



The Life and Wines of Hugh Johnson

Hugh Johnson

Foreword by Eric Asimov

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- Hugh Johnson is the world's best-selling wine writer, with the *World Atlas of Wine* being the most valuable and the *Pocket Wine Book* selling the most copies
- Multi-award winner, loved by anyone with an interest in wine and still with lots to say about our favorite drink
- His memoir, updated with the most recent 15 years covered, looks at his life through the memorable wines he has drunk and the amazing people and places he has known and visited
- Funny, warm, knowledgeable and worldly-wise, the reader will feel as though they are having an intimate dinner with Hugh

"Veteran wine books are by modern standards short on facts." — **Decanter Magazine**

"This is an inspirational book well worth your time." — **Eric Asimov on Instagram**

"If you want to learn about wine, switch off your phone, buy these two books and enjoy them with a nice glass of something." — **The Critic**

"This is a don't-miss book for people who plan their travels around vineyards." — **Washington Post**

"This is one of the best books on wine ever written." — **Sommelier India**

In this unique approach to understanding wine, Hugh Johnson, the world's best-loved wine author, weaves the story of his own epic wine journey with an embracing view of everything he has discovered along the way. Almost without realizing it, the reader is drawn into a fascinating world; with each page turned, knowledge is gained and wine wisdom absorbed. Hugh takes us from the teetering ledges of the Mosel and majestic châteaux of the Médoc to the sylvan slopes of Windsor Great Park with a spring in his step and a tasting glass at the ready.

No one writes so infectiously on every aspect of wine, whether human or cultural, technical or historical. This book is peppered with anecdotes and personal recollections, infused with the sheer delight Hugh finds in his subject. It is a book with a story to tell and a mastery of wine to impart.

Previously published as *Wine, A Life Uncorked 2005*, now updated with new chapters.

Hugh Johnson began acquiring his wine knowledge as a member of the Wine and Food Society at Cambridge University. When he came down from King's College in 1961 he became feature writer for *Vogue* and *House & Garden*, writing, among other things, wine columns for both magazines. In 1963 he became general secretary of the Wine and Food Society and succeeded the legendary gastronome André Simon as editor of *Wine and Food*. At the same time he became wine correspondent of *The Sunday Times* and started work on his first book *Wine* (1966), through which he established himself at the age of 27 as one of the subject's foremost writers. His rare talent for making the most complex subjects readable has led to a remarkable sequence of books.

After a year as travel editor of *The Sunday Times* he became editor of *Queen*, and in 1969 James Mitchell of the newly founded publishing house Mitchell Beazley asked him to write *The World Atlas of Wine*. First published in 1971, this book has been translated into 14 languages and sold over four million copies. He is the world's bestselling wine writer.

In 2007 Hugh Johnson received an OBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours list. His OBE was awarded for services to wine making and horticulture. In April 2004 Hugh was honored with the title of Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite, one of the highest tributes bestowed by the French Government. The medal was presented to Hugh for his significant contribution to the appreciation and understanding of France and its wines.