

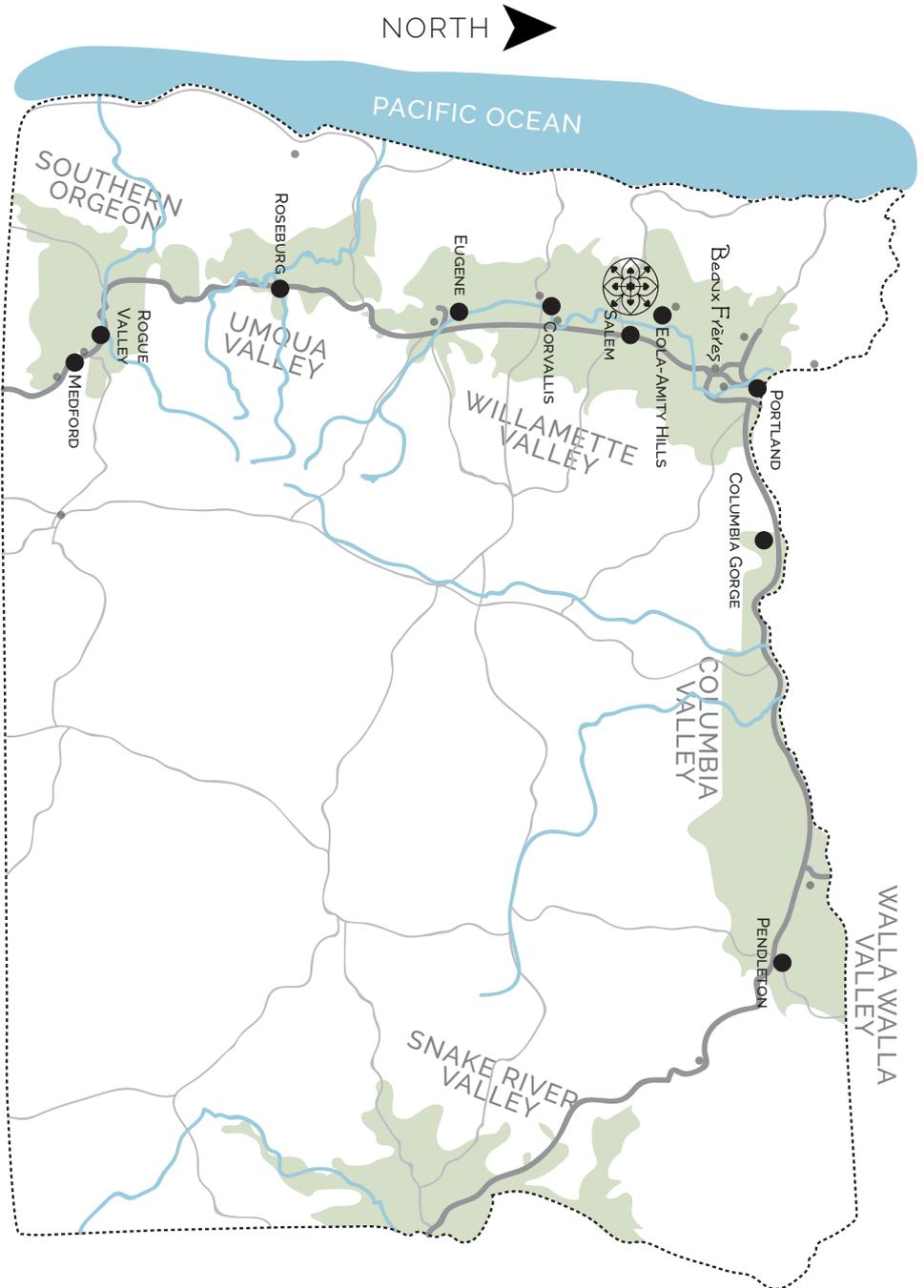


DHALL & NASH

REGIONAL INFORMATION // U. S. A.

Oregon

The Rebirth Of An Industry Which Proves That Quality Outts Quantity. Whilst Not The Biggest Producer - They Produce A Lot Of The Best!



- SIGNIFICANT TOWNS
- SMALL TOWNS
- HIGHWAYS
- ROADS
- SUB-REGIONS
- WATER

DHALL & NASH
WINERIES IN
OREGON



CRISTOM

Beaux Frères

BEAUX
FRÈRES

HISTORY & CULTURE

The first acknowledged grape plantings in Oregon were in 1847 by Horticulturist Henderson Luelling. However the first recorded winery, Valley View Vineyard, was founded by Peter Brit in the 1850's (before the state of Oregon existed,) in what would now be part of the Rogue Valley AVA. With increasing settlement in the 1880's there came initial plantings of Zinfandel, Riesling and a variety of Sauvignons.

However like the rest of the USA all the winemaking in the region was shut down with the rise of prohibition and there was no active winemaking until 1933. The wine industry in the state stayed small until the 60's and 70's being eclipsed by the warmer climate in California and a focus on fruit wine.

Hillcrest Vineyard, which opened in 1961, really started the revitalisation of the wine industry in state. The first planting of Pinot Noir in Oregon was here and the first vintage was produced in 1967. In the 70's there were 5 bonded wineries and this grew rapidly from an influx of Californian winemakers looking to make the most of the new agricultural laws passed in state. Essentially the state legislature passed zoning laws (Urban Growth Boundaries,) prevented housing developments from using essential agriculture and viticulture areas such as hillsides.

The key moment that put Oregon's wine on the map was when Eyrie Vineyards' 1975 South Block Pinot Noir took out the 10th place at the Gault-Millau French Wine Olympiads. Furthermore, it was the top Pinot Noir in the tasting and was one of several non-European vintages to really stand head and shoulders above the competition.

This hallmark of quality over quantity has carried on until recent years. However with the Phylloxera Louse being discovered in Oregon in the 90's, a lot of vineyards pulled out rootstock and planted with more varieties more suited to the location.

TERROIR

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, GEOLOGY, SOIL & HUMAN ENDEAVOUR

Situated to the north of California, this state has 5 major wine growing areas, most of which are west of the Cascade Mountain Range which runs parallel to the Pacific coast. This overall area tends to be cool and wet, more similar to France than its counterparts in Washington or California. The soil throughout has a lot of volcanic material due to ancient eruptions in neighbouring Idaho. This is especially prevalent in Yamhill County, namely the Red Hills centered around Dundee and Douglas County in the South.

Willamette Valley is the largest of the AVAs. Running from the the Columbia River in the north to south of Eugene, sandwiched between the Oregon coastal range and the Cascade Mountains. This area produces the majority of the state's wine and is centred around Willamette River. Yamhill County in the centre of the Valley has 25% of the state's total land under vine.

The **Southern Oregon** AVA is comprised of **Umpqua Valley** and **Rogue Valley**. Umpqua is the Northern part extending down to Roseburg and the Rogue Valley (which includes Applegate and Illinois Valleys,) finishes just north of the Californian Border skirting the city of Grants Pass.

Walla Walla Valley, **Columbia Valley** and **Columbia Gorge** all straddle the border between Washington and Oregon. These are the northernmost wine regions in Oregon and extend down the Columbia River towards Portland. These are also the coldest areas in state so viticulturists treasure southern facing slopes to make the most of summer sun.

Snake River Valley is not only the most inland AVA in Oregon but also the highest at 760m above sea level and crosses into Idaho. While it shares the same latitude as the Umpqua Valley it has a more radical diurnal temperature variation due to the elevation and the distance from the Pacific Ocean .

WINE STYLES & VARIETIES

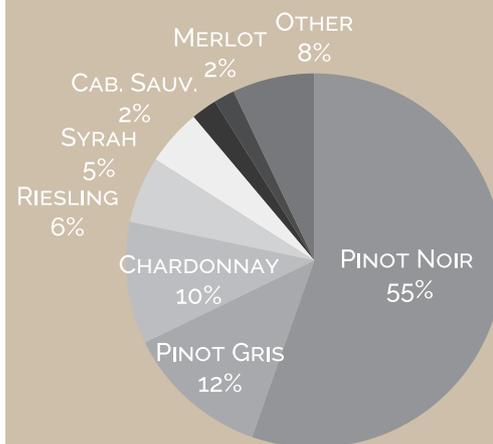
Pinot Noir: The most prevalently planted variety in the region, covers over 50% of the total planted area. These are some of the most burgundian in style and more finessed than it's fruity cousins to the south in California.

Pinot Gris: More Italian than Alsatian in style, Oregon is known to produce a mineral rich, flinty, dry style. This is particularly due to the volcanic soils which are very similar to those found in Italy.

Chardonnay: As the Willamette Valley shares a very similar terroir to Burgundy it makes sense for this burgundian staple to flourish here. While it has some similarities with the Californian offering, examples from Oregon tend to be more restrained and focus more towards apple and sweet baking spices.



OREGON VINEYARDS BESIDE THE COLUMBIA RIVER



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