



Geographe

The Geographe Wine Region is located on the south-west coast of Western Australia, around 150 kilometres (93 miles) from the state's capital, Perth. The region enjoys a warm Mediterranean climate cooled by mild ocean breezes off Geographe Bay.

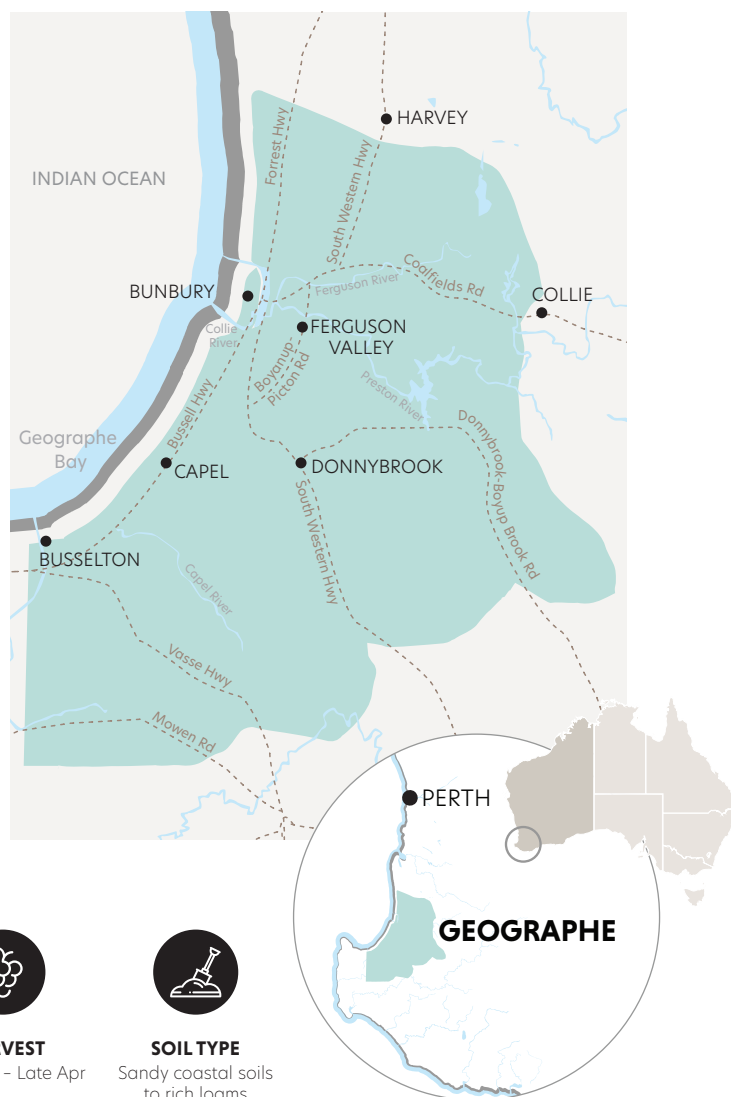
Geographe has diverse and captivating landscapes, including stunning beaches, rolling hills, lush river valleys, majestic Jarrah and Marri forests, thriving farms and boutique vineyards. Here you will find delicious local produce - beef, lamb, marron, seafood, olives, honey, vegetables, orchard fruits and of course grapes.

It is one of Western Australia's newer viticultural areas established just over 20 years ago. The region is home to more than 20 boutique, mostly family-owned wineries, spanning its four distinct wine-producing districts - Harvey, Donnybrook, Capel/Busselton and the Ferguson Valley. Geographe's adventurous producers grow over 36 different grape varieties, earning the region a reputation as one of Australia's most exciting young wine regions.

790 ha
(1,952 ac)
AREA UNDER VINE

2,963 t
(3,266 T)
5 YR AVG CRUSH

5%
PROPORTION OF
TOTAL WA CRUSH



LOCATION
33° 46'S
Alt 0-406m (0-1332ft)



RAINFALL
Avg 354mm (13.9in)
(Oct - Apr)



TEMPERATURE
Avg 22.4°C (72°F)
(Oct - Apr)



HARVEST
Early Mar - Late Apr



SOIL TYPE
Sandy coastal soils
to rich loams

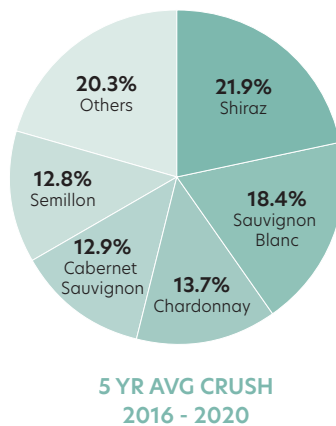
Terroir

The Geographe Wine Region is flanked by the Darling and Whicher Ranges to the east, and the Geographe Bay to the west, with vineyards stretching from the coast to the hills inland. The region's warm temperatures are moderated by the prevailing south-west sea breezes coming off the Indian Ocean. Summers are dry but rainfall is generous during winter and relative humidity is quite high.

The terroir and topography of this region is as diverse as the grapes grown here; sandy coastal sites influenced by sea breezes, loamy plains on ancient river flats, and steep hills and fertile valleys along the Darling Range. Combined with the fantastic Mediterranean climate, the vast range of soil types gives Geographe growers the opportunity to experiment with many different grape varieties.

Key varieties

While the area produces some truly impressive wines made from classic grape varieties such as Shiraz, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon, it is also home to a plethora of emerging Australian varieties like Tempranillo, Mataro, Nebbiolo, Arneis and Viognier, resulting in some of the most exciting new wine styles in Western Australia.



Cabernet Sauvignon

Whether blended with Merlot or not, Geographe Cabernet Sauvignon tends to be fine and elegant, with lingering, soft fine-grained tannins. The spread of plantings inland from the coast has resulted in more diverse styles.

Sauvignon Blanc

Sauvignon Blanc is propagated widely throughout the region, producing wines that reflect the varying mesoclimates. The cooler sites produce wines with intense citrus and grass characters, while the warmer sites result in wines displaying more melon and guava fruits. Here, like southern neighbour Margaret River, a percentage of Semillon is often blended together with Sauvignon Blanc producing crisp wines with grassy herbal overtones, sometimes with a light touch of oak.

'Alternative' Varieties

The Geographe & WA Alternative Varieties Wine Show is testament to the region's commitment to new and different varieties. In its 20th year, it now has classes for Vermentino, Fiano, Tempranillo, Malbec, Zinfandel and Red Italian Varietals.

