



# *Ontario* **PINOT NOIR**

Pinot Noir thrives in Ontario's cool climate, where diverse terroirs and mesoclimates create ideal conditions for this delicate varietal. It reflects the unique characteristics of regions like the Niagara Peninsula, Prince Edward County, and Lake Erie North Shore.

Due to its thin skins and sensitivity to weather, Pinot Noir is notoriously difficult to cultivate. However, Ontario's cool climate mitigates these issues by promoting slow ripening, which enhances depth, complexity, and balance.

## **HARNESSING ONTARIO'S TERROIR**

Ontario winemakers employ a combination of tradition and innovation to unlock Pinot Noir's potential:

- **In the vineyard:** Low yields and careful canopy management ensure even ripening and concentrated flavors. Grapes are picked at the right moment to balance acidity and phenolic maturity.
- **In the cellar:** Techniques like whole cluster fermentation add complexity and texture.

### *Learn More*

Despite its challenges, the rewards of working with Pinot Noir are immense.

## **CHARACTERISTICS**

*Black-skinned variety*

*Typically used to make red wine, but also used in rose and sparkling wines*

*Early to mid-ripening grape*

## **CHALLENGES**

*Known as the "heart-break grape" due to difficulties in growth and vinification*

*Susceptible to spring frosts and rain*

*Susceptible to disease due to thin skin*