

# LifeStyle

★ 品味生活

July 2011

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南腔北调



田博华，享誉全球的葡萄酒专家，如今常驻纽约或曼谷。他为众多的连锁酒店及餐厅担当顾问工作，发表过大量的有关葡萄酒的著作和评论。Fred Tibbitts Jr. is a global wine consultant based in New York and Bangkok. He assists some of the top hotel and restaurant chains in the U.S. and Asia Pacific developing their wine-by-the-glass programs, leading educational trips to wine producing countries and hosting VIP industry dinners at New York and across Asia.

## 定制红酒生活

# How To Take Control of Your Wine Life? Customize It



在生活中，你是希望全局由你掌握，还是别人可以为你做主？如果你是消费力活跃的中国新富阶层的一员，想必是爱掌控自己的生活，而不是等待别人的建议。其实，拥有专属自己的红酒味道，和伴随你的其它奢侈品一样，必不可少。

定制属于自己的红酒味道过程，一如重新规划你的生活，不仅可行，也是愉悦的。你首先需要制定一个计划，或者说绘制一张蓝图，此外还要有对理想的红酒生活的美好想象。因为这种愿景一旦出现，就像建筑有了设计稿，剩下的就只等施工了。

每当我想对生活做些积极的改变，就会立刻采取行动。想象自己盘腿而坐，让大脑放空，集中精力寻找解决生活中的问题、困难和冲突等的途径，跟着要做的就是相信自己，相信自己的内心可以给出所有问题的答案。

到底什么是你理想中的红酒生活？或许扪心自问之后，就会像照片在化学物质的作用下慢慢变得清晰起来。这样，你会很清楚地知道何时何地、和谁共处时，你想与其共饮一杯，在不同的场合选择搭配不同的美酒，等等。

不过，有时候我们不是非得挑最理想的。许多时候，我们往往只知道自己喜欢什么和不喜欢什么。在这个过程中，我们的味觉也将逐渐“成熟”起来。我们往往会偏爱味道更让人回味的干葡萄酒，而不是甜味为主的葡萄酒。

所以，梦你所梦的，想你所想的，并描绘出每一个细节，让它变成红酒生活的向导。都说世上没有两片一模一样的雪花，也没有长得丝毫不差的两颗沙粒，你的红酒生活也必定独一无二。听从内心真正的召唤，便是定制红酒生活的秘密所在。当甘醇的美酒划过舌尖，你将全身心地享受它带来的快乐和幸福。不过，记得分享给你的红酒好友哦。

Are you a "Take Charge" kind of person or do you allow others to dictate how you will lead your life? If you are among the many upwardly mobile, young Chinese "nouveau riche", you take your own decisions, rather than waiting for others to tell you what is best for you. And now I'll tell you how to take charge of your wine life and how to customize it to better serve your maturing palate and burgeoning Gucci, Louis Vuitton, Hermes or Prada luxury handbag, power purse, luxury tote, A-List clutch or metrosexual man-purse.

The process of taking control of your wine life and customizing all that is wine for you is like any other proactive discipline when one decides to organize an aspect of one's existence, that it would become more pleasurable and predictable. First of all, one needs a plan, a blueprint; but for the plan to be meaningful, one must arrive at a vision of what one's ideal wine life would be like: For once the vision is complete, it's only a matter of "connecting the dots", as they say, that lead from where you're at to where you'd like to be.

So, whenever I am trying to make positive changes in my life, I simply go within. I assume a comfortable, cross-legged, meditative posture and I let go; I go blank; and I focus on becoming One with the ideal solution to any given problem, conflict or challenge with which I am faced. And of course, the solution awaits: One simply must believe in the process, that our intuition, the Wisdom Within, knows all the answers. We need only ask.

In the case at hand, what would be your ideal customized wine life? And after a minute, an hour or a day or however long it takes, like a photo coming to life in a parade of pans of chemicals as was the photo developing process in years gone by, a complete picture in "Technicolor" evolves in one's mind. And once the vision is understood, just connect the dots and you're on your way. You now know when and where you want to enjoy a glass or bottle of wine and with whom. You know the kinds and types of wines you will purchase for home and the ones you will order in restaurants and bars. You know when you will want to ask for wine advice when shopping and when dining out; and when you will go it alone, for better or worse.

But sometimes we learn more by making less than ideal wine purchasing decisions, because in each such case, we learn better what we like and what we don't like~ which, of course, continues to evolve as our palates "mature" or gravitate to more complex, drier, food-friendly wines, rather than the ultra-sweet wines (which some of us even mixed with soft drinks to put the sugar content "over the top") that most of us prefer when we take those first "baby steps" in our wine life.

So, dream your dream, record it in every detail and let it be your guide to living your wine life your way; and in so doing, customizing your wine experience from dawn until dusk. Just as they say that no two snowflakes are alike and that no two grains of sand on a beach are identical, let your world of wine be uniquely yours. You'll be glad you looked within, followed your heart of hearts and became the wine expert that has always been quietly by your side, without you ever knowing it. And now that you know the secret to customizing your wine life, let your new wine empowerment bring nothing but joy and happiness to every sip of wine you experience forever more and a day; and by all means, be sure to share the secret with your favorite wine friend. I am

*Red Owl*, over & out. ▣

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