Discover Sonoma County

Sonoma County American Viticultural Area (AVA) Maps

SONOMA COUNTY WINE QUICK FACTS
- 60,000 vineyard acres planted amid 1,000,000 acres, or 6% of region
- 1,800 grape growers/vineyard parcels, mostly small and family-owned
- Over 700 bonded wineries; 400+ open to the public
- Bordered by 60 miles of Pacific Ocean coastline
- Unique combination of soils, topography and climate allows for many grape varieties to thrive
- Winemaking history spans over 150 years

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AVA’s under consideration with the TTB and not included on Map:
- Fountaingrove District
- Petaluma Gap
SONOMA COUNTY TERROIR

Sonoma County offers an almost unlimited range of microclimates and growing conditions within its AVAs. This is unparalleled among the world’s premium winegrowing regions. The major influences are:

Climate & Temperature: Sonoma County is blessed with an ideal long growing season, with sunny days and almost no rain from May through September. Summer average high temperatures range from the 70s to the low 90s — ideal for ripening grapes — but even in the warmer inland regions of Alexander Valley and Knights Valley, cool evening temperatures in the 40s and low 50s preserve the grapes’ acidity and balance.

Fog/Marine Influence: The Pacific Ocean provides a cooling maritime influence, bringing cool air through the Petaluma Gap, Russian River, and San Pablo Bay entry points that cool the western and southern regions of the County. The daily summer fog patterns are ideal for cool climate varieties.

Soil: It has been said that Sonoma County has more soil types than in all of France. The region’s dramatic geological history has resulted in 11 major formation types, 31 different soil series within those types, and innumerable permutations within each series.

Elevation/Topography: Sonoma County’s vineyards range from sea level to 2,600 feet above sea level. The array of valley, benchland, and mountain elevations and slopes heavily influences soil fertility and grape ripening times; adding yet another variable for grapegrowers as they match the right variety and rootstock to each vineyard block’s unique growing conditions.
About Sonoma County Winegrowers
The Sonoma County Winegrape Commission, also known as Sonoma County Winegrowers, is a marketing and education organization dedicated to the promotion and preservation of Sonoma County as one of the world’s premier grape growing regions. SCW has oversight by California Department of Food and Agriculture which supports producer regions. With more than 1,800 growers, SCW’s goal is to increase awareness and recognition of the quality and diversity of Sonoma County’s grapes through dynamic marketing and educational programs targeted to wine consumers around the world.

About Sonoma County Vintners
Sonoma County Vintners (SCV) is the leading voice of Sonoma County wine, dedicated to raising awareness of Sonoma County as one of the world’s premier wine regions, noted for its heritage of artisan winemaking, distinct growing regions, and extraordinary quality. Founded in 1944, SCV represents more than 175 wineries of all sizes throughout the county.

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