



The Carneros Wine Alliance is a non-profit association of wineries and grape-growers in the Carneros American Viticultural Area (AVA). Carneros is located at the crossroads of two major wine regions, the Napa and Sonoma Valleys. A cool-climate appellation influenced by the waters of the San Francisco Bay, Carneros has long been known for Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and sparkling wine production. The Carneros Wine Alliance is committed to promoting the distinction, diversity and above all, quality, of grapes and wines from Carneros.

The Carneros District

As the first California AVA to span two counties, the Carneros region is a complex appellation deeply rooted in agriculture and history. Carneros was the first California wine region to be defined by its climate characteristics rather than political boundaries. Vineyards were first planted in this area as early as the 1830s, with the first winery established here in the early 1870s. Carneros achieved official AVA status in 1983 and is renowned for its Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and sparkling wine production.

Climate

The Carneros region is located at the southernmost parts of the Sonoma and Napa valleys and is profoundly influenced by the maritime breezes and fog that impacts the area from its southern border with the San Pablo Bay. Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and sparkling wines do well in this mitigated climate. Many Napa and Sonoma wineries own vineyards in Carneros as the climate is more moderated than other wine regions to the north.

Visiting Carneros

In a wine region that has drastically changed over the past thirty years, Carneros remains unassuming and authentically agriculturally based. Our growers and winemakers are farmers first, tending to this land just as the various farmers and growers in this region have done for generations. Carneros wineries offer a genuine wine country experience that is not found in other local areas, allowing visitors to enjoy the pure beauty of the area along with the world-class wines that are produced here. Sheep graze amongst the majestic rolling hills and vineyards and Carneros offers panoramic views from San Francisco to the Sonoma and Napa Valleys.

Winery & Grower Members

The members of the Carneros Wine Alliance represent the region's grape-growers and wineries. The goal is to celebrate and promote Carneros' distinctive Sonoma and Napa Valley based cool-climate wines. The alliance's board of directors is composed of both grape-grower and winery representatives and currently includes: Hilary Berkey of Vintage Estates (Co-Chair), Emily Bryne of Etude Wines (Co-Chair), Nichole Peterson (Vice-Chair), Carla Bosco (Treasurer), Crista Johnson (Secretary), Michael Cox of Schug Carneros Estate, Scott Billeci of ZD Wines, Anne Moller-Racke of Donum Estate, and Alison Crowe of Garnet Vineyards.

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