

WINES WITH APPELLATION OF ORIGIN

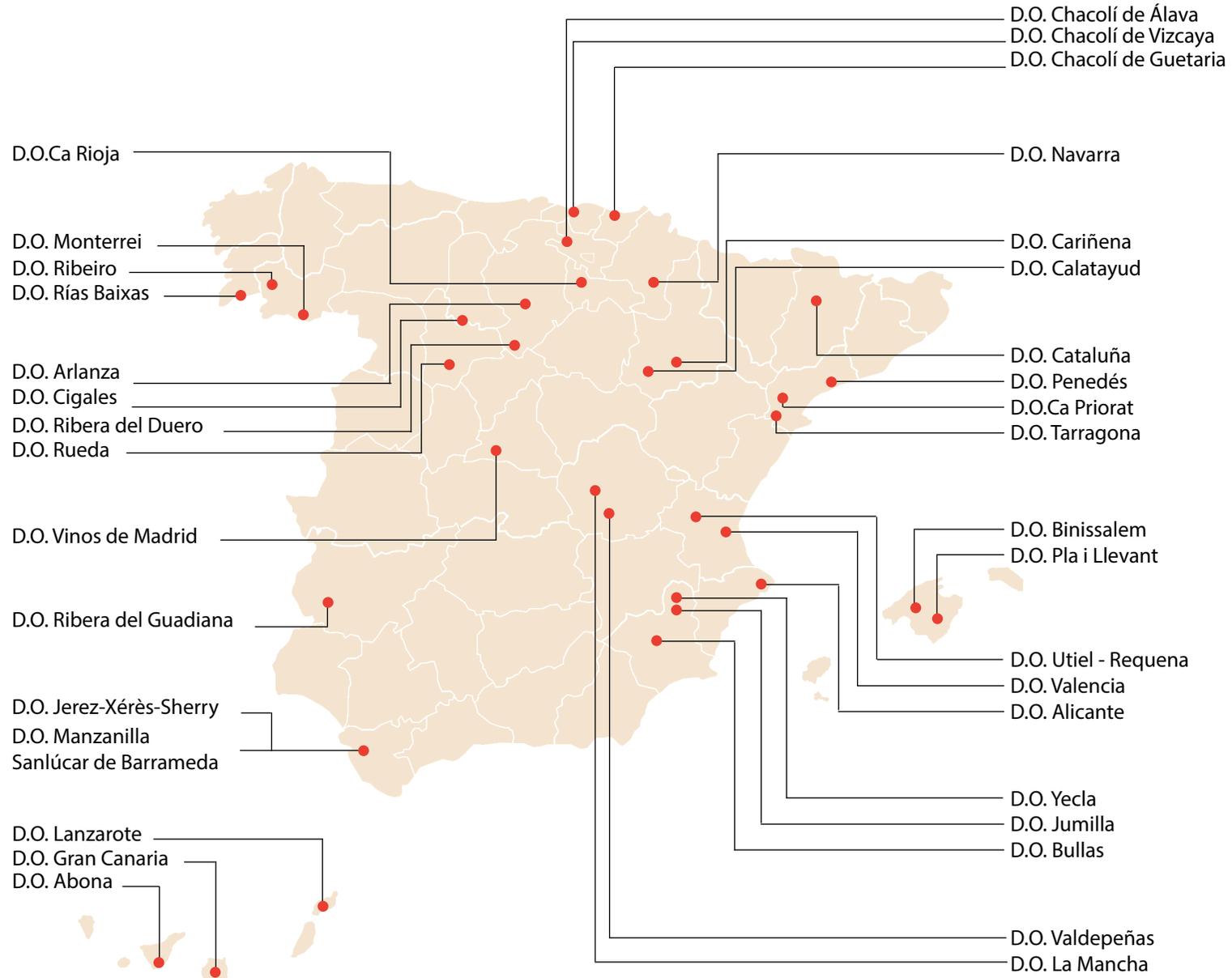
DISCOVERING OUR CONTINENT...

The European wines

From Spain's La Rioja to France's Alsace, or Italy's Sicily, Europe is full of vineyards that are part of the historical and cultural heritage of each region. Without going any further, the European Union has more than 1,600 Appellations of Origin, with the Mediterranean countries being the major producers, led by Italy and France, followed closely by Spain and Greece. We suggest a tour of some of these designations, to discover the particularities of each one.



THE SPANISH WINES



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In Spain we have 70 Appellation of Origin (D.O.) for wine, two of them deserve a higher category, the Qualified Appellation of Origin (D.O.Ca.), which are Rioja and Priorat. These are just some of our D.O.:

FROM NORTH...

D.O.Ca. Rioja

It is the oldest D.O. in Spain and has always kept faithful to itself. Times change, but Rioja is always Rioja.

D.O. Rías Baixas

In this small wine-growing area of Galicia, the production of Albariño is well-known, a white grape variety which has been cultivated in the area for over a thousand years. Although it was not until the 12th century, when the Cistercian monks, who arrived on the road to Santiago, taught how to look after them and really benefit from its potential.

D.O. Chacolí de Vizcaya

The presence of the vine in Vizcaya goes back thousands of years, dating back to the 12th-13th centuries. White wines predominate over the rosé "ojo de gallo" and the reds.

TO SOUTH...

D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry

This is the origin of such well-known wines as Manzanilla or Pedro Ximénez, considered the sweetest wine in the world.

D.O. Jumilla

This area on the north of Murcia is characterised by the grape variety used in its wines. And the fact is that more than 80% of the cultivated area is Monastrell, producing rosé and red wines.



AND FROM EAST...

D.O.Ca. Priorat

Vineyards have been cultivated here since the 12th century, when the Carthusian monks from Provence settled in the Montsant mountains.

D.O. Cava

The sparkling wine per excellence has its origins in the Penedés wine region. However, for historical reasons, Cava can be produced in the Comats de Barcelona, the Ebro Valley, Almendreras vineyards, and Zona de Levante.

D.O. Valencia

It is in this area that mistela is produced, which made in a traditional way, accompanies so many after-dinner drinks.

TO THE CONTINENTAL AREA

D.O. La Mancha

This appellation, a land of wines since the time of the Roman colonisation, is the largest in the world, grouping together 192 municipalities in Albacete, Ciudad Real, Cuenca and Toledo.

D.O. Ribera del Duero

It is located in the junction of the provinces of Soria, Burgos, Segovia and Valladolid in a complex terrain, at high altitude and with a severe climate. It is these unique conditions that give its wines, mainly reds, their personality and produced the Tempranillo grape variety, which makes up more than 90% of the production.

D.O. Rueda

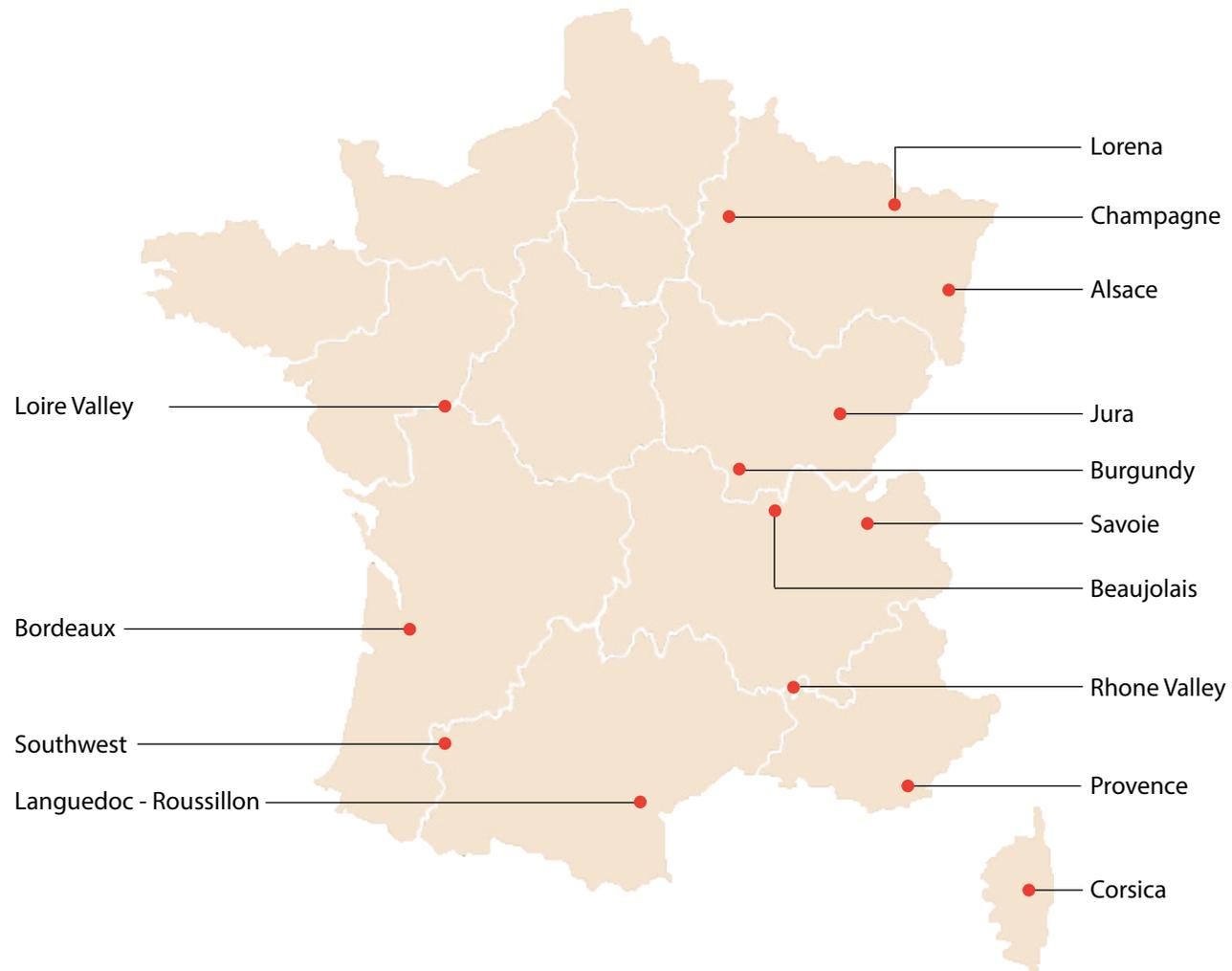
Located in Castilla and León, it is one of the few European wine-growing areas specialising in the specialized in the production of white wine and in the protection and development of its native variety, the Verdejo grape. Its wine Dorado came to be considered the wine of the court at the time of the Catholic Monarchs.

D.O. Valdepeñas

This town in Ciudad Real has been producing wine since the 5th century B.C. But its history does not end here, as it is also one of the oldest Appellations of Origin in Spain, dating back to the beginning of the 20th century.



THE FRENCH WINES





THE FRENCH WINES

France is one of the most important countries in the world of wine. Not only because it is one of the main producers, but also because of how particularly well it does it. Many of the best wines in the world come from France. These are the main wine regions:

FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN...

Provence

One of the oldest and most traditional wine-growing regions in France. It produces mainly rosés, although its reds, perfect for ageing, also stand out.

Languedoc - Roussillon

It is another of the oldest, standing out for its reds, rosés and also for its natural sweets, ideal as desert wines. From here comes *Blanquette de Limoux*, the oldest sparkling wine in the world.

Corsica

Corsica's vineyards are dominated by a number of endemic grape varieties of Italian origin: *Nielluccio* and *Sciaccarello* are used for the reds, and for the whites, of much smaller production, predominates *Vermentino*.

TO THE ALPS...

Rhone Valley

It is the second largest wine-growing region in France and one of the oldest in the country. Its wines, which are very diverse, are generally classified under the Côtes-du-Rhône AOC appellation.

Savoie - Bugey

Its wines show a Central European influence, with autochthonous varieties such as *Jacquère*, for the production of whites and *Mondeuse* for reds. The most produced wines tend to be dry white wines.

WITH A STOP IN BORDEAUX...

It is the French region with the largest extension of vineyards with appellation of origin (*Appellation d'origine contrôlée A.O.C.*), with 90% of its production being red wines. This is the origin of such famous A.O.C. as *Bordeaux, Médoc* or *Graves*.



AND THE FRANCHE-COMTÉ...

Jura

In this small region close to the Swiss border the whites are characterised by their yellowish straw colour (the famous Yellow Wine).

Beaujolais

This is one of the two regions where hand harvesting is still mandatory, along with Champagne. It is known for its young wines, perfect to accompany meats, sausages or cheeses. And also, for its *crus*, ideal with spoon dishes.

Burgundy

It is another of the most famous in the world. It is characterised mainly for its single-varietal red wines and has such a complex system of classification of the A.O.Cs. that there is practically one appellation for each village in the region.

AND FROM THE LOIRE VALLEY...

This region is well known for the production of white wines, from dry to semi-dry, sweet or sparkling wines and even fortified or sparkling wines such as *crémant*. They are perfect to serve with cheeses, cold meats or white meats.

TO THE NORTH

Alsacia

Its wines are strongly influenced by Germanic viticulture. The production of white single-varietal production of white monovarietal predominates and its main A.O.C. are *Alsace* and *Alsace Grand Cru*.

Champagne

This region is known worldwide for its sparkling wines, although red, white and rosé wines are also produced to a lesser extent. Perfect to accompany aperitifs, fish dishes, meats and desserts,

Lorena

This is one of the smallest vineyards in the country, nevertheless produces some of the most original wines, such as *Gris de Toul*, a grey wine made from the *Gamay* grape variety.



THE ITALIAN WINES



THE ITALIAN WINES

Italy is, with France, one of the main wine-producing countries in the world. The cultivation of vines takes us from one end of the country to the other, travelling through 20 wine-growing regions. These are the most outstanding:

FROM THE NORTH...

Veneto

These lands of bucolic landscapes, where the Euganean Hills are located, produces the most wines, mainly white. The *Glera* grape is in charge of giving life to *Prosecco*, the sparkling wine that is a classic of the region.

Piedmont

At the foot of the Alps and crossed by the Po River, it is home to very famous grape varieties such as the *Barbera* grape, the most cultivated red grape in Italy; the *Dolcetto* which, although its translation means "a little sweet", gives us dry wines; or the white *Muscatel*, creator of the sparkling *Asti*.

Lombardy

This region is home to appellations such as *Franciacorta DOCG*, known for its sparkling wines made using the classic method, or *Valtellina DOC*, known for its reds.

Liguria

Viticulture is a challenge in this small coastal region, with hillside areas so steep that they have to be cultivated by hand. Although its wines have never been recognised due to low production, its whites have now put it on the map for flavour explorers.



TOURING CENTRAL ITALY...



Emilia-Romagna

This region tastes of sparkling wine because to think of it, is to remember those moments next to the *Lambrusco*, undoubtedly its most famous wine.

Tuscany

It is the creator of countless wine masterpieces, such as the *Chianti* made from *Sangiovese* grapes, the *Brunello di Montalcino* or the *Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*.

Umbria

In the only Italian region without access to the sea, the *Sagrantino* grape is the mother of renowned red wines, such as *Montefalco Sagrantino DOCG* or *Sagrantino di Montefalco DOCG*.

Lazio

This region of Rome is the home of *Est! Est!!! Est!!! di Montefiascone DOC*, a white wine of straw yellow colour that takes its name from an ancient legend.

Abruzzo

Its winemaking tradition dates back to the 6th century BC when the Etruscans introduced it to the area. Its reds are well known, being the choice of Hannibal and his army on their journey through the Alps.

TO THE SOUTH...

Apulia

Located in the heel of Italy, this region of millenary oenological history is only surpassed by Tuscany in terms of quantity of *DOC* wines produced, with well-known greats such as *Primitivo*, *Salice Salentino* or *Nero di Troia*.

Calabria

In this land of Greek influence, red grapes predominate, specifically *Gaglioppo*, *Nerello Mascalese* and *Greco Nero*.

Campania

This region of Naples is another of the oldest and is home to a wide variety of grapes, some of which are almost exclusive to this area. The main grape is the *Aglianico*, which is used to produce the reds *Taurasi DOCG* and *Aglianico del Taburno DOCG*.

WITHOUT LEAVING BEHIND THE ISLANDS



Sicily

The largest island in the Mediterranean has produced some of the oldest sweet wines in the world, as well as *Marsala* wines, considered the best liqueur wines in Italy.

Sardinia

In this region each territory has its own wine, predominantly light whites. *Cannonau* is the most characteristic grape variety, whose production has been certified since the late Middle Ages.