
Chapter 34

Oregon, Washington and New York State



Oregon

Northern Oregon

- **Willamette Valley AVA**
 - West of Cascade Mountains
 - Climate: **moderate** (cooling Pacific Ocean)
 - Growing season: dry, long sunny days, cool nights
 - **Pinot Noir** = ripe red fruit/cinnamon spice/high acid
 - **Pinot Gris** = fruit/dry

Southern Oregon

- **Southern Oregon AVA** (S. of Willamette)
 - Encompasses **Umpqua Valley AVA/Rogue Valley AVA**
 - Warmest growing conditions (some cooling hillside areas)
 - Merlot/Cab Sauv/PN/Chard/PG/Syrah

Washington State

Columbia Valley AVA

- **Yakima Valley AVA/Walla Walla AVA**
- E of Cascade = rain shadow, irrigation with river water used
- Long daylight hours, sunny summer, cool nights
 - Grapes ripen + acid retained
 - Risk: winter freeze can half crop size

Grapes: **Merlot (plummy/full-body), Cabernet Sauvignon (elegant/age-worthy), Syrah, Chardonnay (fruity/toasty - oak), Riesling (dry, ripe stone fruit)**

New York State

Dominated by American/hybrid vine species.

V. Vinifera = *Riesling/Chard/PN/Cab Sauv*

Finger Lakes AVA

- Deep glacial lakes store heat into Nov - raising air temp/extending growing season
 - **Perfumed Rieslings**
 - *PN/Chard/Cab Franc* - also grown
 - Some lakes have own AVAs
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Multiple Choice Practice Questions

1) In which American AVA would you find perfumed Rieslings?

- a) Yakima Valley AVA
- b) Columbia Valley AVA
- c) Rogue Valley AVA
- d) Finger Lakes AVA

2) What topographical feature creates a rain shadow over the Columbia Valley AVA?

- a) Umpqua Mountains
- b) Cascade Mountains
- c) Russian River
- d) Glacial Lakes

3) What is the climate of the Willamette Valley AVA?

- a) Moderate
- b) Warm
- c) Mediterranean
- d) Dry

4) In which American AVA do they notably grow grapes that are *not* *Vitis Vinifera*?

- a) Yakima Valley AVA
- b) Rogue Valley AVA
- c) Finger Lakes AVA
- d) Columbia Valley AVA

5) Which of the following regions is situated in the Southern Oregon AVA?

- a) Umpqua Valley AVA
- b) Columbia Valley AVA
- c) Willamette Valley AVA
- d) Finger Lakes AVA

Answers

- 1. d) Finger Lakes AVA**
- 2. b) Cascade Mountains**
- 3. a) Moderate**
- 4. c) Finger Lakes AVA**
- 5. a) Umpqua Valley AVA**