## New Zealand - The North Island

### Auckland

- **HA**: 398 ha (2015), 1.1%.
- **Location**: 36 degrees latitude. Large, geographically diverse area.
- **Varieté**: Chardonnay (tropical), Pinot Gris, Viognier, Syrah (spicy), Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon (blends), Pinotage (peppery), Chambourcin (complexed).
- **Viticulture**: Revived in the 1990s with canopy management to correct vine vigor. Ripening grapes generally not a problem. Disease pressure can be of concern, lessened by site selection and viticulture techniques.

### Waikato & Bay of Plenty

- **HA**: 24 ha (2015).
- **Location**: 37 degrees latitude. Scattered among rolling farmland, Bay of Plenty, Lake Taupo, Waikato River, Kaimai Range (coastal).
- **Soil**: Waikato - heavy loam over clay sub-soils. Bay of Plenty - volcanic loams.
- **Varieté**: Primarily Chardonnay. Cabernet Sauvignon 2nd Sauvignon Blanc 3rd

### Gisborne

- **HA**: 1,914ha (2015).
- **Location**: 38 degrees latitude. Coastal region, 3rd largest.
- **Soil**: Fertile alluvial loam soils over sandy or volcanic sub-soils. Heavier clays in plains (fleshier wines). Fine alluvial silt near river with clay and loams (aromatic wines). Site selection has moved away from very fertile flood loans towards the higher better-drained parts of the plains and foothills.

### Climate

- **Auckland**: Nearly sub-tropical. Humid, sunny, and warm. NZ's highest average annual temperature. Mean Feb temps 66.7F (19.3C). Warm, wet, temperate.
- **Waikato & Bay of Plenty**: Warm, wet, temperate. 34" rain during growing season. Maritime influence. Mean Feb temps 55.8F (18.8C). 23.8" rain during growing season. Warmer and wetter than Hawkes Bay, especially in the autumn. Lots of sunshine, 2,180 hours. Mean Feb temps 66.5F (19.2C). 20.6" rain during growing season. Late summer/autumn rainfall can test producers though recent advances in viticultural techniques and site selection makes this less of an issue. Surrounding ranges provide inland shelter and sea breezes cool coastal sites.
- **Gisborne**: Warmer and wetter than Hawkes Bay, especially in the autumn. Lots of sunshine, 2,180 hours. Mean Feb temps 66.5F (19.2C). 20.6" rain during growing season. Late summer/autumn rainfall can test producers though recent advances in viticultural techniques and site selection makes this less of an issue. Surrounding ranges provide inland shelter and sea breezes cool coastal sites.

### Viticulture

- **Auckland**: Chardonnay: 64ha. Varying styles of weight. Ripe wines with tropical flavors and fresh, balanced acidity. Kumeu is a top sub region. Pinot Gris: 30ha. Grown throughout but strong in Matakana. Weighty wines with spice, ripe stonefruit and pear.
- **Waikato & Bay of Plenty**: Syrah: 48ha. Sophisticated, intense wines flow from Waiheke where the excitement is building about its aromatic, elegant, pure-fruited expression. Red Blends: 121ha. Stylish red blends common throughout. Dense yet elegant, commanding acclaim and very high prices.
- **Gisborne**: Primarily Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon 2nd Sauvignon Blanc 3rd

### Northland

**Auckland**

- **Sub-regions:** Kaitaia, Kerikeri, Whangarei

**Sub-regions:**
- **Waiheke Island:** Island. Warm, dry, maritime climate promotes intensity, varietal depth and purity of fruit. Renowned for Bordeaux blends, Syrah is rising star (fresh, elegant, silky). A range of varieties from Montepulciano to Petit Verdot, Chardonnay to Viognier do well.
- **Matakana/Mahurangi:** An hour north of Auckland. Rolling hills. Balsmy and humid. Careful site selection. Vines are recent but produce stylish Pinot Gris, Syrah and Bordeaux blends. Warm, spicy wines with good body and texture.
- **West Auckland:** Fertile soils, warm, humid. Source for high quality. Chardonnay and Merlot are highlights.
- **Clevedon:** Rolling hills.
- **Kumeu/Huapai**
- **Henderson**

**Production**

- 14 wineries (2015).
- Small production.
- A few high quality producers - Kerikeri Estate, Oahu Estate, Marsden Estate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hawke’s Bay</th>
<th>Gimblett Gravels</th>
<th>Wairarapa</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,773ha (2015) - 2nd largest region.</td>
<td>800ha</td>
<td>1,006ha (2015)</td>
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<tr>
<td>39 degrees latitude. East coast. Coastal ranges up to 1600m to wide fertile plains.</td>
<td>Small sub-district of Hawke’s Bay. Along the old concourse of the Ngaruroro River which was exposed after a huge flood in the 1860s.</td>
<td>Southern tip of the North Island. East of Wellington over Rimutaka Range. In the rain shadow of the mountains. Long broad valley formed by Ruamahanga river, numerous tributaries running north and east. 41 degrees latitude. Major Natural Features: Aorangi and Tararua Ranges, Ruamahanga River</td>
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<tr>
<td>Many mesoclimates. Very sunny, with heat summations somewhere between Burgundy and Bordeaux, the maritime influence tempers hot summer days and permits a long growing season. The surrounding high country offers wind protection though frost can be a risk in some inland areas. Cooler, wet weather can pose problems in the growing season but free-draining soils help reduce its impact. 15.3” rainfall during growing season. Mean February temps 66.7F (19.3C). High sunshine hours - 2,188. Hillsides explored for differences in soil and altitude. They assist in frost protection for more inland sites. Major Natural Features: Heretaunga Plains, Hawke Bay, Ngaruroro River, Tukituki River</td>
<td>Poor, especially deep, well-draining gravels. Sand grains welded together 200 million years ago to form hard sandstone called greywacke. Tectonic plate movement 5 million years ago caused mountains to form. Rocks broke off falling into Ngaruroro River. Ultimately creating Omahu soils, fine loamy sand topsoil, overlying stony gravels mixed with varying proportions of sand, and horizontally bedded tenses of non-stony sand between the stony layers.</td>
<td>Thin, poor soils over free draining gravel. Those further away from the Ruamahanga River display a higher content of clay and silt. Adds depth. Terraced soils nearer the river are generally planted on gravel, and tend to be lighter in style and more elegant. Martinborough- shallow silt soils with gravel sub-soils.</td>
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*Varieties produced at Gimblett Gravels include Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Syrah, and Mourvedre.*

### Auckland

- **Sub-regions:**
  - **Te Kauwhata**
  - **Te Awamutu**
  - **Coromandel Peninsula**
  - **Lake Taupo**
  - **Hamilton**
  - **Rotorua**

**Production**

- 12 wineries (2015).
- 0 growers (2015).
- Top producers: Morton Estate, Vilagrad.

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<th>Auckland</th>
<th>Waikato &amp; Bay of Plenty</th>
<th>Gisborne</th>
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<tr>
<td>Small production. A few high quality producers - Kerikeri Estate, Oahu Estate, Marsden Estate.</td>
<td>111 wineries (2015).</td>
<td><strong>Ormond:</strong> North of the city, where the river valley narrows into the Raukumara Ranges, site of Gisborne’s original vines, and some of todays best vineyards and wines. Warmer, slightly drier with silt-loams. Home to the “Golden Slope”, a 10km elevated, gently-sloping free-draining, sandy escarpment with limestone-influenced topsoil, producing some of the best Chardonnay.</td>
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**Gisborne**

- **Sub-regions:**
  - **Golden Slope**
  - **Ormond**
  - **Ormond Valley**
  - **Central Valley**
  - **Riverpoint**
  - **Patutahi**
  - **Patutahi Plateau**
  - **Waiaonga**

**Production**

- 1,608ha down from 2,000+.
- Small scale wineries increasing quality image. Major producers: Milton, Brunton Road.

**New Zealand - The North Island con’t**
### Hawke's Bay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coastal Region:</th>
<th>Early-ripening reds, crisp Sauvignon Blanc and premium Chardonnay.</th>
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<td>Hillside plants</td>
<td>Predominately planted to red varieties.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinot Gris</td>
<td>439ha (2014). Aromatic, spicy, bold ripe wines with balanced acidity and good body, retaining excellent varietal character and freshness.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Syrah</td>
<td>332ha (2014). Exciting variety showing great distinction, gaining strength as sites and clones are refined. Wines are perfumed, elegant with ripe fruit, supple tannins and lingering spice.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chardonnay</td>
<td>1,006ha (2014). Flagship white variety with excellent fruit intensity and complexity. Wines are full-bodied, lengthy, almost opulent but with finely-tuned acidity balancing the richness.</td>
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### Gimblett Gravels

| Ideal for high quality reds. |
| Syrah with Merlot and Malbec. |
| Cabernet has difficulty ripening and is in decline. |
| 80% red. |

### Wairarapa

| Pinot Noir: | 500ha (2014). Richly flavored and warm with a savory undercurrent while retaining perfumed varietal character. |
| Gewurztraminer: | 3ha (2014). |

### VITI SUB-REGIONS

**River Valleys:** Mohaka, Esk River Valley, Tutaekuri River Valley, Ngaruroro River Valley.

**Coastal Areas:** Te Awanga, Northern Esk Valley.

Enjoy a more pronounced maritime influence, generally long growing season, cooling sea-breezes add elegance and freshness. The gravelly coastal vineyards of Bay View to the north and Te Awanga to the south are famed for early-ripening reds, crisp Sauvignon Blanc and premium Chardonnay. The cooling sea-breezes add elegance and freshness.

**Alluvial Plains:** Korokipo, Bridge Pa, Gimblett Gravels, Ohiu.

Established early and now widely-planted, the plains carry as much soil in soils and meso-climates as they do in varieties and styles. Shaped by rivers and criss-crossed with gravel beds, free-draining alluvial soils and stony terraces, they fan out between Havelock and Napier, covering the pioneering vineyards of Tradable and Meaner plus the barren inland Gimblett Gravels / Bridge Pa triangle area, home to some of the region’s best wines.

**Hillsides:** Havelock North. Long established around Havelock North, hillsides in the Maraekakaho and Bay View produce stellar wines and as vines march inland, the central Hawke’s Bay limestone hills are yielding promising aromatic Pinot Noirs.

**Central Hawke’s Bay:**

- 75 wineries (2015)
- 74 growers (2015)
- Major Producers: Bridge Pa, Craggy Range, Esk Valley Estate, Ngatarawa, Sacred Hill, Sileni, Te Mata, Trinity Hill.

### VITI SUB-REGIONS

**River Valleys:**

- Yields well below national average.
- Naturally low crops. Due to the impact of the cold southerlies (winds) from the Antarctic.
- Lower yields at flowering can often mean smaller bunches.
- The locally famous “Gumboot clone” (Abel Clone: ex-Burgundy and thought to be from DRC) is widely planted. Also clone 5, 10/5, and Dijon clones.

**Coastal Area:**

- Early-ripening reds, crisp Sauvignon Blanc and premium Chardonnay.

**Alluvial Plains:**

- Trademarked brand of the Gimblett Gravels Winegrowing District.
- To use on labels: Part of association. 95% of soil meeting designation. 95% of grapes sourced from region. Subject to audit.

**Hillsides:**

- staircase for the ripening of grapes.

**Central Hawke’s Bay:**

- Many small, high quality wineries.
- Grower-producers.
- Major producers: Ata Rangi, Dry River, Palliser Estate, Voss Estate.
New Zealand - The South Island

### Nelson
- 1,139ha (2015), Increased from 695ha in 2006.
- Styles.
- Aromatic, vividly pure fruit, herbaceous and textural.

### Marlborough
- Styles range from dry to sweet, taut to lush, delicate to complex.
- Pinot Noir: 2,492ha (2014). Refining clones and sites. Heavy deposits of mica and schist in silty gravels.

### Canterbury
- Styles vary across large terrains.
- Pinot Noir: 416ha (2014).
- Pinot Gris: 225ha (2014).

### Central Otago
- Styles.

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**H A M**

Northwestern region. Rolling hills off coast line. Varied topography. 41 degrees latitude.

**L O C A T I O N**

Northeastern region. Wairau Valley dominates the region. Surrounded on 3 sides by mountains. Rain protection. 41 degrees latitude.

**C L I M A T E**

Maritime influence.
- Plenty of sunshine, moderate temps, and strong diurnal variation are keys to fruit intensity and high acid levels.
- The eastern coastal aspect bestows cooling sea breezes.
- Protective mountains give relief from extreme rain and wind.
- Summers dry and sunny with cool night. Balanced acidity. Long Indian summers occasionally dice with drought but more often allow a wine range of styles to flourish.
- Mean February Temp 64.2F (17.9C).
- 15.7” growing season rainfall.

**SOILS**

Numerous soil patterns found throughout valley.
- Shallow, stony, well-drained soils preferred.
- Surface stones visible in some vineyards. They reflect sun and retain warmth.
- Ancient glacial deep free-draining stony gravels.
- The extensive braided river system left a threaded legacy of stony sandy loam over very deep gravels.
- Rapiura is stoniest. Lower Wairau has more loam and thus water retention.
- Clay is prevalent in the southern valleys, assisting PN. Awatere is more fragmented, with gravelly silt-loams with wine-blown loess.

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**Marlborough**

- Central, eastern coast. Spanning nearly 300km between north and south vineyards. Southern Alps to the west.
- 43 degrees latitude.

**Canterbury**

- 1,951ha in (2015) up from 1,253 in 2006.
- World’s most southerly vineyards. Country’s highest vineyards and most inland.
- Mostly hillside plantings.
- 45 degrees latitude.
- Major natural features: Southern Alps, Lake Wanaka, Waitaki River (North Otago), Wairau Valley dominates the region.

**Central Otago**

- 1,139ha (2015), Increased from 695ha in 2006.
- Styles.
- Aromatic, vividly pure fruit, herbaceous and exotically tropical, plus mineral depths.
- Pinot Noir: 86ha (2014).
- Chardonnay: 139ha (2014). Wines show clear, juicy fruit and creamy texture and good weight.
### Nelson
- Main PN clones are UCD 5, 667, 777, 10/5, and Abel.
- Cool climate viticulture. Over irrigation is common with contract growers so quality incentives have been popular. PN clones are varied with 10/5, Abel, Pommard, 667, 777, 114, and 115 most common.
- Low rainfall and moderately fertile soils help control vine vigor and canopy. Drought risk is mitigated by irrigation. PN clones are wide and varied and include Abel and Dijon, with the 10/5 and 210/20 representing some older stock.

### Marlborough
- PN: Mostly barriques are used, but some evidence of the use of punchdowns is now evident. SB often cold fermented with non-native yeasts. PN: Typical pre-ferment cool soak for 2-5 days and 7-21 days of post-ferment maceration. New oak normally 20-50% new, usually French, but trending to less new oak.

### Canterbury
- Sub-regions (unofficial, north to south):
  - Waipara Valley: Concentration of vineyards is part due to warmth. Teviotdale Hills are just high enough to shelter the region from the cool northeasterly winds. More growing degree days. Soils are gravels and clays. As sites and meso-climates are explored, distinctive PN and Chard emerge. The drying nor-wester can challenge, the surrounding hills offer protection and a slightly warmer climate than the rest of the Canterbury. Vivid, eloquent Rieslings.
  - Canterbury Plains: Large area. Predominantly flat. Lying near the riverbed. Riesling and PN are highlights, with the longer growing season giving graceful, expressive wines.

### Central Otago
- Sub-regions (west to east):
  - Gibbston: East of Queenstown along the Kawarau Gorge. The highest sub-region. Cooler climate and north-facing hillside vines ripen later than neighboring sub-regions. Lighter than still intense wines. Wanaka: 80km north of Queenstown. Cooler and slightly wetter than the Queenstown/Cromwell area. Lake Wanaka provides reflected radiation and mitigates frost. Delicate and vivid wines. Windier and more exposed clusters. Schist and wind-blown loess. Very fine fruit qualities, chalky fine tannins, higher acidity and a complex finish.

### Viticulture
- Viti dates back to the gold mining days in the 1800s. Mostly hillside plantings to improve sun exposure and minimize frost risk. Site selection is everything. Noticeable investment in viti. Practice of natural farming methods, many without certification. Irrigation may be used. PN close are numerous with UCD5, UCD6, Abel, 667, 777, 114, and 115. Some older 2/10 and 10/5 can be found.

### Viognier
- With a little warmer climates, fruits tends to be riper and bolder so the use of newer oak tends to rise (not too much though - 20-40%). Black cherry, freeze-dried raspberry, wild thyme and undergrowth are common descriptors.

### Sub-regions (unofficial):
- Waimea Plains: Means “River Garden”. Traditional area for crops, orchards, and hops. Stony alluvial soils and a moderating maritime influence. Wines tend to be lighter and fresher in style than Moutere with bright aromatics. PN is perfumed. Chardonnay rich and expressive, aromatics vibrant with flinty mineral.
- Upper Montere (Moutere Hills): West of Nelson, the hills are slightly warmer and wetter than Waimea. Gravel-threaded clay soils give richness and texture. PN showing structure and fine tannins. Chardonnay complexity and depth. SB expressive, aromatic, and fine structured wines.

### Upper Moutere (Moutere Hills)
- Most geographically distinct, lying south of the Waiau Valley and stretching inland from the sea, the valley climbs towards the inland Kaikoura ranges. Cooler, drier, windier and often with a degree of elevation. Sites with typically lower yields produce bright, aromatic PN, and dramatic, distinctive SB.

### Southern Valleys
- Waiting for release on the North Otago boundary. Shows promise. Loess and limestone/greywacke/schist soils, warm summers and long dry autumns give varietal intensity, complex fruit and a distinct mineral character to the predominantly PN and aromatic plantings. Ancient river beds with alluvium and loess deposits on the flat areas of the southern side of the river. Limestone-dominant soils a little further inland closer to and in the hills. Bunch weights nearly half compared to elsewhere in the South island. First biggest threat. In an area on the border of being too cold for vines.

### Southern Valleys
- New oak preferred. Older stock.
- Site selection is everything.
- Practice of natural farming methods, many without certification.
- Recommended PN producers: Pegasus Bay, Pyramid Valley, Mud Rock, Ellero, Felton Road, Hawkedun Rise, 8 Ranges, Burn Cottage, Carrick, Chard Farm, Maude Wines, Mondillo, Surveyor Thompson, Wooling Tree, Two Paddocks.

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