

5 Ways to Improve your Tasting Experience

How to sip and savor every glass!



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There are many ways to taste wine. Our objective is for you to enjoy the wine and the tasting experience.

Here is an easy 5 step process to taste wine. The first four steps I adopted from Wine Folly, but the fifth step is one that we live by. Remember, a tasting usually means taking a sip or two of wine, not drinking a whole glass, and you can even share the

1. Look

Check out the color, opacity, and viscosity as you swirl it around your glass. The lines it leaves on the side of the glass are called wine legs.

2. Smell

When you first start smelling wine, think big to small. Are there fruits? Think of broad categories first, i.e. citrus, orchard, or tropical fruits in whites or, when tasting reds, red fruits, blue fruits, or black fruits.

3. Taste

Taste is how we use our tongues to observe the wine, but also, once you swallow the wine, the aromas may change because you're receiving them retro-nasally.

- ➔ **Taste:** Our tongues can detect salty, sour, sweet, or bitter.
- ➔ **Texture:** Your tongue can "touch" the wine and perceive its texture.
- ➔ **Length:** The taste of wine is also time-based, there is a beginning, middle (mid-palate) and end (finish). Ask yourself, how long it takes until the wine isn't with you anymore?

4. Think

Did the wine taste balanced or out of balance (i.e. too acidic, too alcoholic, too tannic)? Did you like the wine?

Was this wine unique or unmemorable?

Were there any characteristics that shined through and impressed you (Oaky, buttery, sweet, dry, crisp, fruity, just to name a few)?

5. Evaluate

Now it's time to grade the wine.

We use a 5 star rating system, with 1 being the worst and 5 being the best.

Really concentrate on the wine and give it your personal rating/score.

Then think, would I want to drink this again? We use that rating/score, to determine if we want to purchase the wine (bear in mind shipping costs, etc).

If you use this system, you will always enjoy the wine when you drink it in the future.

Don't forget to drink a lot of water while you're tasting wine!



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