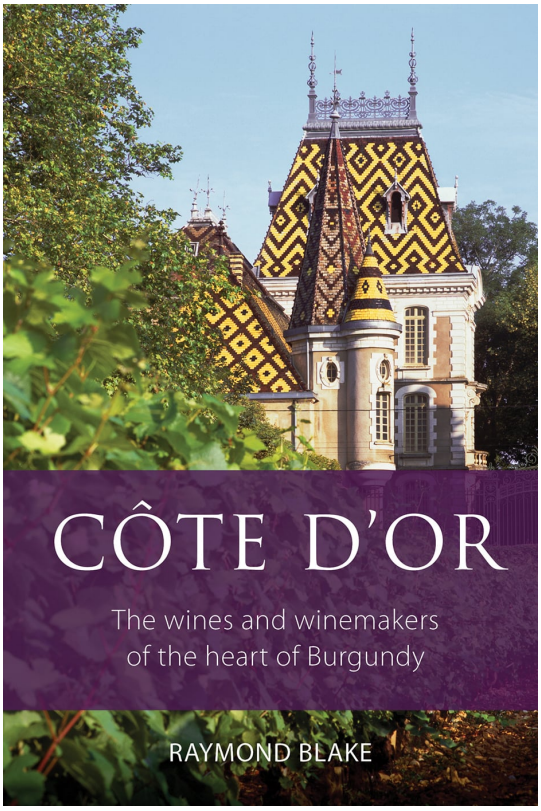
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Côte d'Or

The Wines and Winemakers of the Heart of Burgundy

Raymond Blake

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- Authoritative guide to one of the world's most important wine regions
- Skilled storytelling from a master communicator explains vividly this complex region, its terroirs, people and wines
- Author is recognised expert on the region

The Côte d'Or may be small in size but its influence is huge and its reputation alone can intimidate even the most seasoned wine professional. Divided into two halves, the Côte de Nuits and the Côte de Beaune, it is little more than a 30-mile stretch of vineyard but some of the world's best-known – and most expensive – wines are produced here. Of all the world's wine regions it is here that terroir pushes itself to the fore, explaining the eye-watering prices paid for even the most modest parcels of vineyard.

Raymond Blake's companionable ***Côte d'Or*** demystifies this notoriously complicated region, explaining succinctly the history of winemaking in this part of Burgundy, the complexity of the subdivided vineyards and the special role played by geology and climate in the creation of these wines. Visiting a selection of notable producers, Blake provides his take on each, along with a suggestion of that winemaker's most distinctive or interesting wine for readers to try. After a rundown of the characteristics of each vintage from the last 30 years, and notes on some outstanding earlier vintages, Blake considers what the future might hold for the côte, including the challenges posed by premature oxidation, extreme weather and world events. He ends the book by providing some ideas to help those planning a trip to the region get the most out of their visit.

This fresh take on one of the world's most influential wine regions is an essential addition to the library of any burgundy enthusiast.

Raymond Blake is one of Ireland's leading wine writers. His enthusiasm for wine is boundless; as an independent voice his judgement is widely respected. As wine editor of *Food & Wine Magazine*, a position he has held since its launch in 1997, his travels take him to the far-flung corners of the wine world, though his spiritual home is Burgundy. He writes for numerous other publications and is a member of the Circle of Wine Writers. In 2006 he was inducted as a Chevalier du Tastevin in Burgundy.

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