



Loire Valley: Guide to the Wines of France: (French Wine Guide)

By Approach Guides, David Raezer, Jennifer Raezer

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The Loire Valley — featuring a compelling line-up of distinctive grape varieties, high quality winemaking and large production volumes — is home to some of France's most impressive wines. Nevertheless, it remains largely overlooked by the international wine drinking public. This makes the region a treasure trove of exceptional values, just waiting to be discovered. (2016 update includes with new vintage ratings)

What's in this wine guide:

- * Grape varieties. We describe the Loire's primary red and white grape varieties and where they reach their highest expressions.
- * Vintage ratings. We offer a straightforward vintage ratings table, which affords high-level insight into the best and most challenging years for wine production.
- * A Loire Valley wine label. We explain what to look for on a Loire Valley wine label and what it tells you about what's in the bottle.
- * Map and appellation profiles. Leveraging our map of the region, we provide detailed profiles of appellations from all five of the Loire's sub-regions (running from west to east): Pays Nantais, Anjou, Saumur, Touraine and Central Vineyards. For each appellation, we describe the prevailing terroir, the types of wine produced and what makes them distinctive.
- * A distinctive approach. This guidebook's approach is unique: rather than tell you what specific bottle of wine to order by providing individual bottle reviews, it gives you the information you require to make informed wine choices on any list.
- * Recommendations. We mark our favorite appellations with asterisks (*) — our selections have a record for providing quality, consistency and good values.
- * Information the way you like it. As with all of our guides, this book is

optimized for intuitive, quick navigation; information is organized into bullet points to make absorption easy; trademark features of grapes and denominations are front and center.

Publisher note: This wine guide is focused on wine education, highlighting the unique aspects of the Loire Valley's wine growing regions and grape varieties; this guide does not profile specific producers or rate individual wines.

ABOUT APPROACH GUIDES

Wine guides for the ultra curious, Approach Guides takes an in depth look at a wine region's grapes, appellations, and vintages to help you discover wines that meet your preferences.

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Compulsive (and compulsively informed) travelers, the Raezers are the masterminds behind the downloadable Approach Guides, which are filled with a university course-worth of history and insights for 62 destinations worldwide.

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What started as one couple's travel notes aimed at filling in the gaps in guidebooks has become ApproachGuides.com - a menu of downloadable travel guides that cover cultural and historical topics of interest to thoughtful travelers. What's hot: Bite-sized travel guides that specialize in topics ranging from 29 pages on the foods of Italy to one that helps you explore the historical and architectural significance of Angkor's famous temple structures in Cambodia.

- LA Times

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