CHILEAN WINE REGIONS

W ine grapes are not native to the Americas, but shortly after the Spanish Conquistadors arrived in Chile in the mid-1500s, the first vines were thriving in this land of great geographical diversity. The unique conditions afforded by the Atacama Desert, the Andes Mountains, the Coastal Mountains, the Pacific Ocean, and numerous volcanoes, lakes, and rivers, plus its Mediterranean climate with long, hot, dry summers and cold rainy winters mean that Chile's talented winemakers have access to everything they need to produce excellent wines from many different varieties.



Pioneering efforts to explore winegrowing in new areas—farther north into the desert, southward to the lake region, higher into the Andean foothills, and ever closer to the sea—have returned exciting results with both new and old varieties and has led to a refining of its Denominations of Origin to better reflect Chilean terroir.

Because Chilean winemakers are aware of the need to care for the earth and community, many now work organically and even biodynamically, and the national wine industry has created a Sustainability Code to help the wineries to promote safe practices nationwide.



