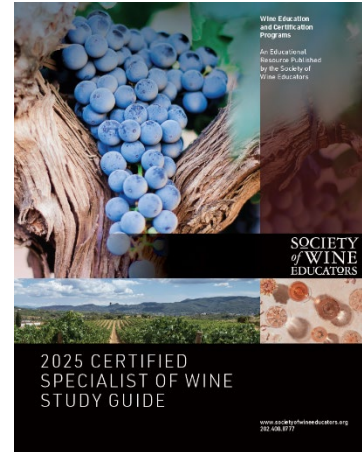


**Addendum regarding:
The 2025 Certified Specialist of Wine Study Guide,
as published by the Society of Wine Educators**

This document outlines the substantive changes to the 2025 Study Guide as compared to the 2024 version of the CSW Study Guide. All page numbers reference the 2024 version.

Note: Many of our regional wine maps have been updated. The new maps are available on the member portal of the SWE website.



Page 36: the second paragraph under the heading “Photosynthesis” has been updated to include the following information: The main processes of photosynthesis require sunlight; therefore, most photosynthesis occurs only when the sun is shining. Photosynthesis will slow at temperatures less than 50°F (10°C) or greater than 95°F (35°C). As such, optimal sugar production takes place on sunny days with temperatures between 70°F and 85°F (20–30°C).

Page 81: the information regarding world wine production has been updated to include the following: Of the total volume of wine produced throughout the world in 2024, it is approximated that 64% was produced in Europe, 10% in South America, 11% in North America, 6% in Asia, 5% in Oceania, and 4% in Africa.

Page 89: the information regarding IGP regions of France has been updated so that it includes the following: In recent years, there has been a great deal of change and consolidation in the IGP regions of France, but as of December 2024, there were just over 75 IGP/vin de pay designations.

Page 90: the information on the PDO regions of France has been updated to include the following: There are more than 370 AOCs, producing just under half of all French wine.

Page 98: the following information had been added to the material on grape varieties of the Loire Valley: Chenin Blanc, sometimes called *Pineau de la Loire*, shows its versatility in this region in dry white wines, sweet white wines, and delightful sparkling wines. Perhaps the most well-known Chenin Blanc–based wines of the Loire are Vouvray and Savennières, two wines that can be markedly

different despite their shared heritage. In addition, the thin skins of Chenin Blanc make it highly susceptible to botrytis, which is instrumental in creating many of the highly acclaimed dessert wines of the Loire.

Page 105: the information on Alsace Grands Crus has been updated to include the following: Note: beginning in 2022, the regulations of several Alsace Grand Cru appellations—to include Hengst, Kirchberg, and Vorbourg—were revised to allow for the production of red wines made with Pinot Noir; this represents quite a break with tradition.

Page 126: the information on Italy’s PDOs has been updated to read as follows: As of December 2024, Italy had 77 DOCGs and just over 330 DOCs—and these numbers are sure to remain in flux for the foreseeable future.

Page 142: the information on the white grapes of Spain has been updated to include the following: Leading white grapes (in addition to Airén) include Cayetana Blanca, Macabeo (Viura), Verdejo, and Godello.

Page 143: the information on the PDO regions of Spain has been updated to include the following: As of December 2024, Spain has 69 DOs; this number has remained relatively stable for several years, but it could change in the future.

Page 148: the section on Castilla-La Mancha has been updated to include the following: As of December 2024, Castilla-La Mancha is home to 13 vinos de pago; this is more than any other region of Spain.

Page 152: the information on the Geography of the Cava DO has been updated to include the following: Three other zones—spread across Spain—are approved for the production of Cava DO. These include the Valle del Ebro (Ebro Valley), Requena (located in Valencia), and Viñedos de Almendralejo (Almendralejo vineyards, located in Extremadura).

Pages 168 to 169: the section on the Geographical Indications of Germany has been updated to include the following: Germany has 13 recognized quality wine regions—known as *Anbaugebiete*—for PDO wines. Both Qualitätswein and Prädikatswein require a single Anbaugebiet as a place of origin. These Anbaugebiete are further divided into several layers of more exclusive

geographical areas, including *Bereiche* (districts) and *Einzellagen*. Each Anbaugebiet contains at least one Bereich.

Einzellagen are small-scale geographical indications that represent specific defined areas with reasonably homogeneous vineyard conditions. The country currently has just over 2,700 Einzellagen. These areas represent a revision and consolidation of the named vineyard areas of Germany's past—having once numbered more than 30,000.

Beginning in 2020, a few small, very specific PDO regions were registered in Germany. These regions—which include the Monzinger Niederberg PDO in the Nahe and the Uhlen Blaufüsser Lay PDO in the Mosel—are located within the larger Anbaugebiete. Their rules dictate the use of approved grape varieties, limits on yield, and certain required methods of production—similar to an appellation d'origine contrôlée (AOC) as used in France. These new PDOs represent a departure from the typical (often varietal) label designations currently used in Germany, and it is likely that many more of these site-specific PDOs will be registered in the future.

Furthermore, in April of 2021, new guidelines were announced regarding the future of geographical indications in Germany. The new regulations—which include an expanded emphasis on village-, commune- and vineyard-specific appellations—are expected to be implemented in the coming years.

Page 176: Table 13-1 (German PDO Wine Regions) has been replaced with the following table:

Anbaugebiete of Germany
Ahr
Baden
Franken
Hessische Bergstrasse
Mittelrhein
Mosel
Nahe
Pfalz
Rheingau
Rheinhessen

Saale-Unstrut Sachsen Württemberg

Page 180: the information on the Kamptal DAC has been updated to include the following information: The Kamptal DAC also produces a typically flavorful version of Grüner Veltliner, along with small amounts of Chardonnay, Pinot Blanc, and Pinot Gris.

Page 182: the information on the Eisenberg DAC has been updated to read as follows: Surrounding Eisenberg Hill in the southern portion of Burgenland, the Eisenberg DAC is well-known for its earthy red wines based on the Blaufränkisch grape variety. While the majority of the region is planted to red grapes, DAC regulations also allow for the production of white wines based on Welschriesling (as of 2022).

Page 186: the information on the grape varieties of Bulgaria has been updated to include the following information: Bulgaria grows a wide range of white grapes, including the international varieties Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Riesling, and Viognier. Rkatsiteli and Dimiat— common throughout Eastern Europe—are found here as well. The native Misket Cherven (which translates literally as "Red Misket") is a highly aromatic, pink-skinned variety grown throughout the hillier areas of the country.

Page 199: the information on AVAs in the USA has been updated to read as follows: As of December 2024, 276 distinct AVAs had been approved in over 30 different states; of these, 154 are in California (and these numbers are sure to increase in the future).

Page 206: the information on AVAs in California has been updated to read as follows: As of December 2024, California has 154 AVAs.

Page 207: the information on the number of AVAs in Napa County has been updated to read as follows: Within the county itself, there are 18 AVAs, including the Napa Valley AVA, which itself covers the majority of the land in the county—aside from Lake Berryessa and some surrounding areas.

Pages 208 to 209: the following information has been added to the list of Napa AVAs:

- **Crystal Springs of Napa Valley AVA:** Approved in 2024, the Crystal Springs of Napa Valley AVA is tucked into the western face of the Vaca Range. The area enjoys a good deal of sunshine due to its unique topography consisting of a series of west- and southwest-facing hillsides with virtually no flat areas. Elevation ranges from 1,400 feet/427 meters above sea level at the northern border (where it abuts the Howell Mountain and Calistoga AVAs) to 400 feet/122 meters asl at the area's southern boundary (shared with the St. Helena AVA).

Page 210: the information on the Fort Ross-Seaview AVA has been updated to read as follows:

- **Fort Ross-Seaview AVA:** Vineyards within this steep, mountainous region—a sub-appellation of the Sonoma Coast and West Sonoma Coast AVA—are generally planted at elevations of 800 to 1,800 feet (244 to 550 m) above sea level. Due to its elevation—above the fog line—the Fort Rose-Seaview AVA benefits from longer periods of sunlight, a longer growing season, and an overall warmer climate than the surrounding (lower-elevation) areas.

Page 218: the list of Washington State AVAs has been updated to include the following: **Beverly, Washington AVA:** Approved in 2024, the Beverly, Washington AVA is a tiny area located among the rolling hills on the eastern shore of the Columbia River. The area is known for its coarse, gravelly soils and south/southwest facing slopes.

Pages 225 to 226: The information on the grape varieties of Argentina has been updated to include the following: Historically, the wine industry of Argentina focused on a group of grape varieties—including the light red/pink-skinned grapes Criolla Grande and Cereza—descended from the original vines (often referred to as *País* or *Mission* grapes but now known to be the Spanish variety Listán Prieto) brought into South America from Europe in the sixteenth century. As the wine industry of Argentina matured, many of these vines were replaced; however, they still account for a large percentage of all plantings in the country. In decades past, these grapes were used primarily to produce inexpensive bulk wines; nonetheless, this too is evolving as the industry seeks to preserve the heritage of these vines and extend their use in higher-quality wines.

Red-skinned Listán Prieto is often referred to as *Criolla Chica* in Argentina. While previously relegated to bulk and locally consumed wines, in 2024 Listán Prieto/Criolla Chica was approved by Argentina's INV as a grape variety of quality, meaning that the variety may be used (and listed on the labels of) *vinos de calidad* and labelled with a geographical indication.

Page 226: the information on the wine laws of Argentina was updated to include the following: The wine industry is also regulated by the *Instituto Nacional de Vitivinicultura* (INV). This regulating body places strict controls on the best wines of Argentina. These wines, known as *vinos de calidad*, must be produced using premium grapes—a criterion that typically excludes wine produced from the Cereza or Criolla Grande grape varieties. Only *vinos de calidad* may be labeled with a geographical indication, and varietal wines must contain a minimum of 85% of the stated grape variety.

In addition, regulations that took effect with the 2011 vintage define the terms *reserva* and *gran reserva* and allow their use only on the labels of *vinos de calidad*. Under these regulations, *reserva* wines must have been aged a minimum of six months for white wines and one year for reds. The *gran reserva* designation requires a minimum aging period of one year for whites and two years for reds.

Page 227: the information on San Juan was updated to read as follows:

San Juan: San Juan, the next province to the south, is a warm and dry region. San Juan contains close to 17% of the country's vines, making it the second largest grape-producing province in the country (after Mendoza). San Juan's 82,200 acres (33, 250 ha) of vines are somewhat equally divided between red, white, and pink-skinned varieties. Syrah, Malbec, Bonarda Argentina, and Cabernet Sauvignon are the leading red varieties. A range of white grapes are planted in San Juan; these include Moscatel de Alejandria, Pedro Giménez, Torrontés Sanjuanino, Torrontés Riojano, Torrontés Mendocino, Chenin Blanc, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, and Viognier.

Page 228: Table 17–1 (Wine Regions of Argentina) has been replaced with the following:

Table 17-1: Selected Wine Regions of Argentina

Selected Wine Regions of Argentina		
Area	Province	Selected Sub-regions*
North**	Catamarca	
	Jujuy	
	Salta	Cafayate/Cafayate Valley, Molinos
	Tucumán	
Cuyo	Mendoza	Luján de Cuyo DOC, Maipú, Uco Valley, Tupungato, San Rafael DOC, Primera Zona**, Northern Oasis**, East Mendoza**, South Mendoza**, San Carlos**, Paraje Altamira
	La Rioja	Famatina, Valle de Chañarmuyo
	San Juan	
Valles Calchquies (multi-region, multi-province GI)		
Valles del Famatina (multi-region, multi-province GI)		
Center**	Córdoba**	
	Entré Rios	Victoria
	San Luis	
Patagonia	Chubut**	
	La Pampa**	
	Neuquén	
	Río Negro	
Atlantic**	Buenos Aires**	Chapadmalal
<p>*For a complete list of geographical indications in Argentina, see the website of Argentina’s INIV (via Argentina.gob.ar)</p> <p>**Indicates that as of December 2024, the area has not been officially declared a Geographical Indication; these areas are considered “unofficial”</p> <p>Source: Wines of Argentina (November 2024), <i>Instituto Nacional de Vitivinicultura</i> (via Argentina.gob.ar)</p>		

Page 233: Table 17–2 (Wine Regions of Chile) has been replaced and replace with the following:

Table 17–2: Selected Appellations of Chile—*Denominaciones de Origin*

Selected Wine Regions of Chile*		
Viticultural Region	Subregion	Zone
Atacama	Copiapó Valley	
	Huasco Valley	
Coquimbo	Elqui Valley	
	Limarí Valley	
	Choapa Valley	
Aconcagua	Aconcagua Valley	
	Casablanca Valley	
	San Antonio Valley	Leyda Valley
Central Valley	Maipo Valley	
	Rapel Valley	Cachapoal Valley
		Colchagua Valley
	Curicó Valley	Teno Valley
		Lontué Valley
	Maule Valley	Claro Valley
Loncomilla Valley		
Tutuvén Valley		
Southern Regions	Itata Valley	
	Bío-Bío Valley	
	Malleco Valley	
Austral Region	Cautin Valley	
	Osorno Valley	
<p>*For more information on the DOs of Chile, please see the Wines of Chile website Source: Wines of Chile (December 2024), <i>Diario Oficial de la Republica de Chile</i></p>		

Page 255: Table 19–1 (South African Appellations) has been replaced with the following:

Table 19–1: Selected South African Appellations

Selected Wine Regions of South Africa*			
Geographical Unit (GU)	Region	District	Selected Wards
Western Cape	Cape South Coast	Cape Agulhas	Elim
		Elgin	
		Lower Duivenhoks River	
		Overberg	Klein River
		Plettenberg Bay	
		Swellendam	
		Walker Bay	Bot River, Hemel-en-Aarde Ridge, Hemel-en-Aarde Valley, Sunday's Glen, Stanford Foothills
	Coastal Region	Cape Town	Constantia, Durbanville Hout Bay, Philadelphia
		Darling	
		Franshoek (Valley)	
		Lutzville Valley	
		Paarl	Simonsberg-Paarl
		Stellenbosch	Banghoek, Bottelary, Devon Valley, Jonkershoek Valley, Papegaaiberg, Polkadraai Hills, Simonsberg-Stellenbosch, Vlottenburg
		Swartland	St. Helena Bay
		Tulbagh	
		Wellington	
		Breede River Valley	Breedekloof
	Robertson		
	Worcester		

	Klein Karoo	Calitzdorp	
		Langeberg-Garcia	
	Olifants River	Citrusdal Mountain	
		Citrusdal Valley	
Northern Cape	Karoo-Hoogland	Douglas	
		Sutherland-Karoo	
		Central Orange River	
Eastern Cape	(no region)	(no district)	St. Francis Bay
Kwazulu-Natal	(no region)	Central Drakensberg	
		Lions River	
Limpopo			
Free State	(no region)	(no district)	Rietrivier FS
North West			
<p>*For a complete list of the geographical indications of South Africa, please see the website of Wines of South Africa (WOSA) Source: Source: Wines of South Africa (WOSA), December 2024</p>			