

Vine and Wine in the Ancient Greek World

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Over the years I had the good fortune of visiting within my mission almost all of the viticultural countries of the world, to learn about other ancient cultures and enrich my knowledge of preindustrial installations, which, in some areas, were protected as part of their cultural heritage. So when, following a period of intense scientific activityI had the idea of completing all the collected wealth of information and memories with a retrospection to the distant Past: to seek the roots of less well-known ancient Greek wines, to research the technical knowledge of the ancient winemakers based on the surviving records of mainly ancient Greek scholarship and to attempt to interpret through modern scientific knowledge the secrets of their art, which allowed Greek wines to travel along the sea routes as a precious merchandise. After long years of study, I collected worthwhile material, but I also discovered crucial mistakes made by renown, mainly foreign, scholars, on ancient treatises and translations published during the 20th and 21st century, mistakes that were perpetuated by repetition, resulting in erroneous interpretations and often serious misconceptions. For this reason, I selected twenty topics from these papers to be presented in a Greek, French and English edition, which I reworked and supplemented with more recent information and observations. In some of these treatises I even added an epilogue, aiming to strengthen the main thesis with contemporary examples, which support my argumentation. Each chapter is independent of the others so that the reader can pick and choose according to their own interests. I did not overburden the texts with a multitude of explanatory notes, which can be very tiring for the non-experts.

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