost everything which one could wish to know about the history of Napa winemaking. Sullivan begins his exploration even before there was wine in Napa with a discussion of grape growing at California missions. From there he introduces the reader to the Napa pioneers like Joseph Osborne at Oak Knoll-Eschol Vineyard, Charles Krug, and George Yount. He discusses land transactions, wine production, grape varieties etc. beginning in about 1860. After this introductory material, he covers Napa wine from land through grape, winemaking, and sale in thirteen more chapters. He devotes about a chapter to each decade from 1860 to 1900 plus a summary chapter. The discussions cover virtually everything the reader could want to know including evaluations of almost every vintage. For the years from 1900-2007, the divisions are more topical, e.g. Prohibition, with more than one-half of the book discussing the period since the end of Prohibition. As with the earlier years, Sullivan covers everything about the people and the wines with the exception of some skeletons which, perhaps, are better left buried. What isn't discussed in the text is probably found in the fourteen pages of appendices which contain information on wineries, their owners, and their production; vintages, planted acreage, and even the amount for which the fruit was sold. There are also five maps showing winery locations. If you find the text and appendices provide insufficient information, there are extensive endnotes at the end of each chapter and a bibliography. The book also has numerous photographs, illustrations, and tables all of which serve to provide more insight into Napa's history and people. With such extensive coverage, it may seem untoward to quibble about the fact that when the second edition was released references to the BATF were not updated nor the description of Stag's Leap Winery was not corrected nor some ownership information was not changed. (Most regrettable because it may lead to confusion is the claim that Mataro is the Spanish name for Mourvèdre. (p. 137) In Spain the grape is most commonly called Monastrell with some occasional regional variations. Mataro is now used in Australia and elsewhere and was common in France before the phylloxera epidemic decimated the vines there.) But, like much of the story of wine, it is any Napa history is a constantly moving target and will always need emendation. For those who know only today's Napa wines, this book is a revelation. Though current production centers on Cabernet Sauvignon and Bordeaux varieties, until Prohibition the best wines were often Riesling and sauternes. Sullivan's exploration of why that was and what led to the change to the reds is something everyone interested in wine should know. That alone would justify reading this book. But the story beyond Cabernet's current dominance is not only worth learning but is fascinating in itself. Well written and highly recommended. --Harold Baer, Jr., *Colorado Wine News* About the Author Charles L. Sullivan has written more than one hundred articles for major wine and food journals and is the author of many books on the subject of wine history, including *A Companion to California Wine: An Encyclopedia of Wine Winemaking from the Mission Days to Present*, *Sonoma Wine the Story of Buena Vista*, and *Zinfandel: A History of a Grape and its Wine*. Earl Thollander is an artist and popular illustrator. He is the illustrator of *Backs Roads of California*. Robert Mondavi was a leading California winemaker.