

Wine holidays: Bordeaux to Burgundy

Wine-inspired holidays are high tourism fashion these days, but how many take visitors into elite Bordeaux châteaux with world-renowned Michel Rolland, to a wine-blending course in Mendoza or on a flying food and wine safari by private plane in south Australia? These are some of the ambitious offerings from Wine Paths, (winepaths.com) which provides bespoke experiences world wide, working with local specialists. For more single-minded wine travellers, ready to plan

their own trip, Burgundy has much pleasure and interest to offer, and the Bourgogne Wine Board is adept at providing welcoming information. Download the 88-page En route vers les Bourgognes 2018 from [bourgogne-wines.com](http://bourgogne-wines.com) (click on A Trip through the Vineyards) and discover six regional wine routes, more than 350 producers welcoming visitors and a list of 100 wine festivals and other events, from concerts in cellars and tastings aboard a canal boat to small trails and children's sports.



Bordeaux wine cellar dinner, with Wine Paths.

# The Moreno wine legacy



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**W**hich wine to drink to celebrate a special anniversary?

Something sparkling, a classy white, a serious old-vines red, perhaps a sublime sherry? Provided the choice is Spanish, Abbi and Marçal Moreno will be smiling as they toast fifty years of a business which has had a remarkable influence on British wine-drinking tastes.

Few who today enjoy a glass of cava, priorat or even txakoli will realise the debt they owe to the Moreno siblings, their parents and most of all their grandparents.

Juan and Salome Moreno came to Britain as refugees from Franco's fascist regime, Salome on a boat carrying children from the Basque

provinces, Juan to escape the retribution inevitable because of his work with the British army. They met in west London, married and settled, raising their family.

Why Juan wondered, were so few in England drinking the wine of his homeland. He set about changing that, importing "Spanish claret" (labelling rules were much less rigorous then) and putting his own Morenito label on the bottles, and in 1968 "Moreno Wines" was painted over the door of his shop in Maryland's Road, Maida Vale. There it has stayed for fifty years.

As time passed, sons Manuel, Juanito and Paco joined the business, building sales of big Spanish names – the Illas of Torres and Marques de Riscal. Initially their customers remained as firmly Spanish as the wines



Four generations of the Moreno family outside Maryland's Road shop

and styles of wine they had never met before.

Now Manuel's daughter and son are in charge, with the fourth generation joining in as well, as Abbi's son Dylan takes over running

bottles at Moreno's 50th anniversary trade tasting.

Even newer are organic and natural wines to extend the Spanish coverage, bottles with sometimes outrageous labels but very drinkable