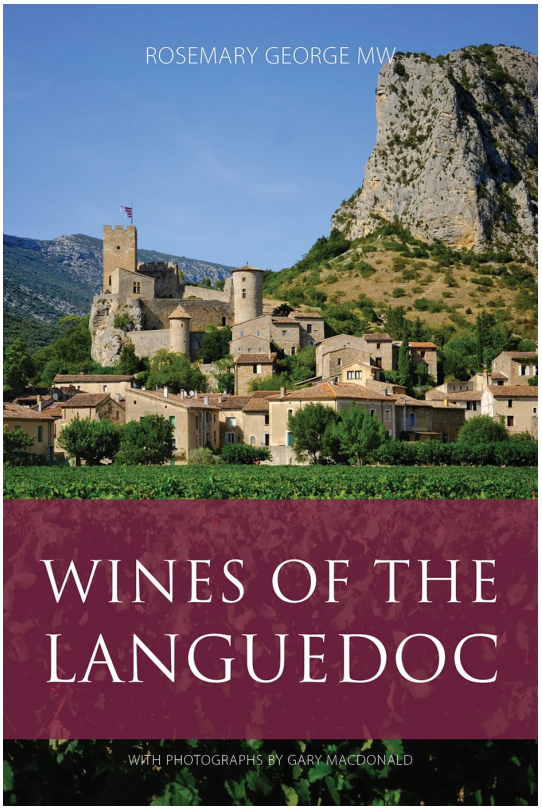
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Wines of the Languedoc

Rosemary George

ISBN	9781913141721
Publisher	Academie du Vin Library
Binding	Paperback / softback
Territory	World excluding Australia
Size	234 mm x 156 mm
Pages	374 Pages
Illustrations	19 color, 37 b&w
Name of series	The Classic Wine Library
Price	£35.00

- Most authoritative, up-to-date and comprehensive guide to the wines of Languedoc
- Author is a Master of Wine and a well-known expert on the wines of southern France
- Thorough handbook giving historic background, notes on significant grape varieties and warm, insightful producer profiles
- Rosemary George is a former Chairman and now a Vice-President of the Circle of Wine Writers

The Languedoc is a land of mountains, sea and Cathar castles in the south of France. For much of its history the region has also been seen as the home of rustic table wines with no international reputation. However, over the last 40 years the wines have improved enormously, with innovations in both vineyards and cellars, helped by the development of appellations and IGPs recognising the individuality of its different areas. Now boasting more than 2,500 wine producers, the Languedoc has attracted interest from around the world, thanks to its affordable land and exciting creative possibilities.

The Languedoc is best known for its spicy reds, often made from one or more of the classic quintet of varieties, Carignan, Cinsaut, Grenache Noir, Mourvèdre and Syrah. However, it is also gaining a reputation for its whites, with the coastal appellation Picpoul de Pinet in particular seeing a rise in popularity, and for its rosés, producing twice as much as its fashionable neighbour Provence. The Languedoc is also home to the world's oldest sparkling wine, Blanquette de Limoux, and to*vins doux naturels* in the form of delicious, sweet Muscats.

It is in the twenty-first century above all that the Languedoc has really found its place among the great wine regions. Here, Rosemary George MW profiles a selection of those producers who have made and continue to boost the region's reputation. Some are newcomers, while others are inheritors of family businesses, many of whom have studied oenology or learned winemaking elsewhere. All are passionate about what they do, continuing to improve their wines with every vintage.

The Languedoc is one of the world's largest and most exciting wine regions, making***Wines of the Languedoc*** essential reading for professionals and enthusiasts alike.

Rosemary George spent nine years in the wine trade with The Wine Society, Louis Eschenauer (Bordeaux), H Sichel & Sons, Findlater Matta and Les Amis du Vin. In 1979 she became one of the first women to qualify as a Master of Wine. A freelance writer since 1981, she has written thirteen books, covering the Languedoc, Chablis, Tuscany and New Zealand. She is a contributor to various magazines including *Decanter* and *Sommelier India.*







Published 7th Feb 2024