



# ROBERT PARKER: 'I LIKE WINES THAT SAY SOMETHING BACK TO ME'

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Robert Parker was in Manhattan recently for the unveiling of the Wine Advocate and he talked about Olympic swimming trials, why some wines began to taste like among other things, one regret involving his mother.

matter  
of  
taste

He married his high school sweetheart, Patricia. He parlayed a love of wine, discovered in France with said girl, into a career. He influenced the wine world, taught him to taste, and failed to pass on and

It has been 38 years since [Robert Parker Jr.] founded the Wine Advocate, a newsletter of tasting notes and numerical scores that is the equivalent of the gospel in the wine world.

"One of my long-time objectives before my mother passed away was to get her high on wine, but she was so stoic and difficult that I never really achieved that." Robert told me, full of emotion, he looked long and hard at me.

with him. Patricia was a wine lover. "My father just didn't get it." "I came from a family of wine drinkers. I fell in love with wine when I was a kid. I'm most thankful for in these 38 years is that my love of wine has never failed me. That's the one thing that I hope I can pass on through the Wine Advocate."

"I'm very happy where I am. I hope I can keep doing it because if you're a young up-and-coming wine critic, it's one of the greatest and most exciting times to be around" - Robert Parker Jr.

Robert M. Parker Jr., now 68, is still doing his best to pass on that love. It has been 38 years since he founded the Wine Advocate, a newsletter of tasting notes and numerical scores that is the equivalent of the gospel in the wine world. A score of 100, the Holy Grail. Three years ago, Parker sold the majority interest in the Advocate to people he

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**RATING SYSTEM**

Robert Parker's rating system employs a 50-100 point quality scale. It is my belief that the various twenty (20) point ratings of flexibility and often result in compressed and inflated wine ratings. THE WINE ADVOCATE takes a hard, very critical look at the wine's quality than to overestimate it. The numerical ratings are utilized only to enhance and complement which are my primary means of communicating my judgments to you.

95-100	An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a wine of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume.
90-95	An outstanding wine of exceptional complexity and character. In short, these are terrific wines.
80-89	A barely above average to very good wine displaying various degrees of finesse and flavor as well as balance.
70-79	An average wine with little distinction except that it is soundly made. In essence, a straightforward, inoffensive wine.

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