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**Rosés From Around the
World:**
2021 Annual Report

Provence

260 Wines

Sparkling

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Introduction

Today, rosé is a major wine category. One only need peruse the springtime wine exhibits of supermarkets to see the very wide variety of rosés offered to the consumer. There's Provence rosé, of course, but also, rosés from almost every red grape variety and every wine region on the globe. There are many, many absolutely delicious rosés made in a wide variety of styles. We've tasted and written about thousands of rosés in our articles and reports. In this, our fourth annual report on rosés, we review current releases of many of the world's best rosés from the US, France, Italy, Spain and elsewhere.

Our 2018 report *The World of Rosé* provided a comprehensive look at the varieties of grapes and methods for making rosé in many of the wine regions of the world, while our 2020 report focused on American rosé with particular emphasis on rosé of Pinot Noir. In addition, we've written numerous review articles on the rosé wines of particular regions and in-depth reports and articles on sparkling rosés and rosé Champagne. This year's report complements this body of work with reviews of current releases of rosé wines from around the world. In addition, we highlight the best producers of them.

The production and sales of rosé have surged over the past decade, principally due to improvements in quality, beginning in Provence. These improvements were

stimulated by technological advances in winemaking, government and producer efforts to raise quality, and increased tourism to Southern France. The evolution of the modern Provence style—petal pink, crisp and delicate—is relatively recent, dating from the 1990s thanks in part to the Centre de Recherche et d'Expérimentation sur le Vin Rosé (CREVR). The growth in sales is unparalleled in the history of wine.

The rosé revolution that started in Provence has now spread worldwide. Rising numbers of winemakers are growing grapes and making wine specifically for rosé (i.e., intentional rosé) rather than producing it as a byproduct (saignée) of red wine making. Rosé is being made from an increasing number of grape varieties, some grown in very special terroir. Quality-focused winemakers are increasingly farming vineyards organically; adopting techniques to preserve fresh aromas, flavors, and natural acidity; using indigenous yeasts for long, cold fermentations; and aging wine on the lees for longer. Some even ferment and/or age wine in oak barrels or concrete eggs.

As a result of these advancements, rosé consumers today have greater choice than ever before. Rosés vary by color, smell and taste, and even bottle shape. Some are endorsed or even made by Hollywood celebrities. Some are light and easy drinking, meant for very casual occasions. Others are complex, savory, and serious and meant for drinking with meals. The world of rosé is ever growing and often bewildering to the consumer. In this report, we try to make sense of it all.

We begin this report with a listing of the best rosés tasted this year. Then we review the world rosé market, including data from the just released *2021 Rosé Wines World Tracking* report of the Conseil Interprofessionnel des Vins de Provence (CIVP). Next we take a quick look at some of the key grape varieties used for making rosé with special focus on Garnacha/Grenache, followed by a brief review of how rosés are made. This is followed by the main section of the report that summarizes the findings of our tastings.

Acknowledgements. First of all, we thank the many importers, distributors, and winemakers who submitted samples of Rosés for this report. This report would not have been possible had we not received samples for tasting. A special thanks goes to the Conseil Interprofessionnel des Vins de Provence (CIVP) and SOPEXA, their US representative, for helping us obtain samples. This year's COVID-related congestion at US ports meant that Provence wineries had to send samples directly to us via air freight. As can be seen by the large number of Provence rosés in the tasting notes section of this report, their response was overwhelming. We also thank the CIVP for sending us an advance copy of the 2021 edition of their *Rosé Wines Tracking* survey. We are also indebted to several wine writers whose research, writing and tastings were very useful to us in preparing this report; special thanks to Elizabeth Gabay, author of *Rosé: Understanding the Pink Wine Revolution*. In addition, we thank Mark Longworth, Maria Denton, Jeffrey Puryear, and Simone Lee for their assistance with this report.