



# The Wines of Southwest U.S.A. A Guide to New Mexico, Texas, Arizona and Colorado

Jessica Dupuy

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- Insightful book on four emerging American wine regions, each with its own distinct identity
- Author is a prolific wine columnist and has published six books on southern US cooking
- Author is an in-demand wine speaker and hosts a podcast with Mark Rashap called 'Another Bottle Down'

Although *Vitis vinifera* vines have been grown in the American southwest for nearly 400 years, its modern wine era only really began with the new pioneers of the 1960s and 1970s. All four states can boast growing wine industries, each with its own distinct identity. Although home to those first wine grapes, New Mexico may be the least experienced player, with a few major producers and many smaller, new arrivals. The Texas industry is bigger, more developed and more polished, with at least 350 wineries operating and plenty of room for growth. Arizona has perhaps made the most progress in the shortest time; some impressive growing conditions, educational initiatives, and a tight-knit band of producers have led to promising quality wines. Colorado, long known for its fruit orchards, is now home to vineyards too, with many producers also farming other fruit and creating wines from both.

Taking each state in turn, Jessica Dupuy guides us expertly through its history before presenting a thorough summary of its climate and geology, discussing the grapes grown, explaining the sub regions (AVAs), and appraising the challenges wine growers face. Influential and innovative producers are profiled, and each section concludes with ideas on where to visit, dine, and stay. Boxes throughout the text supply asides on historical, geographic, and cultural points of interest. For anybody interested in discovering a truly up-and-coming wine region this book makes for fascinating reading.

**Jessica Dupuy's** career in journalism began after she earned a Masters degree from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University in 2003. She is wine and spirits columnist for *Texas Monthly* magazine. Her work has also appeared in *Imbibe*, *SevenFifty Daily* and *Wine Enthusiast*. She is a Certified Sommelier, an Advanced certificate holder of the Wine and Spirits Educational Trust, and a Certified Specialist of Wine and Spirits with the Society of Wine Educators.