

### AVA DESIGNATIONS & DESCRIPTIONS



Musto Wine Grape Co. is proud to bring you the highest quality and most diverse winemaking portfolio in the country. In this document you will find specific information regarding the vineyards we source from, the varieties we bring in, and some fun wine facts along the way.

If you have any questions or interested in making wine, feel free to contact us. We work with home winemakers, wineries, breweries, distilleries, and other fermentation companies. We have something for everyone and to fit every wine grape or wine juice project.

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# AVA DESIGNATIONS & DESCRIPTIONS



### SUISUN VALLEY, CA \* LANZA-MUSTO VINEYARDS

Suisun Valley is know for outstanding quality fruit serving super premium to luxury category wines - Suisun is amongst the favorites for Napa Wineries and high end winemakers looking to outsource high quality grapes.

Lanza-Musto Vineyards is about taking our history and tradition through winemaking/grape growing and moving to the next level of quality and experience. We've taken 25+ years of knowledge and experience and made the absolute best of our vineyards.

The marine influence from the San Pablo Bay and Suisun Bay give Suisun great the California North Coast AVA growing weather. The Valley's climate variances supports the production of both cool and warm climate grapes. Suisun Valley lies within the southern end of two ranges of the Coast Range, the Vaca Mountains to the east and the Mt George Range to the west.

Suisun Valley terminates in the south at the marshlands of Suisun Bay. To the north Suisun Valley rolls up into Wooden Valley at the Napa County line.

Length: approximately 8 miles

Width: approximately 3 miles at widest point

Orientation: north to south, split mid valley to two fingers

Suisun Valley lies within Coastal area climates characterized by cool moist winds blowing inland from the ocean and San Francisco/San Pablo Bay almost continuously from May through early Fall. Spring frosts often mitigated by proximity to Suisun Bay.



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### SUISUN VALLEY, CA \* LANZA-MUSTO VINEYARDS

Climate Type: mid region III as classified by the University of California Davis system of heat summarization by degree days.

Accumulation: averages roughly 3,350 degree days per year. mid valley avg 3,250 to 3,450 degree days per year upper valley avg 3,700 to 3,750 degree days per year

Suisun Valley consists of a mixture of soils, zoned within the valley floor, and additional none typed soils within the undeveloped hillsides.

Soil types include: Brentwood clay loam San Ysidro sandy loam Sycamore silty loam Rincon clay loam AVA Wine Grapes Available from Suisun Valley:

#### Barbera

- Cabernet Sauvignon (Valley, Clone 8)
- Cabernet Sauvignon (Clone 169)
- Cabernet Sauvignon (Clone 15)
- Cabernet Sauvignon (KOCH Ranch)
- Malbec
- Merlot
- Mourvedre
- Petite Verdot
- Petite Sirah
- Primitivo
- Sangiovese
- Chardonnay
- Riesling
- Sauvignon Blanc
- Muscat Cannelli



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#### SUISUN VALLEY, CA \* LANZA-MUSTO VINEYARDS

Cabernet 169: The Cabernet 169 is a French clone that came to the US and was planted by UC Davis in 2003. Since then, it has been gaining popularity in all the major Cabernet growing regions, especially on Mount Veeder. It has good berry size, high vigor, and a wellbalanced acid to sugar ratio. The wine can be higher in alcohol depending on the winemaking style. It was created to produce a big and bold Cabernet wine with intense complexity. The color is a vibrant, deep red. The mouth feel tends to be bold and linger. This grape is for the adventurous winemaker. (sells out every season)

Koch Cabernet: The Koch ranch Cabernet is farmed on incredibly rocky soil. The soil absorbs most of the moisture therefore producing a more intense fruit. This ranch is only 8 acres, so please reserve your cases as soon as possible. We always sell out of the Koch Cabernet. (sells out every season) Cabernet 8: The Clone 8 Cabernet Clone was one of the most popular plantings in France and then in the US in the 1990's. From our research, it has been said that it was one of the plantings that came to California in a suitcase. Clone 8 is a strong Cabernet producer that yields about 6 tons to the acre. The wines have great fruit characteristics, deep color, good sugar to acid ratio, and the tannins are structurally sound.

Cabernet 15: This Cabernet Clone originates from Aquitcuine, France (South East France, Bordeaux, largest grape region in France). It is known for its high yield, high levels of Anthocyanins (attributes to aging and color), and high tannins. The wines are described as having raspberry, cherry, plum, and cocoa notes. It has an intense body and is structurally solid. Creates an age worthy Cabernet.



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### SUISUN VALLEY, CA \* LANZA-MUSTO VINEYARDS

Brunello Clone Sangiovese: One of the big reasons we planted this varietal is because Suisun Valley provides hot days and cool nights. The temperature can swing over 50 degrees depending on the time of year. Sangiovese eats this type of weather up! This high producing varietal soaks up the sun and enjoys the break under the cool night air.

Barbera: A wine made from the Lanza-Musto Barbera grapes gives off notes of dark cherry, plum, and boysenberry.

Sauvignon Blanc: The wine opens with aromas of peach and grapefruit. On the palate, the grapefruit continues with the addition of lemon flavors. On the finish, grapefruit continues to dominate giving this wine a citrus and bright profile.It's a fun and pretty wine that should do well with chicken, pork, and turkey dishes. Petite Sirah: Deep purple colors and big, fullbodied flavors highlight the intense, sweet, ripe fruit. This wine has wonderful flavors of raspberry jam, spice, and plum. An elegant texture supports the fruit and a bright finish. If you are a lover of full bodied, rich red wines, this one is for you!

What makes this Petite Sirah different? Shoot thinning the crops, leaving one cane per spur. Multiple thinning passes to adjust and manage crop size. Extended barrel/bottle time.

Another topic of discussion about Petite Sirah is that it's become the grape/wine that Suisun Valley is known for. The grape grows exceptionally well in this micro-climate and the wines made from the grapes are fantastic.



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LODI, CA

Named Wine Region of the Year in 2015 by Wine Enthusiast Magazine Lodi is certainly on the rise! Some notable wineries to check out are Mettler Family Vineyards, Zinderella Vineyards, and Michael David Winery just to name a few.

The Lodi Appellation is a federally designated American Viticulture Area recognized for the distinctive quality of its wines. Located directly east of San Francisco at the edge of the Sacramento River Delta, the Lodi appellation is noted for its classic Mediterranean climate and its distinctive sandy soils that provide the perfect environment for the production of world-class wines.

The Lodi appellation was first approved in 1986 and allowed wineries to label their wines with Lodi listed as the grapes' origin. At first only a handful of small local vintners produced a "Lodi" designated wine, but as the quality and reputation spread, and wineries began sprouting up across the region. Today, with nearly two dozen wineries in the appellation, and over a hundred "Lodi" labeled brands on the market, Lodi is one of California's most exciting new appellations.

About LODI RULES: As California's original sustainable viticulture certification program, this seal is representative of a producer's commitment to stewardship and respect for the land. It is a symbol of transparency in all things related to sustainable viticulture. The certification does not approve only one aspect of winemaking. It looks at the whole of the process, from farm to vine to bottle. While over 150 wines bear the LODI RULES seal, not just any winery can

use this seal on their labels. The wines must have 85% certified sustainable grapes and be able to prove this. This then gets confirmed through third party accreditation and auditing.



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LODI, CA

Wine Grapes and Wine Juices available from Valdepena Lodi: Albarino **Balck Muscat** Alicante Chardonnay Barbera French Colombard **Cabernet Franc** Malvasia Bianca **Cabernet Sauvignon** Muscat Carignane **Pinot Grigio** Grenache Riesling Malbec Sauvignon Blanc Merlot **Thompson Seedless Mixed Black** Viognier **Petite Sirah** Fiano **Pinot Noir** Vermentino **Ruby Cabernet** Tempranillo Sangiovese Teroldego Zinfandel **Touriga Nacional Old Vine Zinfandel** 



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### LODI, CA - ZINDERELLA VINEYARDS

The inspiration for the Zinderella brand has been drawn from the perseverance & willingness to never give up on a dream! From humble beginnings to overcoming many obstacles & challenges, this grapes embodies so much more than just wine. From the heart of the esteemed Lodi Appellation, in a land recognized as the Zinfandel Capital of the World; our grapes inspire the deep Zinfandel Flavors and attributes of the journey! This is our "Zinderella Story".

All the grapes sourced for the Zinderella brand are Old Vine. Specifically, Zinfandel vines over 30 years old. If you are looking for a new, interesting, and complex Zinfandel, then Zinderella is for you! Wine Grapes available from Zinderella Vineyards:

Zinfandel Old Vine Zinfandel (50 year+ old vines)



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LODI, CA - METTLER RANCH

The Mettler family has been farming wine grapes since the 1770's in California. They focused their vineyard growing in Lodi in the 1800's. Their family is now in its eighth generation of wine grape growing, with the 6th and 7th generation both recipients of the Agricultural Hall of Fame. It's safe to say that vineyard farming is in their blood.

Regardless of their history, the Mettler family is constantly introducing new and progressive practices to create high quality wine grapes. They farm all of their vineyards sustainably (via LODI RULES) and as organically as possible; with certain blocks being certified organic by the CCOF (California Certified Organic Farmers). They use integrated pest management, cover crops, composting; and disease control through trellising, shoot positioning and leaf removal. The Mettler's believe in farming the land for healthy vines and consistent wine quality. The Mettler family farms over 800 acres in the Lodi Appellation, some of which date back to their family's original properties which are over 100 years old. In keeping with their progressive nature, they were the first to introduce French clones in the Lodi region. The family is very focused on producing wine grapes that make consistent and richly crafted wines.

PS- you might have noticed Berton Costamagna from Delta Packing (another one of our Lodi wine grape providers) in a Mettler family photo. This is because Berton is married to Kelli Mettler (now Costagmagna). Kelli is head of Wine Sales for her family's winery. You might have met Kelli and Berton at our last Winemaker Competition Celebration. As a family run business, we at Musto Wine Grape love being able to work with other growing family businesses. If you visit Mettler Vineyards you'll see their wine dogs and next generation running around in the vineyard, including Berton and Kelli's son Caden.



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LODI, CA - METTLER RANCH

The Mettler Vineyards are located in Lodi's Mediterranean Climate. Warm, dry summers, and cool moist winters. The dry warm summer days allow Lodi grapes to develop ripe fruit flavors while the distinctive breezes maintain the natural acidity for structure and complexity in the finished wines.

The Mettler family has their own winery located in Lodi, CA. Their winemaker, Adam Mettler recently won Winemaker of the Year from Wine Enthusiast. He creates award winning wines for many wineries in Lodi, including his family's winery. Wine Grapes available from Mettler Ranch:

Pinotage Grenache Noir Merlot Petite Sirah Syrah Cabernet Sauvignon Zinfandel Sangiovese



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LODI, CA - CONTRA COSTA

Located below Suisun Bay and East of the Oakland Hills, Contra Costa is the premier growing area for Italian varietal wine grapes. Many of the vines grown in this area are considered ancient. The Mediterranean climate produces wines with bold features and good color. The soil is deep and sandy, making the grapes fight for their water, only increasing the intensity of the fruit. Think big bold reds, with leathery notes, and supple tannins. Varieties from Contra Costa:

Aglianico Montelpulciano Nero D'Avola Sagrantino Mourvdere



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CENTRAL VALLEY, CA

Central Valley is California's agricultural heartland. CV is actually 2 valleys that stretch almost 500 miles down the center of the state. The Sacramento Valley and San Joaquin Valley are bordered on the east by the Sierra Nevada Mountains and by the Coast Range to the west. The total acreage under wine grape cultivation in the Central Valley dwarfs all other California regions. To say Central Valley is the leader in California's wine grape production would be an understatement. With many sub-AVA's, the Central Valley offers a lot of delicious winemaking grapes with a lot of history. Some of the oldest grape vines in California are grown in Central Valley.

Wine Grapes and Wine Juices available from the Central Valley:

Alicante Barbera Cabernet Franc Cabernet Sauvignon Carignane Grenache Malbec Merlot Mixed Black **Petite Sirah Pinot Noir Ruby Cabernet** Sangiovese Zinfandel Old Vine Zinfandel Valdepena Albarino **Balck Muscat** Chardonnay French Colombard Malvasia Bianca Muscat **Pinot Grigio** Riesling Sauvignon Blanc **Thompson Seedless** Viognier



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### KING'S RIVER - FRESNO COUNTY (CENTRAL VALLEY, CA)

Nestled in Sanger, CA, southeast of Fresno, and on the way to Squaw Valley, Tahoe and the Sierra Foothills; is 40 acres of meticulously manicured vineyards known as King's River Ranch.

The grapes are develop well here and enjoy some great temperature swings in the vineyard. The vineyard is made up of white ash & sandy loam soil. It has been in existence since 1954 and the family has grown everything from grapes for wine, raisins, peaches, plums, and apricots on this little piece of paradise.

However, they ultimately decided to focus on what they love most - boutique style wines. The vineyard was planted in 2012 and produces many different wine grape varieties. Each block is diligently managed. They thin leaves, drop fruit to secure intense flavors, and drip irrigate as to not over-water the vines. Wine Grapes available from King's River:

Cabernet Sauvignon (Clone 337) Petite Sirah Alicante Syrah Barbera Cabernet Franc Tempranillo Primitivo Albariño Muscat Chenin Blanc

About Clone 337 Cabernet: Clone 337 is best known as one of the premier French clones. It is similar to the Dijon clones and gives good yield, small intense berries, and very fruit forward flavors. These wines create a lush mouthfeel, have deep color, and intense dark fruit, chocolate, and intense tannins. Age in French or Hungarian Oak for an extra shot of intensity and depth.



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### ANCIENT VINE PROGRAM - CENTRAL VALLEY, CA

Our Ancient Vine Wine Grapes come from one of the oldest grape growing regions, Madera County, CA. The grapes were planted close to 80-100 years ago and are being farmed by the 3rd and 4th generations. These are low production and low yield vineyards. They yield 2-4 tons/acre depending on the variety. These berries are small clusters with high concentration of phenols and color. Incredibly concentrated grapes which create a very concentrated and complex wine.

Fun Fact: For a grape to be considered an Ancient Vine it must be 75+ years old. To be considered an Old Vine it must be 35+ years old. Wine Grapes available from Musto's Ancient Vine Program:

Alicante Carignane Grenache Barbera Muscat



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PASO ROBLES, CA

Paso Robles is one of California's emerging AVAs. It has grown from a sleepy town to a high end wine growing and wine producing region. Paso Robles Wine Country is ideally located along California's Central Coast, conveniently between San Francisco and Los Angeles. Over the past decade the number of wineries has more than tripled, and Paso Robles is now home to nearly 200 wineries. Winemaking on the Central Coast began when the Franciscan Friars traveled through California establishing Missions. The Missionaries started planting grapes in 1790. You can still see these vines growing today. Since the original plantings of the Missionaries, Paso Robles has become a top destination for farmers to plant grapes.

Paso Robles is comprised of 26,000 acres of wine grapes. It is one of the fastest growing wine regions in California and on the Central Coast. It has a diverse topography. There are rivers, rolling hills, flat lands, and mountains. The soil is comprised of bedrock, weathered granite, marine sedimentary rocks, and volcanic rocks. Because of the many different soil components one vineyard block could contain several different soil types.

Paso Robles is known for growing Zinfandel, Bordeaux, and Rhone varieties. The AVA likes to produce non-traditional blends. It is a valley that doesn't follow the rules and expectations of tradition winemaking.

Wine Grapes available from Paso Robles:

Cabernet Sauvignon Cabernet Franc Merlot Pinot Noir Petite Sirah Syrah Zinfandel Old Vine Zinfandel



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PASO ROBLES, CA

The Paso Petite Sirah resides on the East side of Paso Robles. Days are hot for a longer period of time than the west side but the temperature will drop down to 50 degrees and below at night. The grapes ripen while maturing slowly to produce a wine with aromas of blueberry, raspberry, and black coffee. The wines from this area show deep color, are full bodied, and have a smooth tannic structure.

The Paso Merlot, and Syrah are sourced from Tolosa Winery from their "Meeker Vineyard" blocks. The Syrah is the Shenandoah Clone and on 5BB rootstock. Finally, the Merlot is Clone 3 and on 5BB rootstock.

The Paso Zinfandel and Old Vine Zinfandel are sourced from the Steinbeck Vineyard. The Zinfandel resides on east-west rolling hills. The soils are calcareous and are farmed by a multiple generation vintner. The Pinot Noir is sourced from Opolo Vineyards of Paso Robles. The Pinot Noir vineyards are located in the Willow Creek AVA. This region cools down earlier than the East side. The area is known for getting any varietal ripe and mature. The soil is very calcareous which produces a very elegant Pinot Noir.

The Cabernet is sourced from Parrish Templeton Vineyards. These grapes go to wineries such as Opolo and Justin. It is located in the "Pomar Junction" area of the Templeton gap. The soil consists of clay topsoil, over-lying a fractured calcareous base. This vineyard was created to produce high end Cabernet.



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AMADOR, CA

There's Gold in those hills and not just the shiny kind. We're referring to the type that hangs off the vines in Amador County. While steeped in Mediterranean winemaking tradition, for Wineries and Home Winemakers alike, Amador represents a terrior where wine grapes reign supreme.

Located in the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountain range in central California, Amador County boasts 2,700 acres of wine grapes - (a high percentage of which are farmed organically ) - and 25+ wineries. The majority are in the northern part of the county in the Shenandoah Valley and Fiddletown appellations, near the town of Plymouth.

In these areas, vines are planted almost exclusively on rolling, oak-studded hillsides, ranging from 1,200 to 2,000 feet in elevation, in Sierra Series soils - (primarily sandy clay loam derived from decomposed granite). These moderately dense soils effectively retain Amador's 36 to 38 inches of annual rainfall, enabling most growers to dry-farm their vineyards.

Dry-farming, and the fact that most vines are planted on their own roots or on self-regulating rootstocks like St. George, results in low crop yields averaging four tons per acre. These small yields, the vines' sparse canopies (allowing excellent sunlight penetration into the vine), and Amador's high solar radiance - (what the French call luminosity) - insure complete maturation of the fruit.



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AMADOR, CA

Amador's warm climate also promotes full ripening of the grapes. Classified as a high Region 3 in the UC Davis heat summation scale, Amador is comparable to St. Helena, but cooler than Calistoga in northern Napa Valley. While Amador heats up earlier in the day than those appellations, it rarely exceeds 100 degrees, a frequent occurrence in St. Helena and Calistoga. Equally important, temperatures typically drop 30-35 degrees in the evening as breezes cascade down from the Sierras. This rapid cooling helps the grapes retain the acidity essential to balanced wines.

Amador's production of robust, intensely flavored red wines also is attributable to its high percentage of old vines: roughly 600 acres out of a total of 2,700 are 60 years or older, including several vineyards dating to the 19th century. These deeply rooted, head-trained vines, primarily zinfandel, found in vineyards such as Deaver, Fox, Ferrero, Esola and Lubenko, produce tiny crops of small-berried grapes which produce the heady zinfandels for which Amador County is renowned. Wine Grapes available from Amador:

Cabernet Sauvignon Old Vine Zinfandel Sangiovese Tannat Zinfandel



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### NAPA & SONOMA, CA VALLEYS

Napa Valley, located north of the San Francisco Bay, is known for its outstanding grape growing regions. With a combination of Mediterranean type weather, geography, and geology it allows for premium quality grape growing.

Napa Valley was put on the map as a world class wine region when the Paris Wine Tasting of 1976 resulted in Napa Wines being the favorite in a blind tasting. Today, Napa Valley is home to almost 400 wineries. The Sonoma Valley Chalk Hill vineyard is known for it's chalky, white ash soil that consist of volcanic ash. A sub appellation of the Russian River Valley, it has warm days and cool breezes.

Wine Grapes available from Sonoma:

Cabernet Sauvignon (Chalk Hill) Pinot Noir (Russian River)

Wine Grapes available from Napa:

Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot



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#### WASHINGTON STATE - RATTLESNAKES HILLS

In the Yakima Valley and it's sub-AVA Rattlesnakes Hills the surface layers of vineyard soils are based primarily in loess, which is mostly wind-deposited silt and fine sand derived from the sediments of the 'Missoula' ice age floods. The content of the soils consists of a mixture of minerals derived from both the local basalt bedrock and the granite and limestone of northern Idaho and Montana.

Most of the soils are classified as silt loams (mostly Harwood-Burke, but also Weihl and Scoon), which are low in clay. The low clay content creates well-drained soils, encouraging the vines to root more deeply, a factor generally associated with high quality grapes and wines. It also creates an inhospitable environment for phylloxera, an aphid-like pest that feeds on the roots of grapevines. Due in large part to the clay-poor soils, the Yakima Valley is one of the few places on earth where European wine grapes (such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Pinot Noir) can still be grown on their own roots, also a factor generally associated with high quality.

The shallow soil profile contains large chunks of calcium-caked gravel and calcium carbonate horizons called "Caliche". In most areas, the caliche forms a conspicuous white layer under the topsoil that adds mineral complexity. The deep roots of the vines penetrate through the surface layer of loess, which averages 18 inches in thickness throughout most of the vineyard, and into the underlying calcium-rich substrate. This gravelly, high pH substrate forces the vines to struggle, an additional factor associated with high quality grapes and wine.



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#### WASHINGTON STATE - RATTLESNAKES HILLS

About Being Own-Rooted: An Own-Rooted vine is a vine that has no rootstock. This is not common in most wine regions around the world. The rootstock & vine grafting was necessary at one point to protect from specific diseases such as Phylloxera. The Washington soil type is made up of a fine silt loam which Phylloxera hates – this is why they can plant Own-Rooted vines.

About the Merlot: The Merlot Clone coming from this vineyard has clusters that are small to medium in size. The berries are small and round. This clone produces a high vigor vine that creates a dense canopy. Yield is usually around 3-5 ton acre depending on the growing season.

The clone produces a soft, full-bodied, fruity wine full of many different complexities. A great Merlot that can stand alone and age – or be added to a blend to give the wine that extra punch of structure. About the Pinot Noir: The Pinot Noir produces wines that are deeper than the average ruby red color. A complex nose of woodland fruit, red cherry, and dark chocolate, followed by an excellent balance of medium bodied structure for aging.

Wine Grapes available from Rattlesnakes Hills:

Merlot Cabernet Sauvignon Cabernet Franc Pinot Noir



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### WASHINGTON STATE - CANDY MOUNTAIN

Candy Mountain is one of Washington State's newest pending AVA's. It is 784-925 elevation with around 60 acres planted. The soil is a mix of scooteney silt loam, shano silt loam, warden silt loam, and warden fine sand loam. Candy Mountain is a south-facing slope that sits just southeast of Red Mountain (Napa Valley of WA). We are calling Candy Mountain the "Suisun Valley" of Washington State. With outstanding growing conditions, this AVA produces wine that is fruit forward, rich, bold, and intense.

About Clone 33 Cabernet:

The Clone 33 Cabernet is an early ripening Cabernet Sauvignon. It loves sandy soils and thrives in Washington State. Similar to Clone 169 it produces good sized and well balanced berries. Wines created from Clone 33 are usually robust and bold like Cabernet 169 wines. Wine Grapes available from Candy Mountain:

Merlot Cabernet Sauvignon (Clone 33)



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### WASHINGTON STATE - WAHLUKE SLOPE

A sub-AVA of the Columbia Valley, Wahluke Slope is known as Washington's "watering place," named by the Native Americans. This is due to the 3-mile-wide gravel bar created by the Glacial Lake Missoula floods at the end of the last ice age about 15,000 years ago.

Wahluke Slope is one of the state's warmest growing regions, producing about 20 percent of the entire Washington State wine grape harvest each year. Wine Grapes available from Wahluke Slope:

**Cabernet Franc** 



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Thank you for taking the time to view our AVA Designations and Descriptoins list. If you have any questions or would like to make an order please do not hesitate to reach out.

We are looking forward to working with you!

**Contact Information**:

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