

# SPARKLING

## Snapshot

**Region:** Ontario (three VQA wine appellations - Niagara Peninsula, Prince Edward County and Lake Erie North Shore; the Niagara Peninsula is also divided into 10 sub-appellations).

**Country:** Canada

**Geographical coordinates:** Between 41 degrees and 44 degrees north and between 77 and 82 degrees west - All three appellations are within three hours of Toronto, Ontario; the Niagara Peninsula (the largest appellation) is approximately 80 km south of Toronto.

**Length of growing season (days between last spring frost and first fall frost):** Number of Frost Free Days (FFD) varies between 194 and 208 depending on the appellation. Average Growing Degree Days (GDD) in a growing season is 1400.

**Major soil types:** limestone-based shale, clay loam

**Total vineyard area (all types of grapes):** 15,000 acres (approx. 6,070 hectares)

**Number of wine producers in region (all types of wine):** 132

**Number of wine producers who produce at least some Sparkling wine:** approximately 26 wineries produce Sparkling wine. Annual production averages about 55,000 cases (500,000 litres).

**Most common styles of Sparkling wine:** Traditional Method and Cuvée Close (Charmat). Over the last 2 years, average production has been:

- Traditional Method - 325,000 litres (65%)
- Cuvée Close - 175,000 litres (35%)

In addition, 33% of the Sparkling wine made by the Traditional Method, and 10% of the wine made by the Cuvée Close method, are Rosé Sparkling wines.

**Grapes used in production of Sparkling wines:** Chardonnay, Riesling, Vidal, Pinot Noir and smaller amounts of Gamay Noir. Vidal and Riesling are also used for Sparkling Icewines. Over the last 2 years, the grapes used in the 2 different styles of Sparkling wines are:

- Traditional Method – 47% Chardonnay, 37% Pinot Noir
- Cuvée Close – 44% Chardonnay, 30% Riesling, 11% Pinot Noir

**Average price and range of prices of Sparkling wines:** Sparkling wines range in price from CAD\$15.00 to CAD\$60.00 (750ml); Sparkling Icewines (usually Riesling) are priced up to CAD\$80.00 (375ml).

**Major markets (countries and/or states/provinces):** Primary market is Ontario.