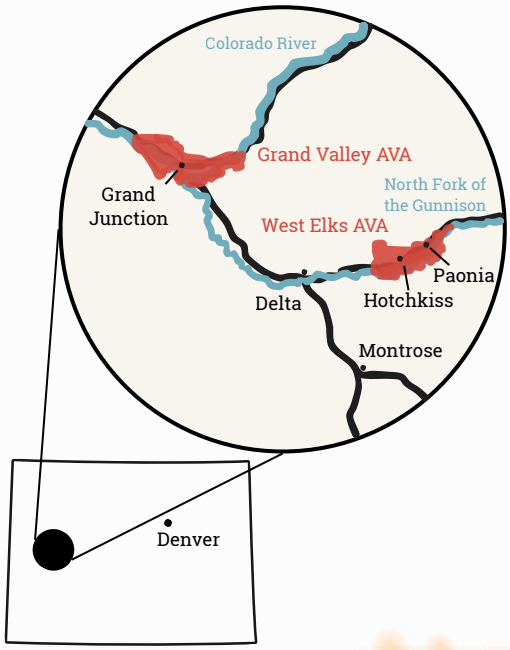
COLORADO WINE

Nature writes the story.
Colorado wines tell it.



Two AVAs, Statewide Vineyards

Colorado is home to two American Viticultural Areas (AVAs), the Grand Valley and the West Elks, where our high-elevation vineyards thrive under more than 300 days of sunshine each year.

Beyond these AVAs, grapes are also grown in more than a dozen other counties across the state. Each region brings its own distinct character to Colorado wine, shaped by altitude, soil, and climate.

Colorado's terroir is defined by its dramatic elevation, intense sunlight, and wide diurnal temperature swings, sometimes more than 25-30 °F between day and night. Colorado's high-elevation vineyards are some of the highest both in the Northern Hemisphere and globally.

Low humidity and clean mountain air reduce disease pressure, Colorado growers can focus on sustainable practices that let the land speak through the glass. The result is wines that are bold, expressive, and shaped by Colorado's rugged landscape.

1

In 2018, Wine Enthusiast Magazine named Colorado as one of the Top Ten Wine Getaways globally.

In 2025, Travel & Leisure and The New York Times have named Colorado wine country as a top place to visit in the U.S.

128 wineries

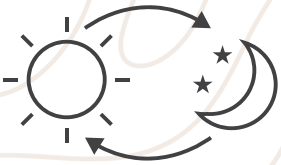
15 meaderies

17 cideries

1 sake producer



In 2025, Colorado produced 146,635 cases of wine



Hot days and cool nights with diurnal temperature swings of up to 25–30°F



Colorado's high-elevation vineyards range from 4,000 to over 7,000 feet above sea level

Colorado's Two AVAs

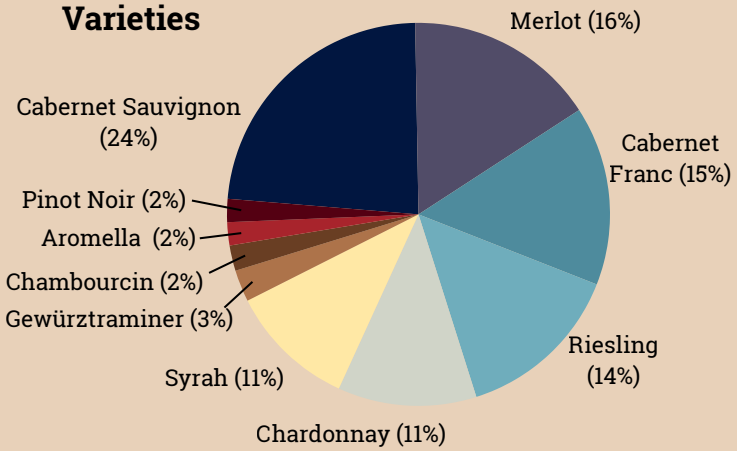
The Grand Valley AVA - 75,990 acres - est. 1990

- Stretches along the Colorado River from Palisade to Grand Junction and Fruita.
- 4,500-4,800 ft elevation.
- DeBeque Canyon and the Colorado River create beneficial breezes moderating the temperature fluctuations.
- More growing degree days than Napa Valley in a 180-day growing season.
- Rhône, Bordeaux, and northern Italian varieties.
- Known globally for Palisade Peaches and other stone fruit.

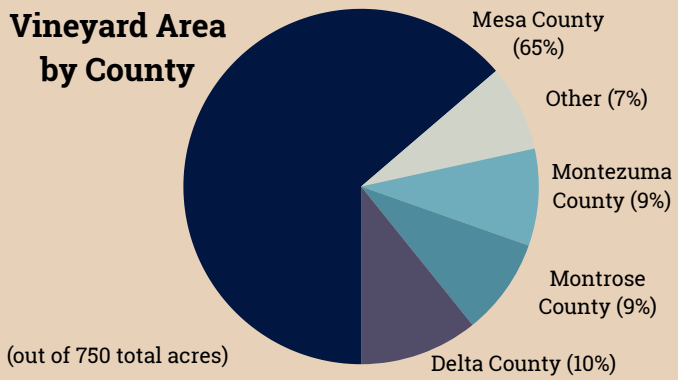
The West Elks AVA - 48,405 acres - est. 2001

- Runs along the North Fork of the Gunnison River from Bowie to Paonia and Hotchkiss
- On the southern slope of the Grand Mesa, the world's largest flat-topped mountain.
- 5,400-7,000 ft elevation.
- Mild growing season starts about two weeks later than Grand Valley and last roughly 150 days.
- Central European grape varieties, such as Riesling, Pinot Gris, and Pinot Noir, as well as cold-hardy varieties like Itasca, St. Vincent, and Chambourcin.

Top Grape Varieties



Vineyard Area by County





For more information about Colorado wines or the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board, visit coloradowine.com
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