

## About the GoldBook

The **GoldBook for WineBase** contains the complete book, with every field indexed. This allows you to search on any one aspect of the book, and ensures that the search facilities are both comprehensive and are performed at the highest speed available.

On a typical 486 computer, the GoldBook for WineBase will perform a complete search, with all search fields containing a search criteria in less than one second.

The results of a search will only list wines that match the search criteria.

Therefore if you do a search for Bin 707's that will be at their best in 2002, you wouldn't expect to have all vintages from 1976 to 1992 listed. The only two wines that match the search criteria are the 1988 and 1989 vintages.

The **GoldBook for WineBase** will only show these two, not a list of all Bin 707 vintages in the book, with the two you want lurking somewhere in the list.

## How to start it

The GoldBook for WineBase can be selected from the **View Menu**, or by clicking the button with the small Gold Book on it.

## What to use it for

A typical use for this program is to identify (quickly) wines of a particular variety, of a certain quality, that will be suitable to drink in a particular year, and cost an amount that you can afford.

ie Find all the Chardonnay wines that will be at their best in 1996, having a Star Ranking of 5, a Vintage Rating of 7 and cost between \$20 and \$29 (there are five of them).

## Main Edit Dialog

The GoldBook is also linked to the Main Edit Dialog.

You only need to enter a Vintage and a Winery name (or part of a name)

Clicking on the **Look up GoldBook** button will list all wines that match the Vintage and Winery name.

Select the required wine from the list by clicking on it. The values for GoodFrom, BestAt, GoodTo and Value will be displayed underneath the list of wines.

To accept these values click on Yes, and they will be placed in the respective Main Edit Dialog edit fields. The Winery Name, Label and Variety will also be exported to the Main Edit Dialog and the Star Ranking and Vintage Rating will be placed in the 'User 2' field.

You can accept a wine quickly by double clicking on it in the list.

The search will only find 20 different wines, which is fine if you enter the full winery name or enough letters to identify it. ie Pen will find Penfolds. If you enter only a single letter as a winery name ie C (or c), this will exceed the limit of 20 and you will be informed that the search criteria is too broad.

You can use the Up / Down arrow keys on the keyboard to move up and down the list, and ENTER to accept the highlighted wine.

## Searching the GoldBook

There are eight fields in the book, these are ...

Vintage	The year the wine was made.
Winery	The company that made the wine.
Label	A name the winery may put on the bottle.
Variety	The variety(s) of grape used.
Star Ranking	An overall ranking of the wine.
Vintage Rating	The makers rating for each vintage.
Best Drinking Year	An estimate of the best year to drink.
Current Value	What the wine is currently worth.

The **GoldBook for WineBase** lets you search on all these fields. You can search on only one or all eight at the same time. The **Vintage, Winery, Label, Variety** and the **Best Drinking Year** have drop down lists that you can select by clicking the down arrow to the right of the field, or enter information by clicking in the field. This is not case sensitive and partial words can be entered

ie Entering 'P' or 'p' in the Winery Edit Field will find all wines from wineries starting with 'P'. If you entered 'Pen', the search would find all wines from Penfolds.

Once a drop down list is opened, you can move up and down with the cursor keys, the scroll arrows or entering the 1st letter of a word in the list.

The Vintage Edit Field requires a four digit date .. eg. 1990

The Best Drinking Year (BestAt) requires either a date, eg. **1996** or **Now** or **Prior**.

The **Star Ranking, Vintage Rating** and **Value** fields have drop down lists of available choices. Click in any of these white Edit Fields to display the list and then click on the required one.

## Start Search

You start the Search by clicking the Start Search button. The results are listed in the Cyan windows beneath the Green Edit Fields.

## Clearing Fields

To clear all the Search Edit Fields use the **Clear Search Fields** option from the Menu.

## Scrolling Results

The list of results may be up to 3,500 lines long, and you can scroll up and down the list by using the **KEYBOARD** cursor control keys.

These are the **UP, DOWN** arrow keys, the **PAGE UP, PAGE DOWN** keys and the **HOME** and **END** keys.

The Winery field is linked to the keyboard, so you can use the first letter of the winery name to move up and down the list. ie Hitting 'z' will take you to the first winery starting with 'z' or 'Z'.

## Other Information

In the bottom left hand corner of the screen the details of the currently highlighted wine are listed in a format that is easy to read, and next to this (on the right) is a maturity graph, derived from the Vintage and BestAt data.

## GoodTo Date

Is derived from the Vintage and BestAt date and assumes that the BestAt date is in the mid point of the Maturity curve.

## Overview

WBfW includes the ability to assign individual bottles of wine to a location in a Rack. The system allows you to easily display the position of bottles in your cellar.

## Definitions

The basis of the system is a Bin, which holds 12 bottles, ie. a case of wine. A Bin is 4 bottles wide and 3 high. There are 512 Bins, which are numbered from 1 to 512.

These Bins are arranged into Racks, which can be up to 8 Bins high and 8 Bins wide, or as small as 2 Bins high or wide. You can have up to 16 Racks, each of which you can name.

Whilst not recommended, you can have the one wine (different bottles of) in up to 4 different Bins, each of which could be in a different Rack.

## Defining the Racks

The **File** menu has a **Cellar Rack Layout** option, which leads to a Dialog Box with all 16 Racks listed and provision for setting the Height, Width, Rack Name and the number of the first Bin in the Rack.

The number of the first Bin is important. The Bins in each Rack are numbered starting with the first Bin number, from the top left corner, across the Rack and down to the lower right corner.

So a 6 X 6 Rack starting at Bin 1, would be numbered like this.

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13 ...					... 30
31	32	33	34	35	36

The next rack would start at Bin number 37.

In order to make working out the first Bin number for each Rack, the Dialog has a '**Auto Bin Number**' button. This will assign all the first Bin numbers based on the Width and Height of the Racks.

## Recommendations

As some people have a storage area in the house, which is easily accessible, another main rack system in a 'cellar', and maybe a bulk storage area, it is recommended that Rack 1 is the one in the house and starts at Bin 1. It could be called 'Dinning Room' or 'Drinking Stock' etc.

As this Rack will only hold 3 - 4 Bins, this will make it easier to remember the Bin numbers (ie 1,2,3 or 4), when you wish to shift bottles from the 'cellar' to the house.

If you have a bulk storage area (ie. whole cases), you might wish to allocate it to Rack 16, called 'Bulk Storage' and start it at 200 or more (depending on how many whole cases you have). This will allow for expansion of your main cellar area.

It doesn't really matter, as the system will let you have the racks in any order, but this system will keep the menus neat, and give you a better idea of the true cellar layout.

If you do not wish to use the Cellar Mapping feature, do not map any bottles, and you will then never be reminded of its existence.

## Allocating bottles to Bins

The Main Edit Dialog has a '**Map**' button next to the Cellar Location Field. The Dialog Box that appears has 4 groups of Edit fields and Check Boxes.

For a new wine that has not been mapped, all the Edit boxes will be empty and all the Check boxes will be blank, with a Minus sign next to them. This signifies that they are empty.

If the wine has been mapped, then one or more of the Edit fields will have a Bin number and the some of the Check Boxes will be 'ticked'. There are three possible symbols that will appear next to a Check Box.

- Empty
- o Has another wine in it
- + Has this wine in it.

To see the contents of a Bin, enter the Bin number into the Edit field, and click the '**Map**' button which is next to it.

You can only place a wine in a Bin location that is empty. You cannot place a wine in a location which has a "o" next to it. Yes the Tick will toggle on or off if you click on the Check Box, but the changes will not be saved.

Clicking on a Check Box, which is ticked and has a '+' next to it. removes this wine from that location, which answers your next question of "How do I remove a bottle?".

If you Map a wine, then using the '**Quick Drink**' function, or altering the totals for a wine, will cause this Dialog Box to appear, so you can match up the totals in Data File and the Cellar Map, by removing or adding bottles to the Rack.

## Viewing a Wines location

The Index listing has a 'HotSpot', which is the Cellar Location field. Left clicking on this will bring up a diagram of each Bin that the particular wine is stored in.

## Viewing an entire Rack

The **View** menu has a option called **Cellar Rack Map**, this leads to further choices of **Rack Structure**, **List to Index** and **Clean Up Racks**.

**Rack Structure** leads to a Sub Menu that has each of the 16 Racks listed, numbered 1 to 16. Racks that have been defined will have their names next to the number. Select the required rack by clicking on it.

The rack will be displayed, and the contents of the first Bin will be displayed on the right of the screen. This includes a picture of the Bin, with bottles numbered A1 ... B3, and a list of the wines matching those locations.

The bottles are colour coded by Maturity. Left clicking on any of the Bins in the Rack, will list its contents.

**List to Index**, has a similiar Sub Menu and will list the contents of a rack to a standard Index list, with the Rack Bin number and location listed.

**Clean up Racks** will remove any bottles from the Racks that should not be there. This fixes a problem in earlier versions, where it was possible to have bottles shown in the Racks that did not have a wine to match in the data file.

## Age Groups

WBfW classifies wines in one of five age groups. These age groups are represented by colours, which are consistent in all Listings, Graphs and Tables.

The five groups are ...

- Non Vintage Blue Fortified or wines with no definite shelf life.
- Young Green Too young to drink.
- Improving Cyan Can drink but not at their best yet.
- Mature Yellow In the stable period, at their best.
- Danger Red Past their useful life expectancy.

## The Health Report

The Health Report gives useful information and totals. Two bar graphs show distribution by Maturity. The left graph is by total different wines in each group, and the right is by total bottles in each group.

**The right graph is the one you have to worry about.**

Wines with no bottles, but still existing in the database will not show up in this report or any other Graph or Table. They will be not be listed in any Index Listings unless you search for 'Lost Souls'.

This means that if you drink the last bottle of a particular wine, all details still remain. So if you then buy more bottles, all you have to do is adjust the bottle count. If you are not going to buy more of that wine, you can Edit the file and replace it with another wine, or delete it

You can print this Report by clicking on the '**Printer**' button on the Graph WineBar.

## Making figures Fun

WBfW includes seven graphs to help you sort out your cellar.

These graphs are ...

- Cellar Value and Stock plotted on a monthly basis.
- Vintage Distribution all vintages found.
- 'Best At' for all Wines 'Best At' in future.
- 'Best At' by Grape Variety 'Best At' in future by Variety.
- Ageing Curve entire cellar Ageing.
- Winery Distribution all Wineries found.
- Region Distribution all Regions found.
- Variety Distribution all Varieties found.

They take the form of bar graphs, with two bars per Month, Variety and Vintage. The **Blue** bar represents different wines, except in the Cellar Value and Stock graph where it represents Dollars or whatever currency you use. The **Cyan** bar is total bottles in all graphs.

You can display Wines, Bottles + Wines or Bottles only, by using the WineBar Buttons.

The Cellar Value and Stock, and the Distribution graphs are auto sizing and will adjust the width of the bars according to the number of months or varieties found.

The Vintage Distribution graph shows from the current year back thirty years.

The Ageing Curve graph shows total bottles against health, from now to twenty years time.

You can print all these Graphs except for Cellar Value and Stock.

µ §

### Planning your Cellar

The Best At Distribution graph has proven to be the most popular of the WBfW Graphs.

This Graph plots each wine in the cellar against its nominal BestAt date, and quickly shows how many wines you will have at their 'Best' for each year into the future (up to 20 years at least).

As such it is a very good tool for planning your cellar, as any holes, or peaks can be seen and remedied before the actual date arrives.

ie Nothing to drink in 2000, 2001, 2003 but in 2004 we have 435 bottles that are at 'their best'. Even taking into account the spread of years that a 'BestAt' date actually covers, this is not a good situation.

Buying wines on special, or just something that catches your eye may seem a good idea at the time, but if they all mature at the same time, you are heading for trouble.

With WBfW and the GoldBook for WBfW you can select the years you need to fill up, and ensure that you have a consistent quantity of wines that will be drinkable each year.

Wines that should have been drunk by now are shown on the left hand side of the Graph in red.

### BestAt vs Variety

I have always considered the original BestAt Graph to be a bit inaccurate. After all it lists all the wines in the cellar, and whilst some of those peaks may be made up of long living reds and therefore can be spread about a bit, they might be short living whites.

How do you tell. Simple. There is a new BestAt graph (actually several of them).

Next to the BestAt button is a new button which is basically the same except it has a bunch of grapes on it.

When you click this, a Dialog box listing every Grape Variety in your cellar will appear.

Selecting anyone of them will generate a BestAt graph containing only those varieties.

This makes it very easy to see what all the Shiraz's are doing, or the Rieslings or whatever.

### A Table to work with this

There is also a new Table, which plots Variety vs BestAt vs Stock, which gives you a good overall picture of the cellar.

Used in conjunction with the BestAt vs Variety Graph it should make planning your cellar just that little bit easier.

## Displaying Tables

WBfW includes five tables to help maintain your cellar.

- Variety vs Vintage vs Bottles.
- Variety vs BestAt vs Bottles.
- 'Label' vs Vintage vs Bottles.
- 'Label' vs Vintage vs Maturity.
- 'TimeLine' of all Wines in Cellar.

The table's consist of every unique Variety or Label plotted against time, showing total bottles or maturity. They cover from the current year back thirty years. Non Vintage wines have a separate column on the left side, marked Nv. The screen is scrollable so you can browse up and down the table's. The maximum number of rows is 1200.

Label refers to the complete Label of the wine ie. Maker, Brand Name (Label, Bin etc) and Variety.

These are listed alphabetically.

The most useful tables are the 'Label' vs Vintage vs Maturity, particularly if you collect different vintages of the same wine, and the Variety vs BestAt vs Bottles as it helps you plan your cellar.

The **'Label' vs Vintage vs Maturity** table is shown below.

## 'Time Line'

The 'TimeLine' table is of a different format and lists all wines sorted by Vintage down the table, and plots each wines ageing characteristics across the page, starting with green and ending in red.

The TimeLine is now linked to the Tasting Schedule and Left Clicking on any of the TimeLine bars will produce the Tasting Schedule Dialog Box.

Using the TimeLine data you can easily fill in the Tasting Schedule entries for each wine.



## **How to Display Maps**

On the Graph 'WineBar' is a Map of the World. Clicking on this leads to this Dialog Box.

Any files with the extension of .BMP, that are in the WBfW directory will be listed. Click on any one of them to select and Click on OK to display it, or double click on the map name to display it.

Some of the Australian regional maps are require a scrollable screen to display them. Use the "Map of Australia" to access them.

## **Australian Reference Map**

The 'Map of Australia' button on the Graph 'WineBar', displays the Australian map. This map has 'Hot Spots' on it, that are centred on the green wine growing regions.

When the mouse pointer is over a 'Hot Spot' it will change to a 'Hand' or a 'Hand in a Square'.

Clicking the left mouse button when the pointer is a 'Hand', results in this Dialog Box being presented. Clicking on any of the listed Wineries will list its details. 'List all Wineries', lists all Australian Wineries (that I have information on).

The 'Hand in a Square' pointer, when right clicked, will produce a map of that region.

## Written using

WBfW was written using **Borland Pascal** from Borland International Inc. Using **ObjectWindows** and **OOP** techniques.

This user's guide was written using **Word for Windows** from Microsoft Corp.

I recommend both these products.

## VGA Modes

This program was designed to run on standard 640 X 480 VGA. Versions 1.5 on support 800 X 600, 1024 X 768 and 1280 X 1024 modes. The program starts up as a window scaled to fit the menu in, centred in the screen. The main window can be resized or run maximised. All screens will scale all output to fit across the screen. The program matches screen colours in each mode to the standard 16 colours available in 16 colour VGA mode. It (like most other Windows programs) looks better in 256 colour or 32K colour modes.

## Feedback

A shareware program grows as a result of registrations coming in and feedback from user's. If you have any comments or suggestions about features you think would make the program better, feel free to write to me and let me know.

One area that I have been a bit disappointed with is the Winery Files. WBfW has been in the public eye now for eight months, and still we have only three Winery Files.

If you are in someway connected with a winery or have a favourite one, put a file together (or send me the printed information), so we can include it in WBfW.

Just about everybody that uses WBfW keeps asking me when we are going to get more Winery Files, but as yet very few people are doing anything about getting the required information.

## Notes

Your notes here ...