Niagara Peninsula

Appellation Region Overview

Appellation regions are a combination of appellations with similar character and winemaking experience.

Niagara-on-the-Lake

Situated below the crest of the Niagara Escarpment and stretching to the Niagara River and the shores of Lake Ontario, this region encompasses four sub-appellations: Niagara River, Niagara Lakeshore, Four Mile Creek and St. David’s Bench. Although there is a great diversity in geology, soil composition, elevation and climate, the wineries of this appellation share the collective benefits of proximity to the Lake, River and Escarpment, which their wines reflect.

Niagara Escarpment

Representing the bench lands along the Niagara Escarpment, west of St. Catharines to Grimsby, this complex region encompasses three sub-appellations: Short Hills Bench, Twenty Mile Bench, and Beamsville Bench. The air circulation and frost protection provided by the bench topography and steady water supply define unique conditions for grape berry maturation across this region and contribute to the distinctive and refreshing style of bench wines.

Niagara-on-the-Lake

NOTABLE FEATURES
Niagara-on-the-Lake is the heart of Ontario wine culture and a world-renowned wine country destination. The region is becoming well known for its annual celebrations of terroir-focused foods and wines.

Niagara Escarpment

NOTABLE FEATURES
The Niagara Escarpment is recognized by UNESCO as a World Biosphere Reserve and is the most prominent topographical feature of southern Ontario. This regional appellation draws together the three appellations that share the fossil-rich sedimentary soils and dramatic topography adjacent to the escarpment ridge. The Niagara Escarpment supports a vital ecosystem, with hundreds of unique species of birds, mammals, reptiles, fish and flora, including 37 types of wild orchids.