

Grape Expectations

A Family's Vineyard Adventure in France

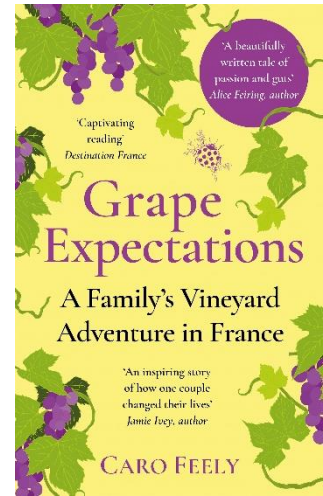
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What does it take to follow your dreams?

The wine filled my mouth with plum and blackberry sensations. 'Delicious.' A picture of a vineyard drenched in sunlight formed in my mind. Sean drew me rudely back to our small suburban home. 'How can they be in liquidation if they make wine this good?'



Caro and Sean had safe jobs, a house, and a steady flow of ready meals for dinner. That all changed though when they had the opportunity to achieve their dream of becoming winemakers in the South of France. In the blink of an eye, they had sold their house, gathered up their children – a toddler and a babe-in-arms – and were heading for a winery near Bordeaux.

Arriving at their new home, a ten-hectare vineyard, the intrepid couple set about renovating a dilapidated eighteenth-century farmhouse and transforming the 'beyond eccentric' winery into a successful business. But while a fine St Emilion is pure velvet, the transition from city slickers to wine farmers is less smooth. Visits from the local farm 'police', a leaking roof, and a nasty agricultural injury, are some of the challenges that they face in their quest to learn how to make wine from the roots up.

Grape Expectations is travel writing with adventure at its heart, a gripping account of a captivating mission, that is essential reading not just for wine lovers, but for anyone who has ever longed to follow a dream.

'In this beautifully written tale of passion, caution, guts, Caro Feely takes us on her heartfelt journey as she and her husband breathe life into an old Bergerac winery, while she and her husband Sean resuscitate their own.' Alice Feiring, author of *Naked Wine*

Media opportunities: Extracts/serialisation. **Feature angles:** moving abroad with a young family; house renovation with a language difference; setting up and learning a new business; giving up the day job to 'live the dream'. Photos available. The author is available for interview.

About the author: Caro Feely traded her tech career for a dream to become an organic farmer, writer, and teacher. She is published author of six books. Acclaimed '**winning**', '**sincere**' and '**passionate**' by **The New York Times**. For press requests please contact caro@carofoeely.com