

# WINE ENTHUSIAST

MAY 2016

THE WINE ENTHUSIAST

GUIDE TO

## WINE & SPORTS

When it comes to global phenomena with passionate fans taking pride in what local and national, wine and sports share a great affinity. From upstarts and underdogs to well-established icons, there's always a reason to cheer for what's in your glass and who's on the field. And with more of the world's most famous athletes getting involved with wine, it's never been a better time to cheer for your home team...and vineyard. So let the games begin. Just don't forget the wine.



### THE SPORTS ISSUE

#### Bruce Bochy

MANAGER, SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS, WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS 2010, 2012 AND 2014

THE INTERVIEW

**How often do you enjoy wine?**

I'll have it four [or] five times a week. During the season, it's sort of a fun thing we have. I tell the players, "I only drink wine when we win." We play 162 games. It's a pretty done deal you're going to lose about 60 for sure, depending on the year. You play .500, you're going to lose 81 games. That's a lot of days without wine, so I tell the players, "I want wine tonight."

**Is that their motivation?**

Pablo [Sandoval, former Giants third baseman] would have fun with it: "Skipper gets to drink wine tonight, because we're going to win."

**How did you get interested in wine?**

One of the greatest perks I have with managing here in San Francisco is we have a lot of season ticket holders from Napa. So sometimes,

they drop by the office and send it to me. I will open it or more a nice glass of wine.

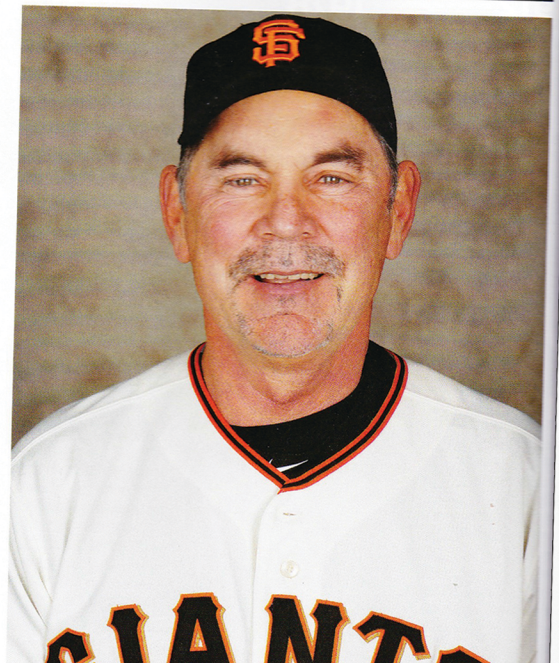
**Was it a conscious thinking?**

Not at all. Napa the day off work for the Giants [in San Diego]. I started drinking a little bit more wine, and it was starting to stir my interest. That first year here, I made a couple more trips to Napa and Sonoma. We had a

couple events, they'd always have wine there, so I got more and more interested in it.

I've developed some friendships. Rob Davis [winemaker at Jordan Winery] and Daniel Baron [winemaker at Silver Oak], these are friends of mine who have taught me a lot. Jeff Smith at Hourglass is really a fun guy. I love Switchback, one of my favorites, and they're right beside Hourglass. But my go-to place is Jordan. I love to fish, they have a little pond there, a bass boat, the French chateau look, just a beautiful venue. So if I want to get away and have a couple nice, quiet days, that's where I go.

"There's a great correlation with our success and success of the grapes. I buy the even years."



*Hourglass*

When we won the World Series, the wineries made me specialized bottles, big bottles, magnumns. Caymus made me a beautiful 9-liter bottle as a congratulations. Treferhen, Roar, Hourglass. I must have 20 bottles on display. The even years, I stick to those, the 2010, 12s, they were good wines

**Are players getting broader in their views of food and wine?**

Yeah. We have guys that bring their own wine on the plane. After the game, I have

**Do you keep much of a cellar at home?**

I had a cellar built. It holds 750 bottles. It's more than full. When we won the World

**Good years for you, too.**

Yeah, good years for us. There's a great correlation with our success and success of the grapes. I buy the even years. —V.B.