

Sommelier Questions

1. In Australia we use the GI system or Geographical Indication to define or regions.
What is the equivalent in South Africa
 - *The Wine of Origin (WO) system, introduced in 1973*
2. What five large geographical regions can South Africa be broken in to?
 - *Western Cape*
 - *Northern Cape*
 - *Eastern Cape*
 - *Kwazulu-Natal*
 - *Limpopo*
3. Which is the most important for quality wine production?
 - *Western Cape*
4. What are the four types of production areas in descending order of size?
 - *Geographical Unit*
 - *Region*
 - *District*
 - *Ward*

Example – Western Cape, Coastal Region, Stellenbosch, Devon Valley

5. What are the 6 Regions of the Western Cape?
 - *Coastal Region*
 - *Cape South Coast*
 - *Breede River Valley*
 - *Klein Karoo*
 - *Olifants River*
 - *Boberg*
6. What is Chenin Blanc called in South Africa
 - *Steen*
7. Pinotage is a cross of what two grapes
 - *Cinsault x Pinot Noir*
 - *Developed by Professor Abraham Perold in 1925*

8. What are the two categories under the German government what you can classify your wines? What is the other way some select producers classify their wine and what are the categories in this?
- *Qualitätswein bestimmter Anbaugebiete (QbA –“quality wine produced in a specific region”)* and *Prädikatswein*. The broader QbA category includes virtually all exported wines. The more premium *Prädikatswein* tier, reserved for those wines labeled by a traditional *prädikat* – a designation of must weight, or ripeness – is at the top of Germany's legal hierarchy of wine quality.
 - *VDP -The VDP, disillusioned with the German emphasis on ripeness as the prime determinant for quality, has developed its own classification system for member wineries. Using Burgundy as a model, the VDP in 2012 classified top vineyard sites throughout the country as Grosse Lage (“Grand Cru”) and Erste Lage (“Premier Cru”). Wines from Grosse Lage sites are among Germany's most profound and expensive selections. Sweet wines from these sites carry traditional prädikat designations, but dry wines do not. Dry wines from Grosse Lage sites are known as Grosses Gewächs, or “great growths.” However, the term does not appear on labels: “GG” typically appears in its place.*
9. What does “Spätlese” indicate?
- *“Late harvest” grapes are picked at least one week after Kabinett grapes, and typically deliver fruity, medium-sweet wines.*
10. Name the 13 Anbaugebiet of Germany
- *Mosel (formerly Mosel-Saar-Ruwer)*
 - *Ahr*
 - *Mittelrhein*
 - *Rheingau*
 - *Rheinhessen*
 - *Nahe*
 - *Pfalz*
 - *Hessische-Bergstrasse*
 - *Baden*
 - *Württemberg*
 - *Franken*
 - *Sachsen*
 - *Saale-Unstrut*
11. What is the VDP?
- *The Verband Deutscher Prädikatsweingüter, or VDP, is a national German association of over 200 producers committed to traditional quality winemaking. The VDP counts many internationally relevant wineries, from the Mosel's J.J. Prüm to the Rheinhessen's Klaus Peter Keller, among its members. All member estates emblazon their capsules with the VDP logo, an eagle clutching a cluster of grapes.*
12. What is the minimum ripeness of the grapes picked for a GG wine?
- *Spätlese*
13. What does the term Erzeugerabfüllung mean on a label?
- *This term signals that the wine was estate-bottled.*