



we *travel* FRANCE

Discover French Vineyards



There are ten major wine growing regions in France, plus a number of smaller areas.

For hundreds of years, France basked in the reputation of being the world's greatest producer of wines. Today, that reputation is being rivalled by other wine-growing nations on four continents, and the French wine industry is facing new challenges.

Since the low of 2003, the French wine industry has been trying to reinvent itself, producing new wines f, while continuing to provide the world's greatest wines, produced on estates with perfect conditions and centuries of winegrowing tradition.

For those who know how to choose, and know something about wines, France still offers some of the greatest wines, with the greatest variety, and - yes ! - excellent value for money, even from the main wine areas.

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1. Alsace



A land of vineyards and traditions for making famous wines
The Alsace vineyards offer a range of exceptional wines. Rich in history and architecture and boasting a unique landscape, they hold a range of varied events all year round.

APPELLATIONS - 53 appellations
AOC Alsace, AOC Alsace Grands Crus, AOC
Crémant-d'Alsace

DOMINANTS GRAPE
Riesling, Muscat, Pinot Gris, Gewurztraminer





Protected by the natural barrier of the Vosges Mountains, the vineyards of Alsace benefit from a unique climate and a variety of different grape-growing districts. The many different grape varieties which thrive here produce an incomparable range of rich and aromatic wines, from the driest and most delicate to the most opulent and full-bodied. The Alsace Wine Route, one of the oldest in France, crosses these different wine districts. From Marlenheim to Thann, it allows you to discover 170 km of scenic landscapes, from medieval villages and half-timbered houses decorated with flowers, to castles and Roman and Gothic churches. The wine route is also a place for community events: from April to October the grape harvest festival is celebrated in numerous local villages, and then there are the famous Christmas markets.

2 REASONS TO COME HERE

Travel the 170-km Alsace Wine Route at the foot of the Vosges Mountains.

Meet the winemakers in their wine cellars.

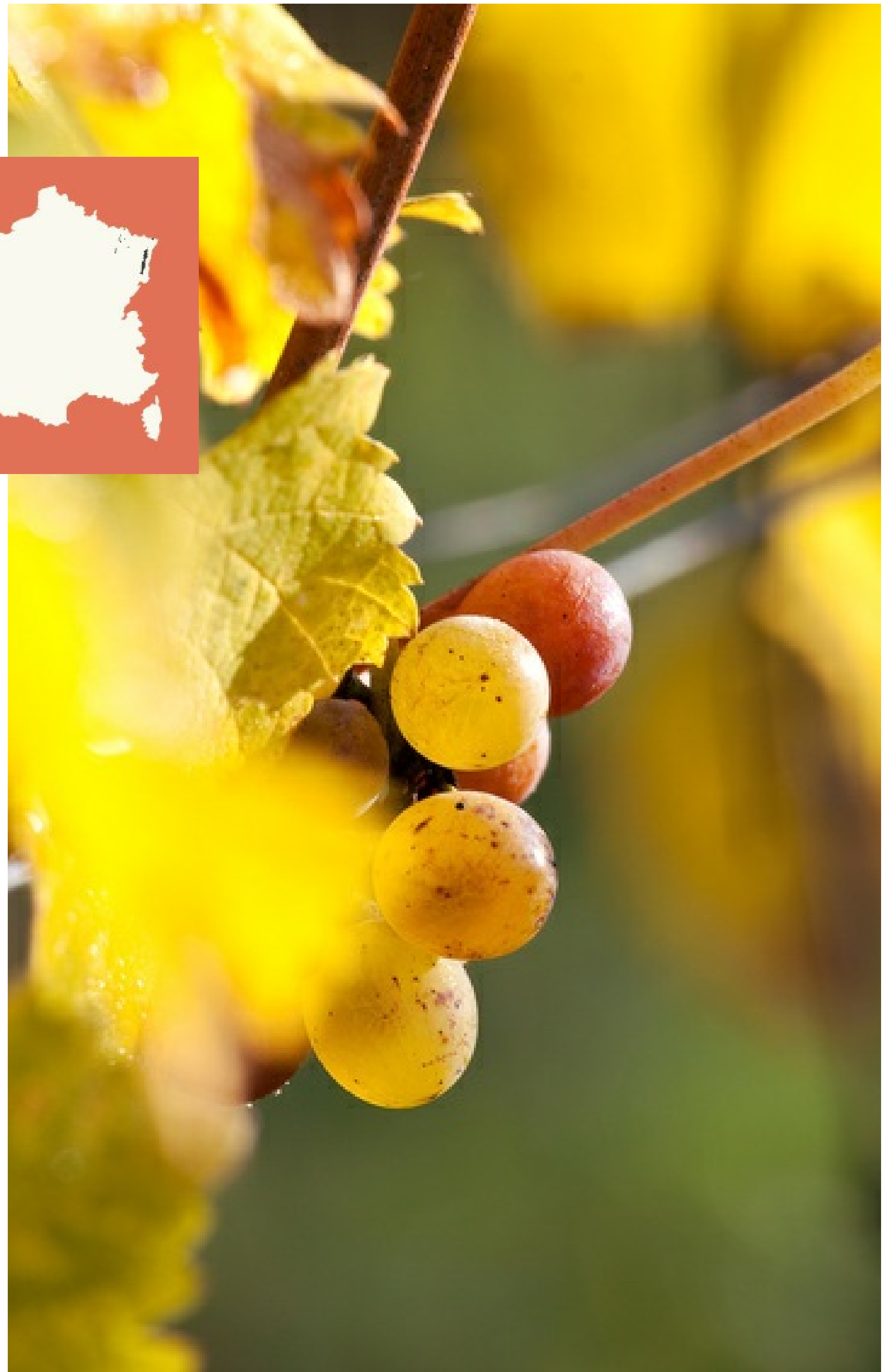
2. Beaujolais



Wines for celebrations and discoveries. The world-famous Beaujolais wines are synonymous with celebrations and social occasions. The vineyards spread across the hills and villages like a landscape from Tuscany.

APPELLATIONS 12 appellations
Brouilly, Chénas, Côte de Brouilly,
Chiroubles, Fleurie, Juliéna, Morgon,
Moulin-à-Vent, Régnié, Saint-Amour,
Beaujolais Villages, Beaujolais.

DOMINANT GRAPE
Gamay, Chardonnay.





Pronounced with a wide range of accents, the Beaujolais region is known around the world. Its fame is essentially linked to its wine: the 'new' wine, the 10 famous Beaujolais wines, the Beaujolais and the Beaujolais Villages. What better than to take the 140-km wine route to discover the diversity of the Beaujolais wines and meet some of the 200 winemakers, all signatories to a charter of quality? The vineyard route passes through a landscape of hillsides and valleys with chateaux and villages. The tastings of the best Beaujolais, accompanied by the region's fine foods, can be enjoyed in country inns, village squares, wine cellars, chateaux, or in the Michelin-starred restaurants.

2 REASONS TO COME HERE

Discover the white Beaujolais, the rare pearl of the vineyards.

Explore the Golden Stones of Beaujolais, labelled Vineyards & Discoveries, and its pretty villages in ochre-coloured stone.

3. Bordeaux

Welcome to the oldest fine-wine vineyards in the world.

The world-famous wines of Bordeaux come from a winemaking tradition stretching back over 20 centuries. The famous wines, prestigious chateaux and historic sites along the Bordeaux Wine Route reveal the rich heritage of the Bordeaux vineyards.

APPELLATIONS 60 appellations
DOMINANTS GRAPE

Red: Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet-Sauvignon.
White: Sémillon, Sauvignon, Muscadelle.





The vineyards of Bordeaux are the largest fine-wine vineyards in the world. The diversity of the wine-growing districts allows for the production of many different types of wines such as reds, dry or sweet whites, rosés, light reds and sparkling whites. These different wine districts provide the key stops along the Bordeaux Wine Route. The Bordeaux vineyards include 6,000 chateaux, historic villages, medieval cities, archeological sites and ancient Roman churches. The winegrowers open up their vineyards for wine tastings, wine courses and numerous cultural and gourmet discoveries.

2 REASONS TO COME HERE

Taste world-famous wines (Saint-Émilion, Sauternes, Medoc) and other great french wines.

Visit UNESCO World Heritage sites: Bordeaux, Saint-Émilion, and the different stages of the famous Saint-Jacques-de-Compostelle pilgrims' trail.

4. Bourgogne

Wines with a unique identity, produced from small plots known as Climats

The Bourgogne vineyards extend 230 km from north to south, from Auxerre to Mâcon, and offer a large diversity of wines, which are among the most famous in the world. Here the wine-growing district is king and divided into Climats, the name given to the individual areas of vineyard.

APPELLATIONS 100 appellations
23 origin-approved (AOC) regions
44 origin-approved villages (with the best areas classified as village premier cru)
33 of the best wines listed as grands crus

DOMINANTS GRAPE
Red: Pinot Noir, Gamay
White: Chardonnay, Aligoté





From Chablis to the Mâconnais region, passing through the vineyards of Auxerre, the Côte de Nuits, Côte de Beaune or the Côte Chalonnaise, discover the landscape of the Bourgogne vineyards, whose individual and unique areas of vineyard, known as Climats, were listed as UNESCO World Heritage sites in 2015. Travel on foot, bike or horseback through the evocatively named villages (Pommard, Gevrey-Chambertin, Puligny-Montrachet, Saint Véran, Pouilly Fuissé ...) and let yourself be seduced by some of the hundred different wines of this region, which is renowned for its lifestyle. Well suited to the production of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grape varieties, the Bourgogne vineyards offer a large diversity of wines, which are among the most famous in the world.

2 REASONS TO COME HERE

Meet the producers of Bourgogne and share their passion.

Experience the traditions and festive atmosphere with hundreds of wine events throughout the year.

5. Champagne

The region which produces the world's most famous wine

The world's most famous sparkling wine, champagne, is ideal for every celebration. The Champagne vineyards, their hillsides, houses and wine cellars, are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

APPELLATION 1 appellation
Champagne

DOMINANTS GRAPE
Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Meunier





Everything begins with a specific area of land which, thanks to human talent, produces the most original of wines. This talent ensures that the delicate characteristics of the land are expressed in champagne's sublime effervescence. This originality very quickly became famous through the drive of the pioneers who made this exceptional wine known to wine enthusiasts all over the world. The same word to designate a region and the wine where it was born. Champagne only comes from Champagne. Discover the secret of the intimate union between Champagne and champagne. Visit the vineyards which produce the most prestigious wines in the world.

2 REASONS TO COME HERE

World Heritage sites: the Hillside, Houses and wine Cellars of the Champagne region, and Reims Cathedral.

The Champagne Tourist Route, with more than 600 km of sign-posted trips.

6. Cognac

A brandy with aromas of experience, passion, daring and talent.

The Cognac vineyard is the cradle of the famous brandy of the same name. Discover its winemaking traditions and the historic villages of Cognac and Saintes.

APPELLATION 1 appellation

Six top-quality crus (Grande Champagne, Petite Champagne, Borderies, Fins Bois, Bons Bois, Bois Ordinaires or à Terroir).

DOMINANTS GRAPE

White: Ugni Blanc, plus Colombard and Folle Blanche





Extending over nearly 75,000 hectares, the Cognac vineyard is the largest white-grape vineyard in Europe. Combining a diversity of soils and a microclimate, it covers almost all of the Charente and the Charente-Maritime districts and combines the influences of the continent and the nearby sea. The Cognac vineyard comprises six high-quality cru grape-growing areas, each reflecting the expression of the soil, the country and the landscape. Around the historic villages of Cognac and Saintes, five wine and tourist routes allow you to explore the richness of the vineyards. Enjoy tasting and cooking courses, the Museum of the Arts of Cognac, great excursions, and introductions to how to tend the grape vines, and complete your trip with visits to the Roman churches, Gallo-Roman relics and chateaux.

2 REASONS TO COME HERE

Celebrate the distillation with the brandy distillers from December to February.

Visit Saintes (Gallo-Romains relics, Roman architecture) and Cognac, the 'City of Art and History' where François I was born.

7. Languedoc



The new world of great wines

Nourished by the Mediterranean sun and the richness of their different wine districts, the Languedoc wines all have their own personality, whether they are reds, whites, rosés or sparkling wines. They are part of the rich cultural and culinary heritage of the region.

APPELLATIONS 36 appellations
36 origin-approved wines (AOCs) and 20 IGPs.

DOMINANTS GRAPE

Red: Grenache, Mourvèdre, Syrah, Carignan.
White: Bourboulenc, Grenache Blanc, Marsanne, Roussanne, Vermentino, Piquepoul.





Spreading over 245,000 hectares, the Languedoc vineyards are one of the largest vineyards in France, as well as the oldest. From Nîmes to Aude, from Montpellier to Carcassonne, from mountains to bushland and sea, the vineyard landscapes pass by as you travel along the wine routes. Only one thing remains constant: the Mediterranean Sea.

2 REASONS TO COME HERE

Enjoy the Mediterranean climate, with an abundance of sunlight and mild temperatures all year round

Discover the rich regional heritage: great wines, fine foods, architecture and history all mixed together.

8. Loire valley

Wines are in its nature

Listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site for its landscapes and chateaux, the Loire Valley has a unique lifestyle and world-famous vineyards. Its 1,000-km wine route reveals historic monuments and prestigious wine districts.

APPELLATIONS 85 appellations

DOMINANTS GRAPE

Red: Pinot Noir, Cabernet Franc, Gamay, Grolleau, Pineau d'Aunis, Malbec.

White: Chenin Blanc, Sauvignon, Melon de Bourgogne, Chardonnay.





From Nantes to Sancerre, the Loire Valley vineyards stretch along the majestic river of the same name. You will follow it along the longest wine route in France. Underground villages, chateaux, gardens and royal abbeys are revealed in a landscape of hills and plains. Hidden behind each renowned wine district is a famous Loire chateau: Chenonceau, Chambord, Brissac, Saumur, and Chinon. More than one thousand vineyards are open to the public, including 400 specially accredited wine cellars, where you will meet the winemakers and taste their numerous types of Loire Valley wines. Massive wine cellars, wine-tasting walks in the vineyards, trips on traditional boats, stays in the vineyards, entertaining wine events: the Loire Valley is a fabulous destination for numerous wine tourism trips.

2 REASONS TO COME HERE

To see the Loire chateaux and the landscape, which is the largest UNESCO World Heritage site in the world.

To taste the Loire Valley wines in different ways: by night at the Chateau de Chenonceau, during a walk in the vineyards, or in the massive underground wine cellars.

9. Provence

A generous region of many contrasts, both luminous and welcoming

Historically specializing in rosé, Provence has a millennium-old wine-growing history. Its vines stretch out over ever-changing landscapes, around historic cities, on the Mediterranean coast and into the hinterland.

APPELLATIONS 9 appellations

DOMINANTS GRAPE

Red : syrah, grenache, cinsault, mourvèdre, tibouren, carignan, cabernet sauvignon

White : Rolle, ugni blanc, sémillon





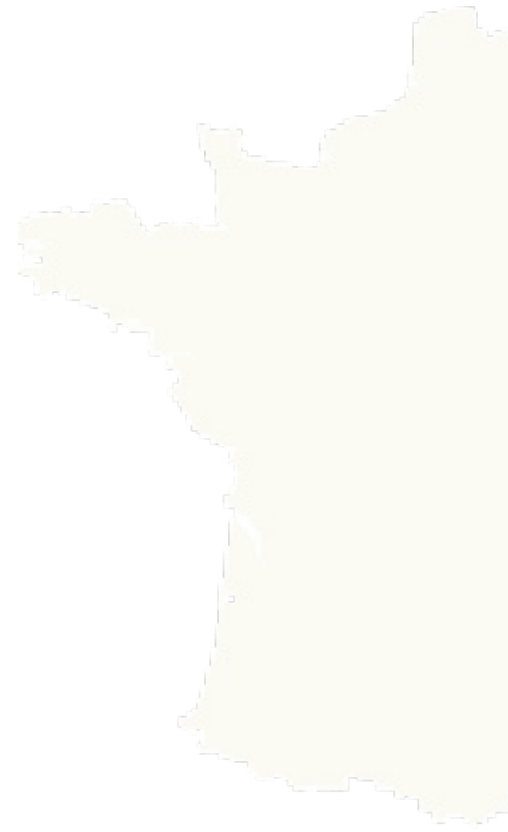
From the gates of Nice to the Camargue region, the Provence wine route takes you from the seaside to mountains and scenic villages perched up high. It combines 430 vineyards and cooperative wine cellars, all of which are committed to quality. This guarantees you a personalized experience, wine tastings with an expert and tours of the wine cellars and vineyards . In between your vineyard trips, discover the boutique hotels of Aix-en-Provence, the Sainte-Victoire Mountain (which was painted by the famous French painter, Cézanne), and the Roman amphitheatre of Fréjus.

2 REASONS TO COME HERE

Explore the Provence region: its maritime sites, famous cities, history, authentic markets and lifestyle

Play apprentice winemaker: learn how to tell the difference between the different grape varieties at the winemaking workshop in the vineyards.

10. Rhones Valley



Mythic wine districts in a landscape bathed in sunshine

As the second largest wine-growing region in France, the Rhône Valley vineyards thrive on both sides of the eponymous river. Some of the most famous wines in the world come from here. The valley also revels in a rich architectural heritage.

APPELLATIONS 45 appellations
38 wine districts, or appellations, in the
Côtes-du-Rhône:

7 wine districts, or appellations, in the
Rhône Valley: Luberon, Ventoux, Grignan-
les-Adhémar, Costières-de-Nîmes,
Clairette-de-Bellegarde, Duché-d'Uzès,
Côtes-du-Vivarais





From Lyon to the Camargue, passing through the regions of Provence and the Luberon, the Rhône Valley vineyards are divided into two large wine-growing areas. To the north, the Septentrional vineyard clings to the abrupt hillsides in the steep mountain ranges; to the south, the Meridional vineyard enjoys the plains and gentle slopes. The 14 wine routes wind through historic villages in varying landscapes. They take you to the vineyards where the famous wines are made:

Hermitage, Côte-Rôtie, Beaumes-de-Venise ...

Between fields of lavender and olive trees, share special moments with the winemakers, learn about wine and enjoy the hundreds of wine events. Under the southern sun, discover the Palace of the Popes of Avignon, the Pont du Gard, or the ornate Pont-d'Arc cave.

2 REASONS TO COME HERE

See the famous cities of the region: Lyon, Vienne, Valence, Vaison la Romaine, Orange, Avignon, Nîmes, the hillside villages of the Luberon.

Taste the combinations of great wines with local delicacies: olives, truffles and goat's cheese.

11. Savoie



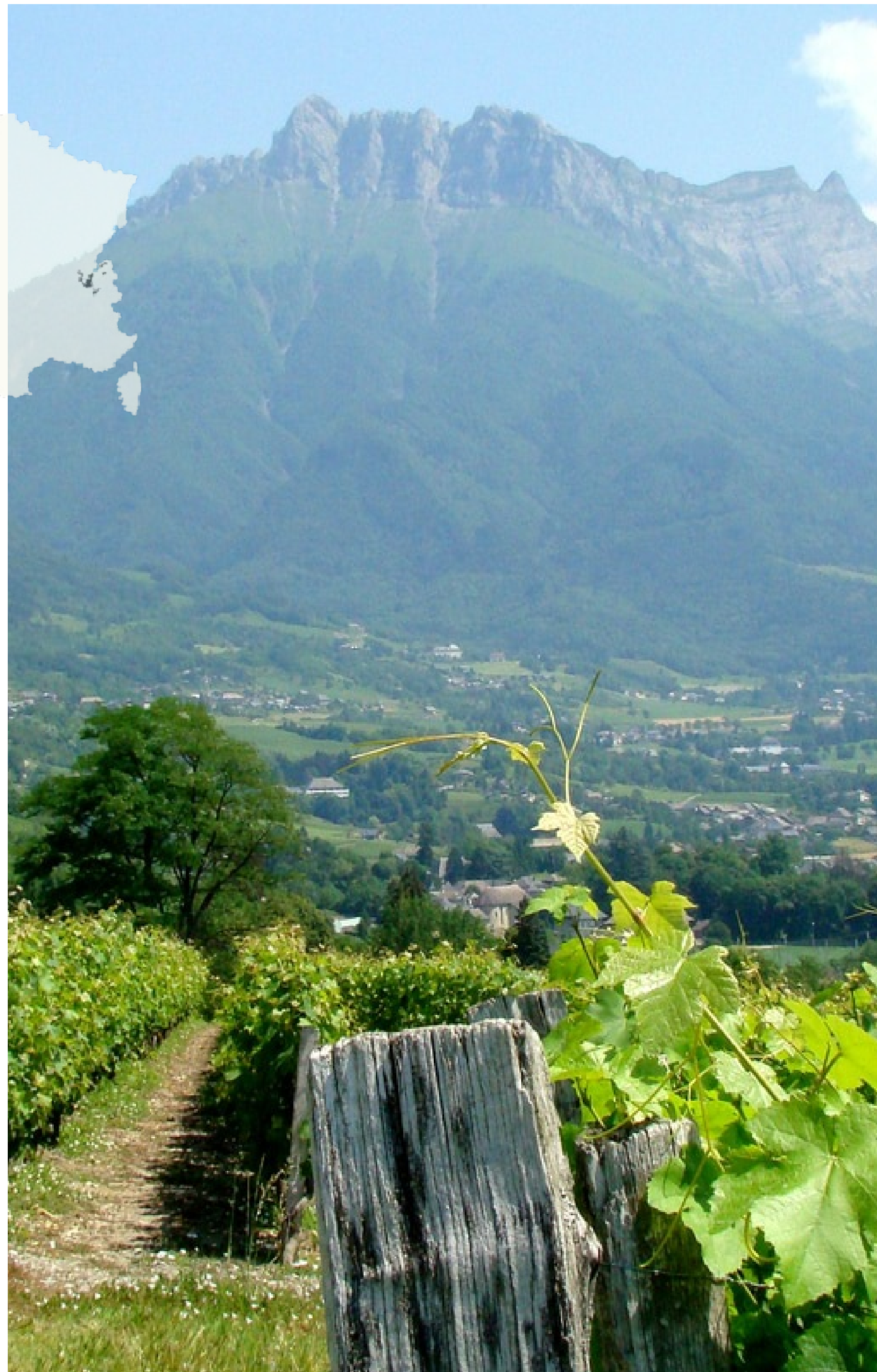
An Alpine vineyard with 25 types of grapes, between the mountains and the lakes

With Mont Blanc towering above, the Savoie vineyards display the unexpected richness of the Alps. In between skiing and walking, the white and red wines can be tasted in the most beautiful mountain landscapes, in both summer and winter.

APPELLATIONS 3 appellations
20 different geographic districts

DOMINANTS GRAPE

Red: Mondeuse, Pinot Noir, Gamay, Persan
White: Chardonnay, Jacquère, Roussanne, Altesse, Chasselas





The Savoie landscapes are world famous for their beauty. Savoie Mont Blanc welcomes lovers of nature or sport, in any season, to the heart of the Alps. Between walks or ski runs, you can also discover another treasure: the Savoie wines. The wine route's three itineraries cross the Savoie vineyards set among magnificent and contrasting landscapes, interspersed with large lakes (Léman, Bourget, Annecy and Aiguebelette). The route goes past vineyards and wine cellars, which are open for wine tastings. Raised in both the Alpine and winemaking cultures, the winegrowers offer informative walks through the vineyards, workshops about the harvest, and pressings of grapes. See the Savoie region's architectural history, medieval castles and chateaux set among the mountains, waterfalls and rivers.

2 REASONS TO COME HERE

Wine and cheese: the perfect match for a wine tasting in the wine cellars, in mountain prairies or at a table in one of the 36 Michelin-starred restaurants in the Savoie Mont Blanc region.

Explore an Alpine vineyard: wine tastings, guestrooms in the vineyards, the Museum of Wine and Vines, and numerous local food markets

12. South West

An incredible palette of flavours and wine districts, reflecting the different winemakers

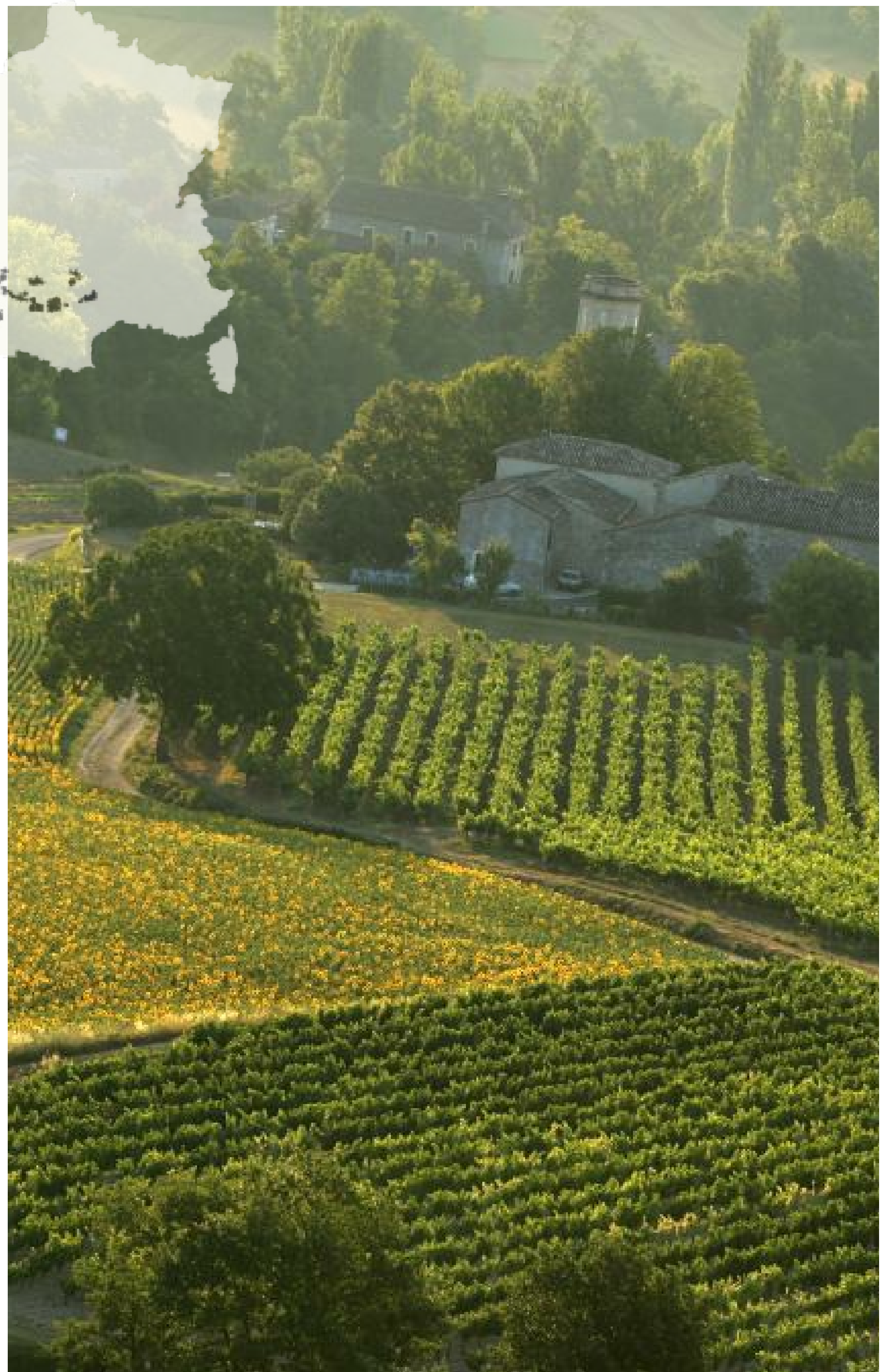
South-west France cultivates a special lifestyle. Between the vineyards, the mountains and the chateaux, the richness of the heritage is equalled only by the authenticity of its characterful wines. Wines which perfectly match the world-famous local fine foods.

APPELLATIONS 15 appellations

DOMINANTS GRAPE

Red: Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot.

White: Sémillon, Sauvignon, Muscadelle.





The vineyards of France's south-west cover 12 districts, from the Massif Central plateau to the hills of Gasconnes and the Pyrenees mountains, including the entire Midi-Pyrenees region. Take the south-west wine route through changing landscapes and discover UNESCO World Heritage sites: Toulouse, Cahors, Auch, Albi, and the Saint-Jacques-de-Compostelle pilgrims' trail. Grape harvest festivals and events, visits to the wine cellars, tasting courses and wine and fine-food matching events are just some of the wine tourism activities organized by the local winegrowers and producers. The discovery of the south-west wines goes hand in hand with internationally renowned local fine foods, such as foie gras pâté, truffles and Roquefort cheese.

2 REASONS TO COME HERE

A rich cultural heritage: 170 museums, 200 festivals, 29 of the 'Most Beautiful Villages of France', 33 World Heritage-listed monuments.

Harmonies of food and wine: 120 origin-labelled products, 22 Michelin-starred chefs.

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