

Macedonian Wine

The **Macedonian Republic** is a country in the south-eastern corner of Europe, the modern-day incarnation of an ancient Greek state of Macedonia and part of the former Yugoslavia. It is quite distinct from [Macedonia](#), the northernmost region of Greece, although the two are adjacent and share a border of more than 100 miles (160km). As a result of this proximity, the country has come to be referred to officially as FYROM (Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) to avoid confusion with the Greek region.



Vineyards in Macedonia
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The wine industry of the Macedonian Republic is dominated by red wines, and centers around two native varieties ([Vranac](#) and [Kratosija](#)), as well as some international varieties such as the ubiquitous Bordeaux wine grape varieties [Cabernet Sauvignon](#) and [Merlot](#). The main wine-growing regions here are Pcinja-Osogovo in the north, Pelagonija-Polog in the south and Povardarie. The Macedonian Republic as a whole has a stable 56,850 acres (23,000 ha) of wine-bearing vineyard and a slightly larger coverage of vines harvested for table grapes.

Although a landlocked country (it is separated from the Adriatic Sea by [Albania](#) and the Aegean Sea by [Greece](#)), the republic has both [continental](#) and [Mediterranean](#) influences on its climate. Its north-eastern corner is separated from the nearest coastline by 125 miles (200km), while Lake Doiran at its south-eastern edge lies just 35 miles (55 km) from the coastal Greek town of Thessalonika on the Thessalonian Gulf.

Along the Albanian border, in the republic's south-western corner, several large lakes moderate the climate. The shelter provided by the local topography combines with other geological factors to create some particularly productive agricultural land, notably around the lakeside towns of Struga and Resen. Grapes play an important part in the local economy and agriculture here.

Lake Prespa, which FYROM shares with Greece and Albania, is the highest tectonic lake in Europe. Over many millennia it has been lifted up by the region's complex geological activity to an [altitude](#) of almost 2800ft (855m). Tectonic lakes are formed when pre-existing topographical depressions are elevated by tectonic movements and over time become natural lake basins. The significance of this process to viticulture is that it does not require the presence of mountain ranges or glaciers, and the climatological conditions these phenomena imply. Thus Lake Prespa and its neighbor Lake Ohrid enjoy all of the benefits of a sunny, continental environment and the clear air found at these elevations, without the sometimes treacherous weather conditions encountered by other mountain lakes.

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Critics' choice:

Approximate (ex-tax) price: 51 R\$

51

Color: Red White

Based on scores from a wide range of critics