

# home tastings testimonials



"I'm a bit of a wine dummy - I buy wines based on a few very unscientific factors: the region, the label, tried and true, and the price. And I drink wines rather indiscriminately. I guess I'm just a bit put off by the pretentiousness of wine snobs.

I think what I found most interesting is the lesson about wines having 'personalities' and so different types of wine are good for different occasions. And that choosing wine is less about TASTE, and more about mood, experience - how it makes you FEEL. I think in many cases, wines I 'didn't like' were less about the taste, but that its mood didn't suit mine. That wines have personalities/moods is **a whole new concept - and one that is quite fun to explore.**

I guess it's all about deconstructing wine and making the many (and often overwhelming) choices a bit more discernable/accessible.

Thanks to Kato and Billy for shedding some light on what I love so much (vino!)"  
Shelley

"There is a lot more to wine than it's flavour; to take moments with each sip to actually experience it; to get over the snobbery of wine tasting/being knowledgeable about wine and to consider it from an artisan, almost grass-rootsy perspective; **to consider different wines' roles at different points in an affair, as opposed to one right wine for the whole gig;** to compare wine to other sensory experiences (the dj comparison was good in terms of relating to the mood throughout an evening) in order to better understand how it relates to me and me to it; lastly and most importantly, to no longer worry about having three glasses of wine in one evening, but rather to seek out such experiences as worthy artistic adventures."  
Lorraine

"I learned a TON. Before last night I was operating on a shot in the dark basis with wine. I knew that there were certain wines I liked in certain circumstances, but I really had no idea why. I was intimidated by the stereotypical approach to understanding it.

I love the analogy of wine being like music, and that it creates a mood in that same way. Thinking of it this way **has really changed my whole approach to wine, and the role it plays in social settings.** I think it will be much more fun to plan a party or dinner now....and experimenting with interesting options.

I found the character assignments to the grape varieties especially effective. **It was wonderful to put a personality to each experience.** At every specific level, I learned that livelier lighter wines create an energetic mood, and deeper heavier wines create a quieter mood. Even that alone has changed everything. It was also important to see the difference between safer "house" wine options, and bolder options....

I think Billy and Kato really have a great thing going!"  
Emily

"I didn't know that **you can plan the mood of the party by serving different wines at different times.** I think at the parties I have been to, we just cracked open whatever wine was there!

I don't drink much white wine, so I didn't know that **there was such a huge difference in whites.** I thought that they were all light and wimpy, so I was surprised that they can be just as substantial as some reds!

I had been to wine tasting sessions before, but they were definitely focused on the taste, not the feeling the wine inspires. I liked that you applied it to 'real life' re: parties, formal dinners, hot dates etc!! It was fun!! Thanks!!"  
Ros

"Thanks so much for doing the wine tasting for Peter's party. We really enjoyed it and we've had a lot of positive reviews from friends and family. I have to say that you make a good point about wine being **more about emotion than taste** because I was surprised by the intensity of many people's reactions to the wines.

I also found it a good learning experience. I think I've mostly only tasted the raunchy, sweet German Rieslings and the interesting, exotic/fruity Alsations and I had no idea about the dry, "nervy" ones.

I've been reading your book and drinking all the opened bottles since you've left and it's been great. I look forward to drinking and reading more!"  
Doris

"We just wanted you to know what a great evening Saturday was. The wine tasting experience according to your wine spectrum was **not only a lot of fun but highly educational!** You may have picked up that there were some educators in the crowd!

The party certainly got off to a fresh and lively start and although it did finish in a mellow, laid back way, most guests managed to make their way home after 2:30 in the morning. They probably were not feeling too lively the next day!! Thanks again for the superb wine tasting experience. Cheers."  
Liz and Brent