

Sun, Sea, Soil, Wine

Praise for *Sun, Sea, Soil, Wine*

“For the twenty years I’ve written about East Coast wines, no one has taught me more about them than Rich Olsen-Harbich has. It’s not surprising that in distilling his forty-plus years of grape growing and winemaking experience into *Sun, Sea, Soil*, he has delivered the most important and comprehensive book ever written about Long Island wine. In it, he examines the district literally from the ground up, exploring its history, meteorology, hydrology, pedology, viticulture, and enology—but really, this book is a love letter to the wine region and community where he’s made it his life’s work to define the unique style of Long Island wine.”

— Lenn Thompson, owner, Cork Report Media

“I had the good fortune of entering the New York wine industry at the same time as Rich Olsen-Harbich, and of witnessing the winegrowing revolution on Long Island, thanks largely to his passion, leadership, and collaboration. To the book’s title I would only suggest adding the word ‘Soul’ because so much of this inspiring tale chronicles the vital role of people—women, Latinos, true believers in Long Island’s future—in transforming a landscape of potato fields into a world-class wine region. Cheers!”

— Jim Trezise, president of WineAmerica and
former president of the New York Wine and Grape Foundation

“An extraordinary tour de force that should be required reading for anyone interested in wine—and its humanity. Simply the most rigorously conceived book ever written about the modern American wine industry, by one of its most esteemed winemakers and intellectuals. Richard Olsen-Harbich has crafted an elegant meditation on the complexities of wine and its relationship to American culture. He tells rich stories of place while ignoring the borders dividing genres, deftly weaving together vibrant personal experiences with revelatory facts of science and history. His efforts to situate the beauty, oddity, and hedonism that distinguish wine from all other forms of agriculture are both critical and compelling.”

—Trent Preszler, CEO of Bedell Cellars and
Professor of Practice at Cornell University

Sun, Sea, Soil, Wine

Winemaking on the North Fork of Long Island

RICHARD OLSEN-HARBICH



**EXCELSIOR
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Cover: Background photo courtesy Bedell Cellars.

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*In loving memory of my Father and Mother,
Alfred and Lottie Harbich,
who always provided unconditional love and support.
In the process, they raised a winemaker.*



*For Nancy, Emily, and Peter.
My family, my heart, and my terroir.*

I was born within the sound of the sea—down on Long Island and I
know all the songs that the seashell sings.

—Walt Whitman



Long Island Sound. Courtesy of Denise Winter-Peragallo.

