

AN INTRODUCTION TO VIN DE PAYS D'OC

BACKGROUND:

Vin de Pays d'Oc is a wine region in the extreme south of France. Facing the Mediterranean Sea, the appellation covers an arc from Nimes (beside Provence and the Cote d'Azur) southwest to Spain. Mid-quality wines from the Languedoc and Roussillon regions fall within the Vin de Pays d'Oc designation.

Vin de Pays means "Country Wine" and is an intermediate designation between a true Appellation and the simple Vin de Table or table wine designation. Vin de Pays d'Oc is a large regional designation with four more specific designations within its territory.

Usually the grower or the winery has a clear choice – appellation laws restrict the grape types and the volume of production. If the winery can't sell the wine as an appellation wine, they will use the Vin de Pays designation.