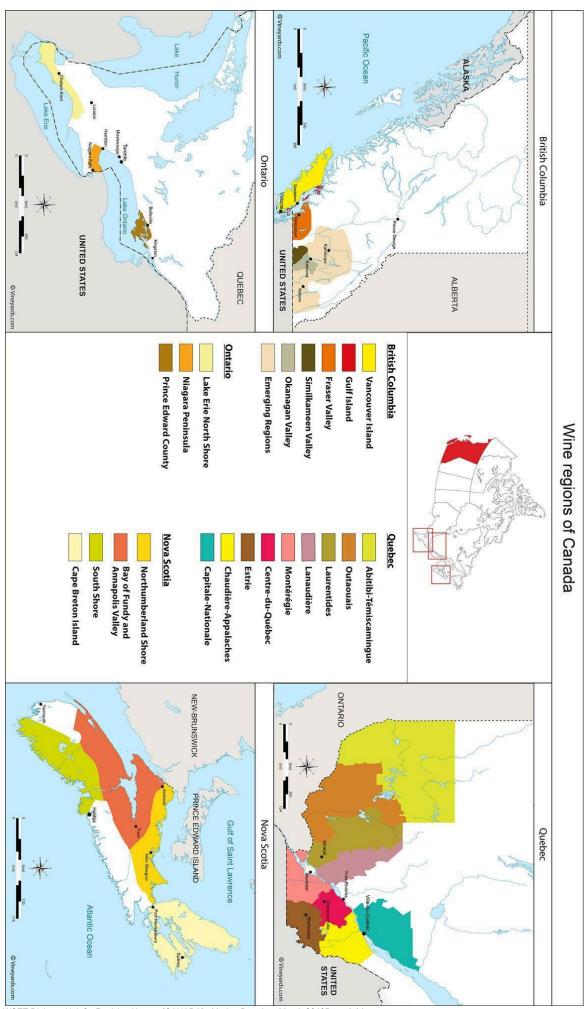
CANADA (•••)

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SPECIFICATIONS (What you have to know)	DISTRICTS, COMMUNES AND VINEYARDS Ontario: Niagara Peninsula British Columbia: Okanagan Valley KEY FACTORS Grape varieties: Merlot, Syrah, Pinot Blanc, Chardonnay, Riesling, French hybrids, Vidal, Seyval Blanc, Baco Climate & Weather: Winter freeze, Winter protection, cool climate viticulture, frost Viticulture: Lake effect	
HISTORY	 1811: Johan Schiller, German corporal, experimented with domesticated wild Labrusca vines. 1866: 1st major winery (Vin Villa) founded on Lake Erie (south) with 8ha of Isabella vines. 1890: 41 commercial wineries, mainly in Ontario (bordering with US NY state). 1916: start of prohibition with wine exempted -> growth 1927: creation of provincial liquor board system, gvt monopolies that regulate the sale & distribution of all alcohol 1974: start of boutique & vinifera wine production w Inniskillin granted 1st commercial licence since Prohibition. 1988: Vintners Quality Alliance (VQA) appellation system introduced in Ontario & then in British Columbia 	
CLIMATE	Cool continental w harsh & long winters, hot summers (can be hotter vs. Burgundy or Bdx) and unpredictable weather at harvest -> shorter growing season Wine growing regions at same latitude as France's midi / Tuscany regions (July: avg 21C) w key difference lower winter temperatures (down to-15C) & freezing into spring Occasional draught in hot summer vintages.	
KEY REGIONS & CHARACTERISTICS	1. Ontario (5,880ha) - Continental climate similar to Burgundy 80% of vines by 100 wineries incl. Cave Spring, Chateau des Charmes, Innskillin & Pelee Island winery - 3 designated areas: - Niagara Falls: sandy loam w both large lakes north & south delaying budburst and extending growing season + the Niagara escarpment protecting vs. cold winds and frost. Longer growing seasons -> elegant Rieslings (including Icewine & Late harvests) + Vidal (Icewine/LH) Warmer areas -> Bdx & some Rhone varieties Lake Erie North Shore: southern coast by US border (Detroit) w Lake Erie moderating effect. Lake Erie is shallower hence more prone to freezing -> higher vintage variation Pelee Island: just south of Lake Erie North Shore, most southern point 2. British Columbia (2.200ha) Largely disease-free terroir w 4 appellations: - Fraser valley: smallest; around Vancouver - Vancouver Island: coastal region on the other side of the Strait of Georgia. Cool maritime climate we early ripening varieties dominate (Ortega, Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris) - Similkameen valley: around Keremeos; protected from coastal rains by moderate mountain ranges -> growing season hot & arid (need for irrigation). Bdx varieties + Pinot Noir, P. Gris, Chardonnay & Gewurz Okanagan valley: one of the world's most northerly wine region; around Okanagan 150km long lakes that moderate the hot summers and semi-arid condition. Riesling, Ehrenfelser & Scheurebe since 75. 3. Québec (100ha) Least likely of all Canadian wine regions but warmer spots created by topography; around Dunham Winter protection (i.e. burying vines in Autumn + grow spare trunks) necessary but costly to maintain activity Mainty Seyval blanc, Vidal, Chardonnay, Riesling. No appellation system. 4. Nova Scotia (110ha) Midway between equator & north pole; very short growing season so early ripening varieties sought. French hybrids & 2 Russian varieties No appellation system	

GRAPE VARIETIES	Until 80s, winter-hardy Labrusca varieties: Concord (for Port & Sherry) & Niagara (for dry white wine) Since then, development of early-ripening, winter-resistant French hybrids & international varieties Reds
WINEMAKING	Icewine Grapes hand harvested from -8C to -18C w sugar at least 35Brix (much higher vs. Ger)
	100% Vidal w residual sugar min 125g/l Water crystals remain in the press for sugar content to increase.
PRODUCTION & BUSINESS	#31 world wine producer; around 1m btls of Icewine/year 270 wineries mainly in Ontario
	Vincor: largest wine company; 4th in N-America; now part of Constellation since '06. Owns wineries in all major Canadian wine regions & NZ + Western wines, one of the largest UK wine importer. Key brands: Jackson-Triggs, Sumac Ridge, Hawthorne Mountain. Joint ventures with Ch Gruaud La Rose owners in BC + Boisset in Ontario
WINE CLASSIFICATION	Most wines retailed by provincial monopolies e.g. Ontario's Liquor Control Board. The VQA Act establishes the legal framework for the appellation within each region (min must weights, vinifera varieties) Standards are legally enforced in Ontario while voluntary in British Columbia. 'Product of Canada' or 'Cellared in Canada' -> contains imported grape juice or wine (up to 25%).



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