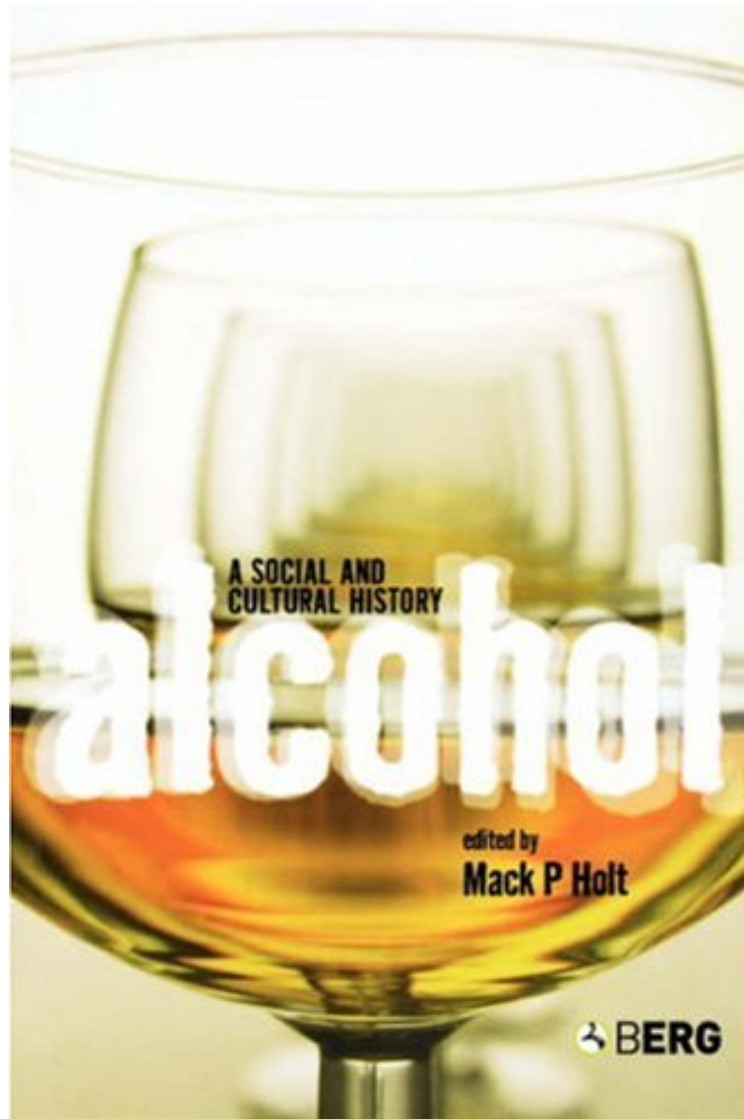


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Alcohol: A Social and Cultural History

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2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Not authoritative By Alice in Dallas Take a close look at the index of chapters in this work before purchasing, because that is all there is to it. Readers looking for a work on alcohol of the same breadth and scope as Opium: A History should look elsewhere.

This book examines our relationship with alcohol and examines how drink has evolved in its functions and uses from

the late Middle Ages to the present day in the West. This book discusses a range of issues, including domestic versus recreational use, the history of alcoholism, and the relationship between alcohol and violence, religion, sexuality, and medicine. It looks at how certain forms of alcohol speak about class, gender, and place. Drawing on examples from Europe, North America, and Australia, this book provides a comprehensive history of the role of alcohol over the past five centuries.

'In their exploration of these meanings [of alcohol in a specific place at a specific time], the authors shed light on the power relations underlying shifts in alcohol consumption patterns and the tensions that often arise between groups with conflicting vested interest.' Yoon Hui Kim, *Journal of Biosocial Science* 'A simple, lucid yet interesting volume that is bound to keep you reading ... Overall this is a light-mood, good times, effortless-reading compilation and a lot like a dessert.' *Internet Journal of Books* About the Author Mack Holt is Professor of History at George Mason University.