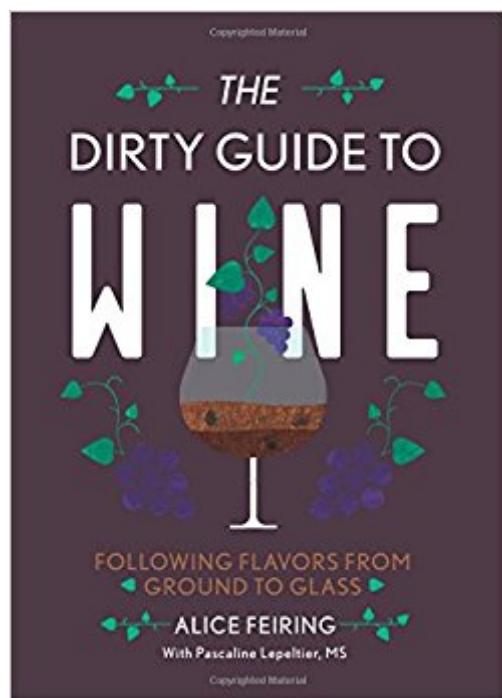


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# The Dirty Guide To Wine: Following Flavor From Ground To Glass



## Synopsis

Discover new favorites by tracing wine back to its roots. Still drinking Cabernet after that one bottle you liked five years ago? It can be overwhelming if not intimidating to branch out from your go-to grape, but everyone wants their next wine to be new and exciting. How to choose the right one? Award-winning wine critic Alice Feiring presents an all-new way to look at the world of wine. While grape variety is important, a lot can be learned about wine by looking at the source: the ground in which it grows. A surprising amount of information about a wine's flavor and composition can be gleaned from a region's soil, and this guide makes it simple to find the wines you'll love. Featuring a foreword by Master Sommelier Pascaline Lepeltier, who contributed her vast knowledge throughout the book, *The Dirty Guide to Wine* organizes wines not by grape, not by region, not by New or Old World, but by soil. If you enjoy a Chardonnay from Burgundy, you might find the same winning qualities in a deep, red Rioja. Feiring also provides a clarifying account of the traditions and techniques of wine-tasting, demystifying the practice and introducing a whole new way to enjoy wine to sommeliers and novice drinkers alike.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In her newest book, Alice Feiring homes in on how an understanding of soil types can point to through-lines in wines from very different parts of the world. Rather than relying on tasting notes, Feiring attempts to ascertain the ways soil actually transcends a grape, pointing to tangible details like how a specific soil type can lend acidity or power, no matter the region.

Limestone, for example: "It is associated with elegance. Limestone is something that you first sense up front in the mouth, on the tip of the tongue, and it betokens a long finish with a linear structure." Feiring's sense of humor (as seen in her description of Brettanomyces as smelling like "a small closet stuffed with live sheep") and cheeky descriptions ("in a wet climate well-drained granite soil saves Albarino ass") are met with a real enthusiasm for the energy that earth can imbue in a wine. What emerges through Feiring's travels and tastings with her frequent co-conspirator, sommelier Pascaline Lepeltier, is that there's a way to evaluate wine that goes simply beyond taste. - Punch Magazine

Alice Feiring is a journalist, essayist and the author of *Naked Wine*. She is the winner of both the James Beard and Louis Roederer Wine Writing Awards. In 2013, she was named Imbibe Magazine's wine person of the year. Her blog, *The Feiring Line* ([Alicefeiring.com](http://Alicefeiring.com)) has been published since 2004. She lives in New York City. Master Sommelier Pascaline Lepeltier is one of the world's top wine pros, on the floor or in the lecture room. From Anjou, France, she champions its Chenin Blanc. Beyond wine, she refreshes with Cantillon beer and beats the drum for the liqueur Chartreuse. It is her deep belief that the word *terroir* is not to be taken in vain.

Until this book, my favorite wine book has been Luca Turin and Tania Sanchez' "Perfume". It isn't even about wine, for goodness sake. It is, however lots of fun, informative and it totally reshaped my thinking about wine. Well! I have a new favorite! Alice Feiring (with Pascal Lepeltier) has given us a perfect delight of a book. It takes wine out of the realm of intimidating, pointless rituals with over-priced grape juice, into a world of people, dirt and (though she demurs) science. In less than 250 pages it explains most of the words and concepts necessary for understanding wine and how it is made. More important, though, it provides framework, much broader than just grape names, for exploring wine and figuring out what you like. If you've ever heard Alice speak, you will recognize her smart, charming laugh, in the prosel remember, with some embarrassment, visiting the wineries of Chateauneuf du Pape, with my nose buried in a copy of Robert Parker's "Wine Advocate". I so hope I have the opportunity to visit again, holding a copy of "The Dirty Guide to Wine". First of all, I will follow it's advice to get my nose out of a book and into the dirt. Second, though, I'd be proud to let the winemakers know that we are paying attention to Natural Wines.

This book is fun to read and informative. From soil to bottle is fascinating! The author also includes

many recommendations for producers of wine.

Alice Feiring's previous book *For The Love of Wine* was my go to gift for the nearest and dearest in my life when it came out, three generations of family enjoyed and I now want to buy this for them all as a follow up. An immensely knowledgeable look at wine via the earth through Alice's thoroughly enjoyable voice, I love all the little details, stories and conversation recollections in this book. Perfect vacation reading to make you dream of your next vacation too! As someone who can trace favorite wine discoveries via friends to Alice's recommendations in *The Feiring Line* I am deeply appreciative of her specific recommendations of winemakers to discover in this book. A must read for any wine or soil lover!

I have read all four of Alice Fearing's books and this one did not disappoint. So informative, I love learning about soil when it comes to wine, it has brought a whole new dimension to my education. Alice Feiring has been my natural wine teacher through her books.

Back to the future. Redefines the idea of a wine guide. Organized by soil types with recommended producers. Not by grape types or vintages.

Phenomenal, interesting and fascinating book. Fantastic

This book rules! Alice and Pascaline have written a book that really evokes the soul of the earth. What could be more important? Get it and read it, you will learn a lot.

This book needed to exist!

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