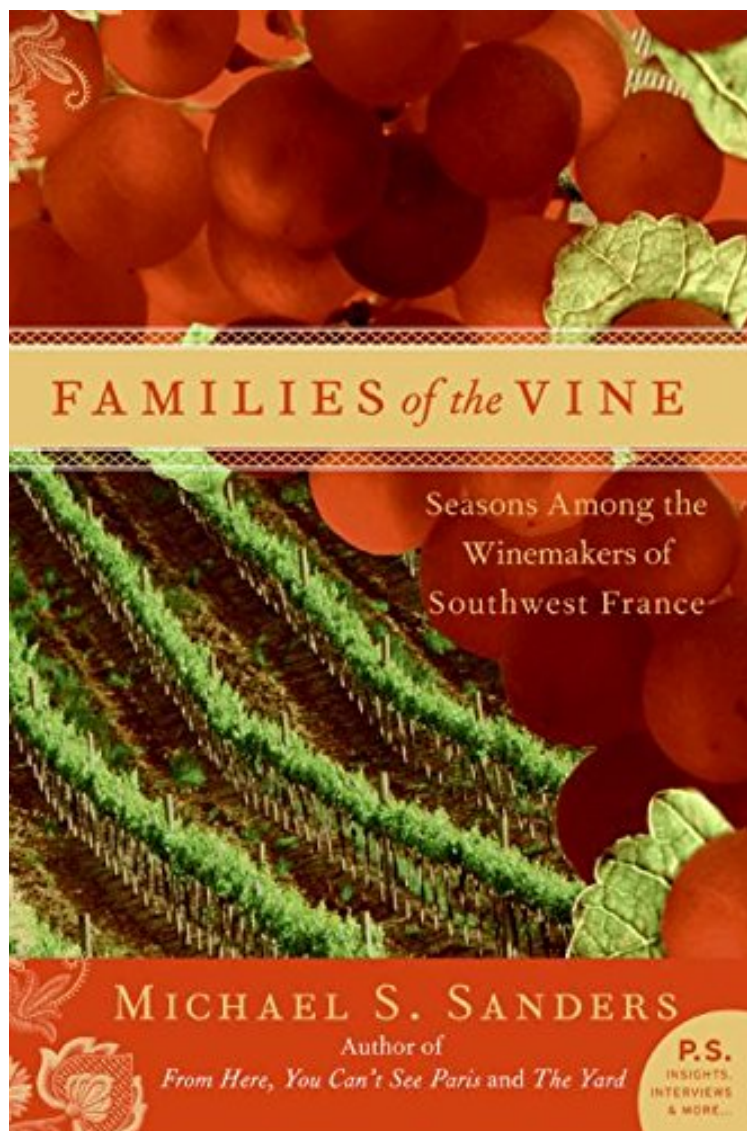


(Download pdf) Families of the Vine: Seasons Among the Winemakers of Southwest France

Families of the Vine: Seasons Among the Winemakers of Southwest France

Michael S. Sanders

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#1753478 in Books Michael S Sanders 2006-04-04 2006-04-04 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .68 x 5.311, .49 #File Name: 0060559659304 pages Families of the Vine Seasons among the Winemakers of Southwest France | File size: 64.Mb

Michael S. Sanders : Families of the Vine: Seasons Among the Winemakers of Southwest France before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Families of the Vine: Seasons Among the Winemakers of Southwest France:

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KayMichael brings the people and the culture to life. I found myself stopping to contemplate what he observed and comparing it to what I have seen. He has great empathy for what he has seen and experienced. This area of France comes alive with history and culture as you read his stories. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy john quinlangreat stuff0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Families of the Vine: Seasons Among the Winemakers of Southwest FranceBy Janet AprilMy ancestors are from this region and it was wonderful to read about the area from someone who spent time there.

Author Michael Sanders spent two years in the vineyards of southwest France with three families whose destinies are determined each year, every year, by the soil, the weather, and the quality of the grape, and shared with them the hopes of spring, the anguish of summer drought, and the mad rush of the fall harvest. In *Families of the Vine*, he offers a vivid, heartfelt portrait of these authentic winemakers in a fascinating, intensely human saga of strength, dedication, and savoir faire. Though their wines may differ, they all share a powerful, uncompromising passion for the timeless craft that defines them.

From Publishers WeeklyOne night, Sanders (*From Here, You Can't See Paris*) sat outside a hotel in southwestern France. An old Frenchman explained to the American that he had no use for wine criticism or the numerical rankings that hold sway in today's wine world: "Me, I say I like this wine or I don't like this wine." Sanders focuses on three winemakers in one of France's secondary wine regions, Cahors, following its "difficult" and "shy" eponymous wine (made primarily from the Malbec grape) from vine to barrel to glass. In doing so, he seeks to capture a way of life that existed before global marketing and the influence of the American wine critic Robert Parker, who devised the ranking system. Sanders shows the winemakers in the family-owned, family-run vineyards; describes the pathos of the harvest during the drought-ridden year of 2003; and even explains how barrels are made. Laced throughout this solid, affectionate portrait are unusual insights (e.g., "Built into the concept of terroir... is the simple acknowledgement that the French winemaker knows all this as a sailor knows from the way his boat moves through the water that his sails are trimmed as they should be"). Sanders succeeds in showing us that a knowledge of wine really can't be imparted by experts, that it takes firsthand experience and time. (Apr.) Copyright copy; Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Sanders's book brings contemporary winemaking in France to life....Absorbing and informative." (Library Journal)"A refreshing portrait of wine." (Kirkus s)"Solid, affectionate portrait....Sanders succeeds in showing us that a knowledge of wine...takes firsthand experience and time." (Publishers Weekly)About the AuthorMichael S. Sanders, a former book editor and author of *The Yard*, lives in midcoast Maine with his wife and daughter.