



# TERROIR OVERVIEW

## ENVIRONMENT • CONTEXT

### In the Vineyard

*Together, the environment and human influence  
create the unique flavor of each wine.*

Terroir (te-rwa:r) is a French word which describes the interactive ecosystem of soil, topography, and climate. Terroir imparts a flavor profile to wine, each one unique according to the particular place where the grapes were grown. Human influence sometimes controls and often mitigates the effects of the environment to showcase the sense of place, or the terroir, for each bottle of wine.

**Soil** – The diverse combination of organic and inorganic matter that sustains the vines.

**Topography** – Geographic features, such as hills and valleys, where vines are planted.

**Climate** – The general aspects of sun, rain, and fog that influence the vines.

**Human Influence** – The decisions made by the winegrower for the vines and the wine.

### As a Metaphor

*Our inner and outer realities, together with any choices we have,  
produce the fruit of our life.*

The interactive elements of the health of our soul, the visible and attainable attributes of our life, and the social and historical context in which we live contribute to our unique place in the world. The choices we make in the context of our individual environment largely determine the conditions in which we live out our purpose.

**Soil** – The nourishment and sustenance of our inner self or our soul.

**Topography** – The landscape of life, including influencers, personal characteristics, education.

**Climate** – The social, political, economic, and historical context of our life.

**Human Influence** – The choices we make in our unique context.

### Reflection

*Every bottle of wine is a signature of a time and a place.*

*~Anonymous*

*Be yourself; everyone else is already taken.*

*~Oscar Wilde*

*I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  
your works are wonderful, I know that full well. ~Psalm 139:14 (NIV)*