



Learning about the 9 white grape varieties from the Roussillon region

White grape Variety	Characteristics
Grenache Blanc <i>(a third of France's Grenache Blanc is grown in Roussillon)</i>	<i>Gives rich wines, with licorice and floral notes; fleshy, mellow, with a very long finish.</i>
Grenache Gris	<i>Gives powerful wines that are round, elegant and fleshy, with very mineral licorice notes.</i>
Macabeo	<i>Produces light, round, delicate wines with aromas of yellow and white fruits and white flowers.</i>
Malvoisie du Roussillon	<i>Brings power and – thanks to its acidity – carries aromatic notes of white and yellow fruits, of white flowers and of citrus.</i>
Muscat à petits grains	<i>Brings power and – thanks to its acidity – carries aromatic notes of white and yellow fruits, of white flowers and of citrus.</i>
Muscat d'Alexandrie <i>(originated in North Africa, the name is probably derived from its association with Ancient Egyptians who used the grape for wine making)</i>	<i>Its large grapes, firm and tasty, are particularly flavorful when harvested at maturity. Characterized by notes of flowers and white and yellow fruits.</i>
Roussanne	<i>Appreciated for its exceptional aromatic qualities (floral, hawthorn and apricot notes). It complements the traditional Grenache and Macabeu in the blending of white wines.</i>
Marsanne	<i>Traditionally associated with Roussanne; it gives dry wines that are full, quite aromatic and very elegant.</i>
Vermentino	<i>Grown because of its lightness and freshness. Its late ripening is ideal for creating dry white wines, fine and aromatic, recognizable by their scents of fresh apple, ripe pear, pineapple and mild spices.</i>

About Wines of Roussillon

Shaped like an amphitheater and nestled in the South of France between Spain, the Mediterranean Sea, the Pyrenees & the Corbières Mountains, Roussillon is known for its diversity of wines & *terroirs*. Thanks to the region's unique geology and microclimates, each of the 23 authorized grape varieties reaches its fullest expression in these soils. Bringing together a small community of 2,500 (young) winemakers, 24 cooperative cellars & 380 private ones, the sunniest region of France produced, in 2013, 19.5M gallons (almost 98 million bottles) which represents less than 1% of worldwide wine production. With its unique patchwork of soils, Roussillon offers a diverse range of wines-including 14 PDOs & 3PGIs - with distinctive qualities (dry still wines and *Vins Doux Naturels* [fortified sweet wines]). The United States is now the second largest export market (in volume) - after Belgium - with 14% of total shipments. Most of the region's exports are dry red & rosé wines (83%), followed by dry white wines (12%) & *Vins Doux Naturels* (5%). www.winesofroussillon.com/