

## Wine words with T, U, V, W and Y

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### WORD "T"

**Tannic:** rich in tannins, and harsh on the palate, as is often the case in young wines. Presupposes quality.

**Tarry:** said of a wine that gives sensations of tar and liquorice root on the palate, but also on the nose.

**Tart/Sharp:** rough and lacking balance, a trait which is immediately sensed on the nose and in the mouth.

**Toasty:** said of a wine when notes of toast, smokiness, and toasted almonds can be perceived on the nose.

**True-to-type:** when the aromas clearly reflect the characteristics of the variety or vineyard.



### WORD "U"

**Unbalanced:** while taking into account the type of wine you are tasting – since not all wines are distinguished by balance –, a wine is unbalanced if it displays a clear predominance of “soft” components (alcohol, glycerine, sugars, proteins) over “hard” components (acids, salts, tannins) and vice versa.

**Unctuous:** synonym of oily

**Unripe:** refers to a wine that is acerbic and not yet ready for drinking.



### WORD "V"

**Vegetal:** describes a wine whose aromas are reminiscent of grass, leaves, hay, humus, green olives, mushrooms etc.

**Velvety:** said of a wine that offers a pleasant mouthfeel, almost like a caress.

**Vigorous:** refers to a wine that shows energy, sinew and power (often in terms of alcoholic strength).

**Vino da meditazione:** a wine whose traits are such that it can also be enjoyed without food.

**Vino novello:** wine obtained using the technique of carbonic maceration.

**Viscous/dense:** refers to a wine that displays little suppleness when rotated in the glass. Viscosity depends on levels of extract (in particular glycerine) and alcoholic strength.



## WORD “W”

**Warm:** refers to the impression of pseudo-heat perceived when tasting a wine caused by the presence of alcohol. Although noticeable, this sensation must not dominate.

**Watery:** refers to a wine that gives the impression of having been watered down. May also refer to a wine lacking structure.

**Weak:** describes a wine whose alcoholic strength is disproportionately low compared to its other components, or a wine lacking body and taste.

**Well-balanced:** said of a wine whose individual parts are well proportioned; in other words, its soft components (sugars, alcohol, glycerine) are not overwhelmed by its hard ones (acids, salts, tannins, bitter substances) and vice versa.

**Well-rounded:** used to describe a wine which is both full and soft.

**Well-typed:** refers to a wine that displays the sensory characteristics typical of the types of wines produced in a given area.



## WORD “Y”

**Youthful:** describes a wine whose characteristics (appearance, aroma, taste) show evidence of relatively recent vinification.