

French Wine Scholar®

The industry's
most respected
certification on
the wines of France



- ★ Intermediate Level Course
- 🕒 100 Hours of Study
- 📍 Study Online or In-Person
- 🏆 Earn your French Wine Scholar® (FWS) Certification

Embark on a journey deep into the heart of France with the French Wine Scholar® Program (FWS), the quintessential offering from Wine Scholar Guild — the international authority on authentic wines of place.

The French Wine Scholar® program sets the industry standard as the most in-depth and comprehensive certification program devoted entirely to the wines of France.

Tailored for dedicated wine aficionados and industry professionals, FWS is your passport to exploring the rich historical and cultural traditions, appellation and classification structures, viticultural and winemaking practices that make French wine a global benchmark.

Completion of the program doesn't just reward you with a certificate; it confers upon you the sought-after FWS post-nominal initials, symbolizing intermediate-level proficiency and industry-wide respect.

With the French Wine Scholar® program, you're not just learning; you're enriching your understanding and appreciation of French wine.

ABOUT WSG

-  **10,000+** Graduates
-  **150+** Expert Educators
-  **130+** Partner Schools
-  **35+** Countries
-  **6,500+** Community Members



Why Choose the French Wine Scholar® (FWS) Program?

Set off on a curated journey through the most revered wine regions of France. FWS students learn and benefit from:

- ✓ Comprehensive coverage of all major French wine regions, grape varieties and wine styles
- ✓ Intermediate-level proficiency into the viticultural, winemaking and production methods of French wine
- ✓ Thorough understanding of the French appellation, classification and labelling systems
- ✓ Region-specific wine knowledge to complement more general wine studies
- ✓ Interactive learning through online modules and/or expert-led teaching sessions
- ✓ Globally recognized certification communicating proficiency and expertise on the wines and wine regions of France
- ✓ Use of the FWS post-nominal to enhance your résumé, CV or professional profile

WHO IS THE FRENCH WINE SCHOLAR® (FWS) PROGRAM FOR?

Hospitality and wine industry **professionals** aiming for expertise

Sommeliers seeking a competitive edge

Passionate wine **enthusiasts**, aficionados and collectors

Students of wine

Avid **travelers**

Life-long learners craving deeper knowledge of French wine styles and regions

Why Study French wine?

The influence of France on the world of wine cannot be understated, viewed by many as a benchmark for viticulture

and wine production. By exploring French wine, students gain a deeper appreciation for wine in general.

BY THE END OF THIS COURSE, STUDENTS WILL:

Have explored, in-depth, the **major wine regions** and **appellations** of France

Be able to explain the characteristics of **grape varieties** and **wine styles** from each region

Understand and be able to explain the influence of **climate, geography, topography** and **terroir** on French wine

Understand and be able to explain the influence of **viticultural, winemaking** and **production practices** on the wines of France

Understand and be able to explain the influence and significance of **history** and **culture** on the evolution of French wines

Speak intelligently and **with authority** about French wines in any context



How is the curriculum presented?

In order to give students a working knowledge of the extensive material at hand, the French Wine Scholar® course presents each wine region as an integrated whole. By exploring the impact of history, geography, geology, topography, climate, soil, viticulture, winemaking, legislation, classification and culture on the wines of France; no topic is discussed in isolation.

REGIONS DISCUSSED INCLUDE:

ALSACE
CHAMPAGNE
BOURGOGNE
BEAUJOLAIS
JURA
SAVOIE
LOIRE VALLEY
BORDEAUX
SOUTHWEST
LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON
RHÔNE VALLEY
PROVENCE
CORSICA



Are there any pre-requisites?

The French Wine Scholar® program is an intermediate-level study course conferring a professional, industry recognized FWS post-nominal. It is recommended to have a solid, general wine background before embarking on this course of study.

If you are interested in a beginner-level course, please refer to our French Wine Essentials course.



What's included?

From a comprehensive study manual to interactive online modules, expert instruction and an engaging student community; every element is meticulously designed to foster a profound understanding and appreciation of French Wine culture.

COURSEBOOK

Shipped to your address, the 330-page beautifully designed coursebook, rich with photographs, detailed maps, illustrations and infographics contains all the information you need to know. Immediate access to the digital e-book is provided upon registration.

ONLINE STUDY MODULES

Access online e-learning activities designed to enrich the study manual and support different learning styles.

EXPERT EDUCATORS

Learn from the most notable names in the industry – expert educators and wine professionals accredited by the Wine Scholar Guild.

STUDENT COMMUNITY

Network with the other students taking the French Wine Scholar® course, form a tasting group and build your wine network.

FINAL EXAM

Your course includes a 100-question multiple-choice exam covering all the wine regions of France.

CERTIFICATE

Upon successful completion of the program and exam, receive your coveted French Wine Scholar certificate and lapel pin. Completion of the program confers upon you the sought-after FWS post-nominal initials, symbolizing intermediate-level proficiency on the wines of France. Add this reputed credential to your professional profile, résumé or CV.



How much study time is recommended?

This certification has a minimum requirement of 100 hours of study time, including approximately 20 hours spent in the classroom, viewing online review lectures or e-learning modules depending on the study format selected.

The number of total hours you spend will vary greatly based on your previous wine knowledge.



How is the exam structured?

Whether taken online or in the classroom, the exam consists of 100 multiple-choice questions. Students have one hour to complete the exam. There is no wine tasting component to the exam.

Passing score is 75. Candidates scoring 85–90 pass with “Honors” Candidates scoring 91–100 pass with “Highest Honors”.

Have more questions? Check out our **Exams FAQ** for more details.

Have a different question? Feel free to **contact us**.

Study options



Choose from online or classroom formats based on your schedule and preferred learning style. Rest assured that the final exam and certification remain consistent across all formats.

	ONLINE Independent Learning	ONLINE Educator-Led Learning	IN-PERSON Classroom Learning
Format	Study at your own pace, from anywhere at any time.	Study from anywhere, anytime with the addition of 10 live educator-led lectures.	Study in-person at one of our 130 Course Providers around the world.
Educator Support	Interact with WSG Educators via the online community.	Interact with WSG educators via live sessions and online community.	Receive in-person classroom support from WSG-certified educators.
Length of Study	12 months from date of enrollment to take the exam.	1 live course every 10 weeks with 12 months from date of enrollment to take the exam.	Schedule and length of term vary by Course Provider.
Wine Tasting	Maximize learning with a list of recommended wines to sample on your own.	Maximize learning with a list of recommended wines to sample on your own.	Enjoy tutored wine tastings in the classroom.
Study Manual (Print & E-Book)	✓	✓	✓
Interactive online learning modules, pronunciation exercises, quizzes and flashcards	✓	✓	✓
Live Course Instruction	✗	✓	✓
Online Student Community	✓	✓	✓
Final Exam	✓	✓	✓
Certificate, Lapel Pin and Use of Post-Nominal Upon Passing	✓	✓	✓
Start Date	Start Anytime	See Online Schedule	Varies by Provider
Price	\$875	\$995	Varies by Provider

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