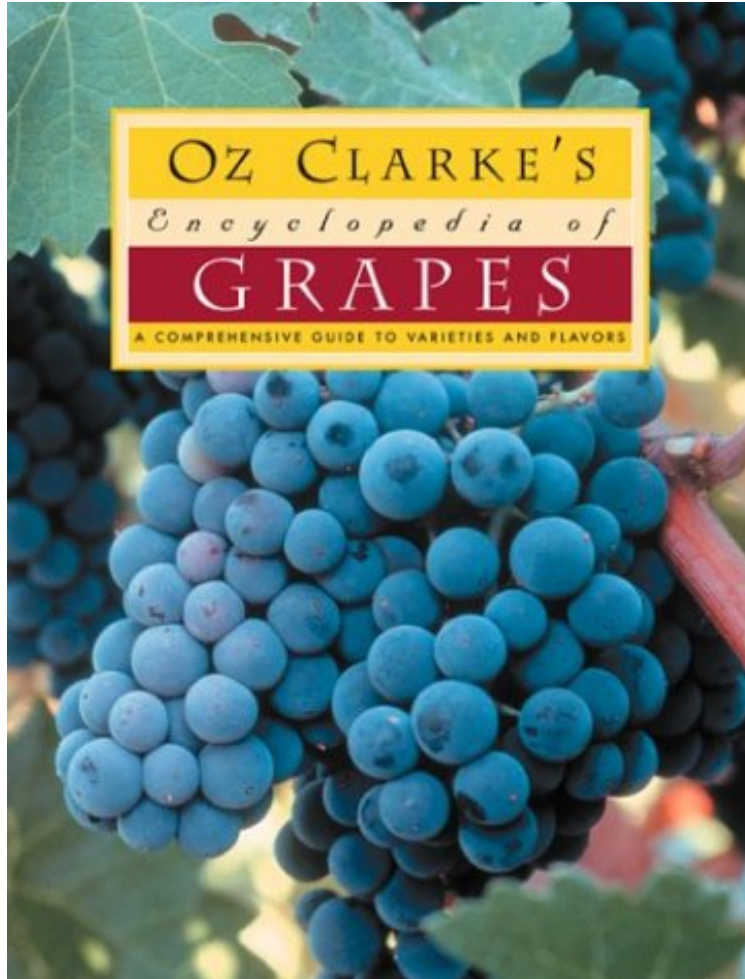


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Oz Clarke's Encyclopedia of Grapes

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Oz Clarke, Margaret Rand : Oz Clarke's Encyclopedia of Grapes before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Oz Clarke's Encyclopedia of Grapes:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book for people getting into wineBy Jesse TurkusIf you always hear your friends talking about some grape you have never heard of, buy this book. Great info on just about every varietal you might come across (unless you are going for you Master Somm).0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful GrapesBy A.L. DuBoisA beautiful book and extensively informative on the subject of the grape.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy DORDE SORONDAThanks

The first authoritative, illustrated reference book on the world's great wine grapes in nearly twenty years.Almost all wine lovers understand that the grape variety or blend in a wine is the most influential factor in a wine's taste. In Oz Clarke's Encyclopedia of Grapes Clarke explains and illuminates these qualities with concise and vivid descriptions of

the 350 major grape varieties of the world, in an easy-to-use, A-to-Z format. Special features on the classic varieties are exquisitely illustrated with original paintings, and double-page spreads on other major grapes describe the varieties, their history, geography, character, and cultural context. The transformation of grapes into wine is fully detailed and illustrated with charts that provide essential information on which grapes are allowed in each wine. The book concludes with a glossary of technical terms, a comprehensive index of grape names and their synonyms, and a general index. With its luscious artwork, evocative text, and practical information, Oz Clarke's *Encyclopedia of Grapes* makes a uniquely attractive and useful gift—a delight to browse and a mine of interesting information.

Offered up as a lively and comprehensive alphabetical discussion of some 350 types of wine grapes, Oz Clarke's *Encyclopedia of Grapes* could double as a crash course in viticulture as taught by the award-winning, U.K.-based wine writer and coauthor Margaret Rand. Beginning with three lines for Abouriou ("on the way out, and won't be much missed") and ending with nine pages for Zinfandel, the book certainly delivers. And the approachable scholarship included in the introductory pages—touching on everything from the difference between a hybrid and a cross and the floating definition of "ripe"—provides an informative overview. Blending Clarke's Mourvedre-like, dryly tannic, intoxicatingly kooky writing style with the firm Syrah-esque backbone of Rand's collaboration, Oz Clarke's *Encyclopedia of Grapes* is premium juice. —Tony Mason

About the Author Oz Clarke, one of the world's leading wine experts, is a featured advisor to winetoday.com, the New York Times wine Web site, and he has won all the major wine writing awards. He lives in West London. Margaret Rand is an award-winning wine writer and a former editor of *Wine* magazine, *Wine Spirit International* and *Whisky* magazine. She contributes to a wide range of wine publications and Internet sites and has been general editor, then wine editor of Oz Clarke's *Wine Buying Guide* for the last 11 editions. Margaret has also worked as an editor on several other Oz Clarke titles.