



FAST FACTS

TOTAL AREA:	9,927 square miles
GRAPE VARIETIES:	Frappato, Nero d'Avola, Nerello Cappuccio, Nerello Mascalese, Carricante, Catarratto, Grillo, Inzolia, Malvasia
TOTAL WINE PRODUCTION:	4,725 hl
APPELLATIONS:	Sicilia DOC, Etna DOC, Salina IGT

PRODUCERS

TENUTA CAPOFARO, TENUTA TASCANTE, TENUTA WHITAKER, SALLIER DE LA TOUR, LIMONIO

OVERVIEW

Sicily is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea. This island, along with numerous smaller islets surrounding it, forms one of the 20 Italian regions. Both the region and its main island are known as Sicilia (pronounced see-CHEEL-ya) in Italian. Sicily has long been one of Italy's most important sources of wine. Thanks to its benevolent climate, Sicily has a relatively easy time growing grapes, and economics dictated that quantity would prevail over quality for most of history. However, in the past few decades, regulatory and market conditions have changed in such a way that quality wine production in Sicily has become cost-effective, and the island's wine output has dropped in volume while rising sharply in quality. The future looks even brighter.

Sicily has decided to focus its future reputation on two indigenous grapes: the red Nero d'Avola and the white Grillo. These varieties are seen as having the potential to produce high-quality wines throughout the region. Nerello Mascalese is another standout red variety, but it is confined mainly to the slopes of Mount Etna. Other indigenous grape varieties of note in Sicily include the red Frappato and the whites Ansonica, Carricante, Grecanico Dorato, and primarily for sweet wines Zibibbo.