



THE PASO ROBLES AVA

AND 11 SUB AVAS

PASO ROBLES
WINE COUNTRY ALLIANCE

Image courtesy of Wine Country Alliance

THE PASO ROBLES AVA

Established 1983; 11 Sub AVAs Established 2014

The Paso Robles American Viticulture Area is situated along California's Central Coast. Framed by two mountain ranges, the region enjoys a Mediterranean climate with warm days and cool nights. More than 200 wineries dot the landscape, sourcing fruit from 40,000 acres of wine grapes that vary from Albarino to Zinfandel.

Over 46 different varietals are grown in the Paso Robles region. The majority being Cabernet Sauvignon, followed by Merlot, Syrah and other red varieties like Grenache and Mourvèdre. Paso's exceptional climate, proximity to the Pacific Ocean, varying topography, and diversity of soils make it a great place to produce world class wines.

ADELAIDA DISTRICT



REG. II-III



TOPOGRAPHY | Santa Lucia Range, high mountain slope grading to foothills; 900-2200 ft
SOIL | Shallow, bedrock residual soils and patchy colluvial hillside soils from middle member of Monterey Formation and older rocks; largely calcareous soils.

CRESTON DISTRICT



REG. III



TOPOGRAPHY | Old erosional plateau at the base of the La Panza Range; alluvial terraces and fans of Huerfuerero Creek; 1,000-2,000 ft.
SOIL | Old, well developed terrace and hillside soils; mix of granitic and sedimentary rocks.

EL POMAR DISTRICT



REG. II



TOPOGRAPHY | high, older terraces, fans, and hills; 740-1,600 ft.
SOIL | Quaternary alluvial soils, well developed loams to clay loams, some calcareous, with Monterey Formation sand-stone and siltstone at depth in some areas.

PASO ROBLES ESTRELLA DISTRICT



REG. III



12.5-15.5 in

TOPOGRAPHY | rolling plains of Estrella River valley and terraces; 745-1819 ft.
SOIL | Quaternary alluvial soils of diverse ages across younger to older terraces, deep to moderate depth, with remnant patches of older valley fill at highest elevations.

PASO ROBLES GENESEO DISTRICT



REG. III-IV



TOPOGRAPHY | Up faulted hills through old river terraces along Huerfuerero-La Panza fault; 740-1,300 ft.
SOIL | Old alluvial terrace and residual hillside soils of moderate depth with cementation of the gravelly Paso Robles Formation and older granites.

PASO ROBLES HIGHLANDS



REG. IV



TOPOGRAPHY | Old Pliocene-Pleistocene erosional surface across the Simmler, Monterey and Paso Robles Formations below the La Panza Range; 1,160-2,086 ft.
SOIL | Deep, sometimes cemented alluvial soils; old leached alkaline soils common, with younger sandy soils along active streams.

PASO ROBLES WILLOW CREEK DISTRICT



REG. II



TOPOGRAPHY | High elevation mountainous bedrock slopes across a more erodible member of the Monterey Formation; 960-1,900 ft.
SOIL | Mostly bedrock (residual) soils from the middle and lower members of the Monterey Formation, patches of alluvial soil along streams, largely calcareous, loams to clay loams.

SAN JUAN CREEK



REG. III-IV



TOPOGRAPHY | San Juan Creek younger river valleys with alluvial terraces and fans as a tributary to the upper Estrella River; 980-1,600 ft.
SOIL | Well to moderately drained, deep alluvial soils, sandy loams to loams to clay loams on the highest, oldest terraces.

SAN MIGUEL DISTRICT



REG. III



TOPOGRAPHY | Foothills of Santa Lucia Range, with alluvial terraces of the Salinas and Estrella rivers and small recent alluvial fans; 580-1,600 ft.
SOIL | Deep, alluvial sandy loams to loams to a few clay loams (some with clay pans) from the river bottoms up onto the higher terraces.

SANTA MARGARITA RANCH



REG. II



TOPOGRAPHY | High, steep mountain slopes of ancient Salinas River and upper reaches of incised contemporary Salinas River along the Rinconada Fault; 900-1,400 ft.
SOIL | Deep alluvial soils derived from many lithologies and varying in texture, with patchy residual soils on mountain slopes.

TEMPLETON GAP DISTRICT



REG. II



TOPOGRAPHY | Santa Lucia Range mountain slopes and broad alluvial terraces; elevations 700-1,800 ft.
SOIL | Broad alluvial terraces and fans of Paso Robles Creek and the Salinas River over bed-rock; alluvial soils of shallow to moderate depth and sandy to silty to clay loams; calcareous in places.

REG. The Winkler Scale is composed of regional numbers (II-IV), which apply to degree days according to the amount that the day's average temperature exceeds 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

Diurnal Temperature is the average daily temperature variance between the coolest and warmest point of the day between April 1 and October 31.

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