



## French Wine Varietals

I believe that most of us know that New World wines are typically labeled by varietal (the grape, i.e. Chardonnay, Merlot and so on) while Old World (European) wines are typically labeled by place of origin. In the New World many of the grape varietals that are commonplace with consumers are French in origin. BevX has created this infographic to take notice of the most popular varietals and to identify their provenience. If you are a dedicated lover of New World wines perhaps this presentation will inspire you to sample the original wines.



See French varietals in detail [here at BevX.](#)

### Alsace - 1

Sadly these wines are forgotten by many wine lovers outside of France. White wines are king in Alsace (but don't miss the fresh and lovely sparkling wines) with wonderful varietals like **Gewürztraminer** and **Pinot Blanc** reaching their greatest heights here. The wines of the region are very unique as is the food, to the architecture, and topography being an interesting blend of French and German alpine cultures.

### Bordeaux - 2

The region is best known for its iconic red wines but Bordeaux also produces amazing white wines and perhaps the world's most iconic sweet wines from Sauternes. Bordeaux is dominated by the Gironde River, which divides the region forming the "left bank" and "right bank" sub-regions. In the simplest terms the left bank is dominated by **Cabernet Sauvignon** while the right favors **Merlot** and **Cabernet Franc**.

### Burgundy - 3

Here red and white wines have a near parity of importance. (An odd fact since Burgundy has been used as a generic red wine term in the new world.) **Pinot Noir** dominates the reds with **Gamay** being utilized in Beaujolais. **Chardonnay** is the sole performer in the region's famous white wines from the wonderfully rich Montrachet to the crisp and oak-free Chablis.

### Champagne - 4

The name is synonymous with sparkling wine and luxury so much so that many still refer to any wine with bubbles as champagne. Let's be clear, only wines made within the region of Champagne can legally and sensibly be called Champagne. While most of the sparkling wines are pale in color, two-thirds of the permitted grapes in Champagne are red (**Pinot Noir** and **Pinot Meunier**) and the sole white grape is **Chardonnay**.

### Loire - 5

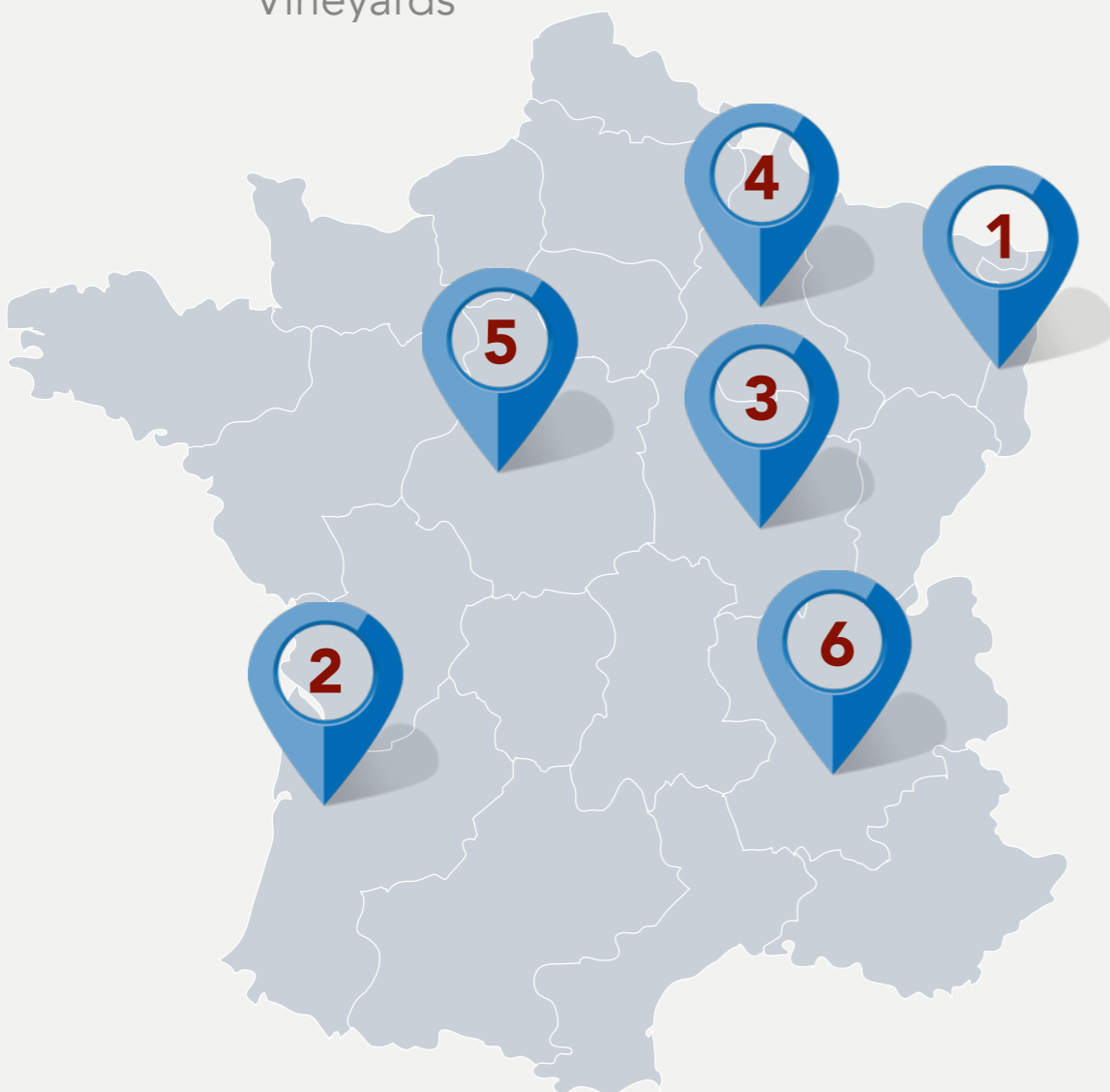
The Loire Valle is a beautiful north central river valley with amazing castles and equally stunning microclimates that give home to a number of distinctive appellations all utilizing perfectly suited French varietals including: **Sauvignon Blanc**, **Chenin Blanc**, **Cabernet Franc**, **Pinot Noir**, and others. White wines are king but there are lovely reds made here too, as well as sweet and sparkling wines that have long enjoyed favor with connoisseurs.

### Rhone - 6

This great north to south region holds many great and unique appellations. The reds in the north are **Syrah** dominate while their counterparts in the south are blends of varying proportions that often feature two Spanish grapes, **Grenache** and **Mourvèdre**. On whole the region is best known for reds but in the north the appellation of Condrieu produces fascinating wines from **Viognier** and in the south the famous rosé wines of Tavel enjoy a large following.



11 %  
Of The  
World's  
Vineyards



48 Liters  
French Wine  
Consumption  
Per Capita  
Annually

<b>Ch</b> Chardonnay Burgundy Champagne	<b>Cb</b> Chenin Blanc Loire
--	------------------------------------

<b>Cs</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Bordeaux
---

<b>Cf</b> Cabernet Franc Bordeaux Loire
--

<b>Ga</b> Gamay Beaujolais
----------------------------------

<b>Gw</b> Gewürztraminer Alsace
---------------------------------------

<b>Pg</b> Pinot Gris Alsace Loire
--

<b>Mr</b> Marsanne Northern & Southern Rhone
---

<b>Ma</b> Malbec Cahors Bordeaux
---

<b>Me</b> Merlot Bordeaux
---------------------------------

<b>Pm</b> Pinot Menueir Champagne
---

<b>Ms</b> Muscat Numerous Varieties Alsace Bordeaux
---

<b>Mu</b> Muscadet Melon De Bourgogne Loire
--

<b>Pb</b> Pinot Blanc Alsace Burgundy
--

<b>Pn</b> Pinot Noir Burgundy Champagne Loire
---

<b>Sy</b> Syrah Northern & Southern Rhone
--

<b>Sb</b> Sauvignon Blanc Bordeaux Loire
---

<b>Sm</b> Sémillon Bordeaux (Sauternes)
--

<b>Rs</b> Roussanne Northern & Southern Rhone
--

<b>Vg</b> Viognier Northern & Southern Rhone
---