

New Western Cuisine



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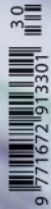


产品设计

绝佳分享十二月

SHARING THE BEST IN DECEMBER

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Fred Tibbitts, Jr. is the foremost global wine & spirits consultant for National Account chain hotels and restaurants, based at Bangkok and New York. He travels the world annually attending several of the leading wine and spirits expositions, seminars and conferences. He is a writer for industry and entertainment publications in China and the U.S.

常驻在曼谷和纽约的Fred Tibbitts, Jr.是全球最著名的品酒顾问之一，他为众多的连锁酒店及餐厅提供咨询。还参议过许多国家重要的餐饮会展以及项目。大量相关的著作及评论发表，在业界，一时洛阳纸贵。

圣诞临近 — 以分享的名义品味美食美酒

The Wines & Foods of Our Times-Enjoy & Share

For Christmas is Near



There was a time when fine wines, mostly imported were for the informed and sophisticated few; and when dining out, most of us would order a wine based on a friend's standing recommendation or because the wines were from a famous place, such as Champagne, Burgundy or Bordeaux. But today the wines of our times are wines we have come to enjoy with the foods of our times and we are far more likely to make our selections based on the helpful suggestions of our educated servers or from our growing knowledge of what wines go best with what foods. The times they are a changing and definitely for the good.

Christmas or "Tis the Season to be Jolly" evokes a spirit of sharing with loved ones and All Sentient Beings the world over. If our charity knows no bounds, we empty our bank account that those less fortunate should suffer less over the holidays and we treat and gift with wild abandon. Christmas is everyone's excuse to be as generous for one day of the year as should we be every day of the year. But no matter, one day is a start; for if one discovers the beauty of giving until it feels good, it is a life changing experience.

That's right, I said "...giving until it feels good..."; not "giving until it hurts", as is so often expressed in circles of middle and upper class consumers who prefer to share among themselves, rather than with those less fortunate. For the spirit of Christmas is the spirit of sharing whatever is in excess of the minimum necessary to cover one's basic needs. As anyone who has ever given until it

feels good can confirm, the expression on that mother's face (infant child on her lap, as she receives your generosity on the street) is a better return on investment than all the "cold, hard cash" known to man. That mother's expression is, in fact, Heaven's gate, smiling on your good deed and letting you know that when it is your time to pass beyond "this world", she and her infant (for Christians, the baby Jesus) will be awaiting with open arms. So, 'tis the season to be generous: And since you never know when it will be you last, give until it feels really good and then half again as much, just for good measure.

At the holidays, be they east or west, we are reminded of the many spiritual traditions that all speak to the same point, such as the practice of leaving an empty place at the dinner table for the wayward traveler who might lack means of sustenance or for whomever might pass your way in need of bread, water and compassion. In Biblical times, by Christian tradition, an extra place was always set for the stranger who would come to dine, regardless of the likelihood that anyone would find the family table, which might be far from the beaten path: It was an age old method of teaching genuine hospitality and the art of sharing without seeking reward, that the family would never forget their many blessings and the joy of serving the expressed as well as the unexpressed needs of others. Every religion has a similar story that recognizes the importance of hospitality without bounds and that is color, race, gender and class blind.

Our holiday tables are communions of human beings assembling as one to celebrate and share without reservation all that is beautiful.

The Christians say their God advises them in their Holy Scriptures "When two or more of you are gathered together, I am with thee". Most religions teach that the Universe connects all living things at all times; we just simply need to be open to celebrate the global communion, which some would say is always within.

The wines and foods of our times for the Christmas season are about festivity, celebration and sharing our good fortune with all who appear at our table. The proteins are delicious, being moist, fresh meats and game, cooked to perfection with the most nourishing and tasty of stuffing; the vegetables are local harvest and the wines are the finest from the cellar. These are the special occasions that bring out the best in each of us and call for only the very best ingredients, including of course, the pies, tarts and puddings we normally avoid, except for birthdays and special occasions. So, summons the family's best recipes for the Christmas feast and prepare more than can possibly be consumed on the holiday, that there be plenty of delicious leftovers for friends and family alike.

曾经一度，我们会根据朋友的推荐而去选择葡萄酒，或者去选择那些著名产地的葡萄酒：香槟、勃艮第或者波尔多。而现在可能有所不同了。我们的决定更多的是根据我们餐桌上食物的不同而做出的，当然，前提是我们对于葡萄酒的本身了解的开始越来越多了。这是一种变化，而且是好的变化。

圣诞，让我们更多的原意与我们的朋友们分享爱和关怀。我们愿意在这一天拿出我们的慷慨和爱心，去关怀珍惜的人和事情。自然，圣诞给了我们分享的理由，如果愿意的话，其实生命中的每一天都可以这样度过。如果有一天你发现给予是一件很幸福的事情，你的生命也就开始改变了。

这无疑是对的，我说“给予到你觉得幸福”而不是“给予到你觉得不耐烦”，就好像那些上层的人们，愿意在他们的圈层中分享，而不愿意和那些财富少的人分享一样，我们并不提倡这样。圣诞的意义在与，去和那些需要关怀的人分享你的慷慨，给予别人真正的帮助。这种感情流露在妈妈抱着小孩子在自己的膝头玩耍时的笑容里。这远比冰冷坚硬的钞票带来的幸福感受真实而真挚。你永远不知道什么是真正的最后，所以，付出吧直到你感到幸福。

在节日里，无论是东方还是西方，节日里的传统意义很多都类似。比如说，在家庭团圆聚餐的时候，会为远行而缺席的人预留位子。在传统的基督徒家中，节日中，他们通常都会预留一个位子给陌生人。节日就是这样，人们总是希望非常温暖的在一起。无论肤色、种族、性别和身份。

圣诞季的食物都和节日、庆祝和分享的主题有关。利用各种新鲜的食材、美味的调料烹饪出最有营养、最完美的佳肴，摆上节日的餐桌。无论是什么都要最好的。还有比如像各种各样的派、布丁等等的食物，除了生日和一些特别的日子之外，都是我们平时所拒绝的，在这个时候，也会出现在我们的餐桌。

圣诞节酒的红色，正是代表了圣诞节的过去、现在和将来。我们会用我们口袋里所能负担的钱去买最好的酒。下面是我推荐的圣诞物资采购的地方，你可以选择临近的店去选购。

知道了这些地方，你就能买到最好的食材来准备为你的圣诞餐桌锦上添花了。很重要的一点是：当你打开心灵去分享的时候，你往往也能分享所有人给你带来的一切。

就是这样，我是 **红酒师**。

