

ONTARIO WINE
APPELLATION AUTHORITY



Ontario's wine
APPELLATIONS



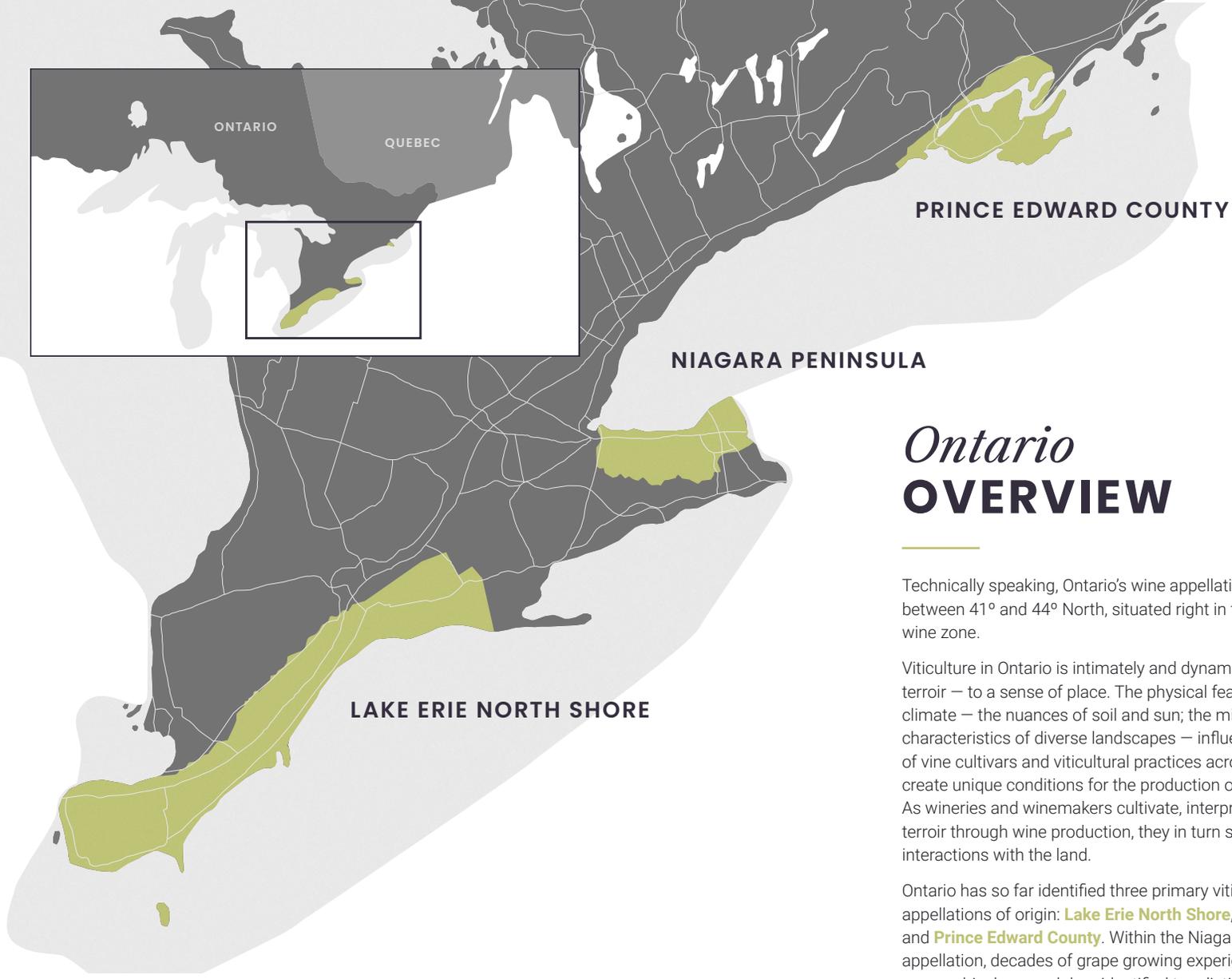
NOTE

Production statistics are based on the year April 1 2021 to March 31 2022. Statistics are updated annually on our website at www.vqaontario.ca.

Annual Production by geographical area includes VQA-certified wines that carry an appellation included in that geographical area. For example, Niagara Escarpment includes all wines that carry the following appellations: Niagara Escarpment, Beamsville Bench, Twenty Mile Bench, Short Hills Bench.

Common Varietals listed are the top varieties across all production (single varietals and blends) for each appellation.

For more information please email us at info@vqaontario.ca



NOTABLE FEATURES

Stretching along the centre of the world's cool-climate wine belt, Ontario appellations share similar growing season characteristics with some of the most recognized and respected wine-growing regions of the world.

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY

NIAGARA PENINSULA

LAKE ERIE NORTH SHORE

Ontario
OVERVIEW

Technically speaking, Ontario's wine appellations are located between 41° and 44° North, situated right in the world's fine wine zone.

Viticulture in Ontario is intimately and dynamically related to terroir — to a sense of place. The physical features of land and climate — the nuances of soil and sun; the minerality and taste characteristics of diverse landscapes — influence the choice of vine cultivars and viticultural practices across Ontario and create unique conditions for the production of grapes and wine. As wineries and winemakers cultivate, interpret and elaborate terroir through wine production, they in turn shape our tastes and interactions with the land.

Ontario has so far identified three primary viticultural areas or appellations of origin: **Lake Erie North Shore**, **Niagara Peninsula**, and **Prince Edward County**. Within the Niagara Peninsula appellation, decades of grape growing experience and extensive geographical research has identified ten distinct growing areas. These sub- appellations include areas on the plains close to Lake Ontario and the benchlands of the Niagara Escarpment.

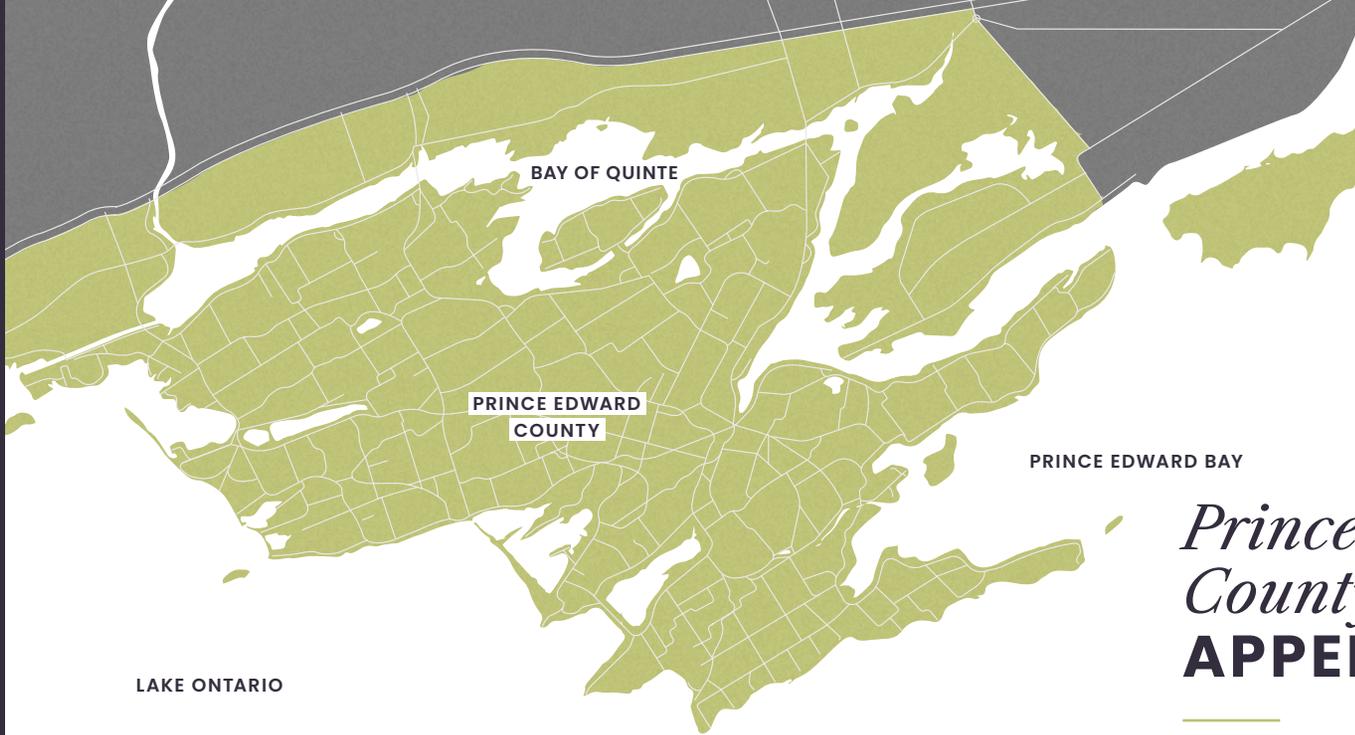
ANNUAL PRODUCTION (2021-2022):

2,940,109 (9L cases)

NUMBER OF WINERIES: 191

NUMBER OF VQA WINES: 2,134





Prince Edward County APPELLATION

**LIMESTONE BEDROCK, STONY SOILS,
LOW YIELDS, EXCELLENT FRUIT
CONCENTRATION**

Prince Edward County is located at the eastern end of Lake Ontario, just south of Belleville, and encompasses the County, Amherst Island and a narrow strip of land to the north. At a latitude of 44°N, this is Ontario's most northern appellation. Vineyards here rely on the lake to provide a moderated and productive cool climate growing season. Much of the area under vine is completely surrounded by water – the Bay of Quinte, and Lake Ontario. The area has more than 500 miles of shoreline, including the well-known Sandbanks beach.

Prince Edward County was officially identified as an appellation of origin in 2007.

NOTABLE FEATURES

The broken limestone bedrock and stony soils of this appellation allows for excellent drainage in the spring and acts like a wet sponge throughout the growing season, forcing vines to grow deeper during the hot summer months and produce small yields with concentrated flavours.

ANNUAL PRODUCTION (2021-2022):

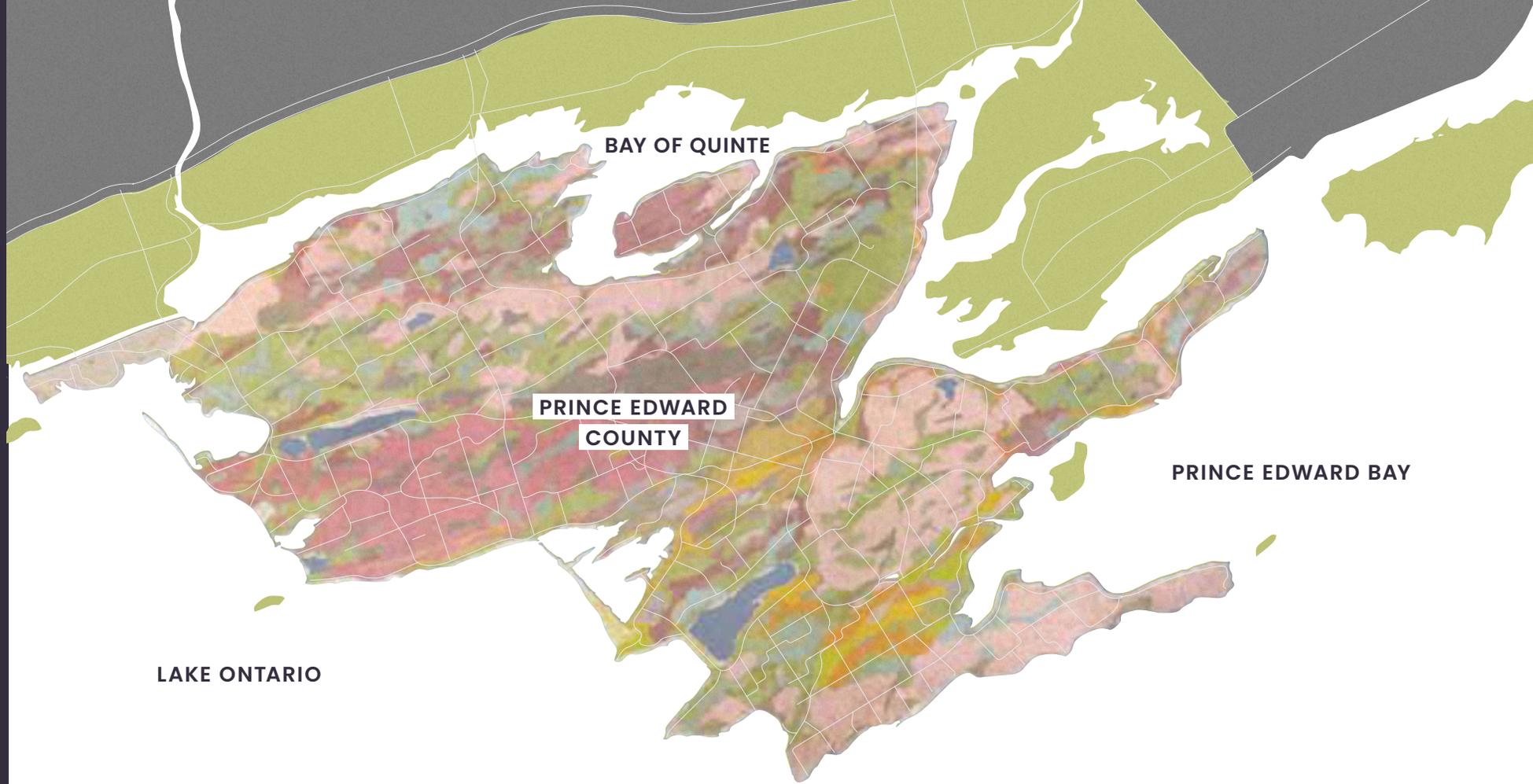
23,097 (9L Cases)

NUMBER OF WINERIES: 29

NUMBER OF APPELLATION WINES: 122

GROWING DEGREE DAYS: 1,366

COMMON VARIETALS: Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Cabernet Franc, Pinot Gris



LAKE ONTARIO

BAY OF QUINTE

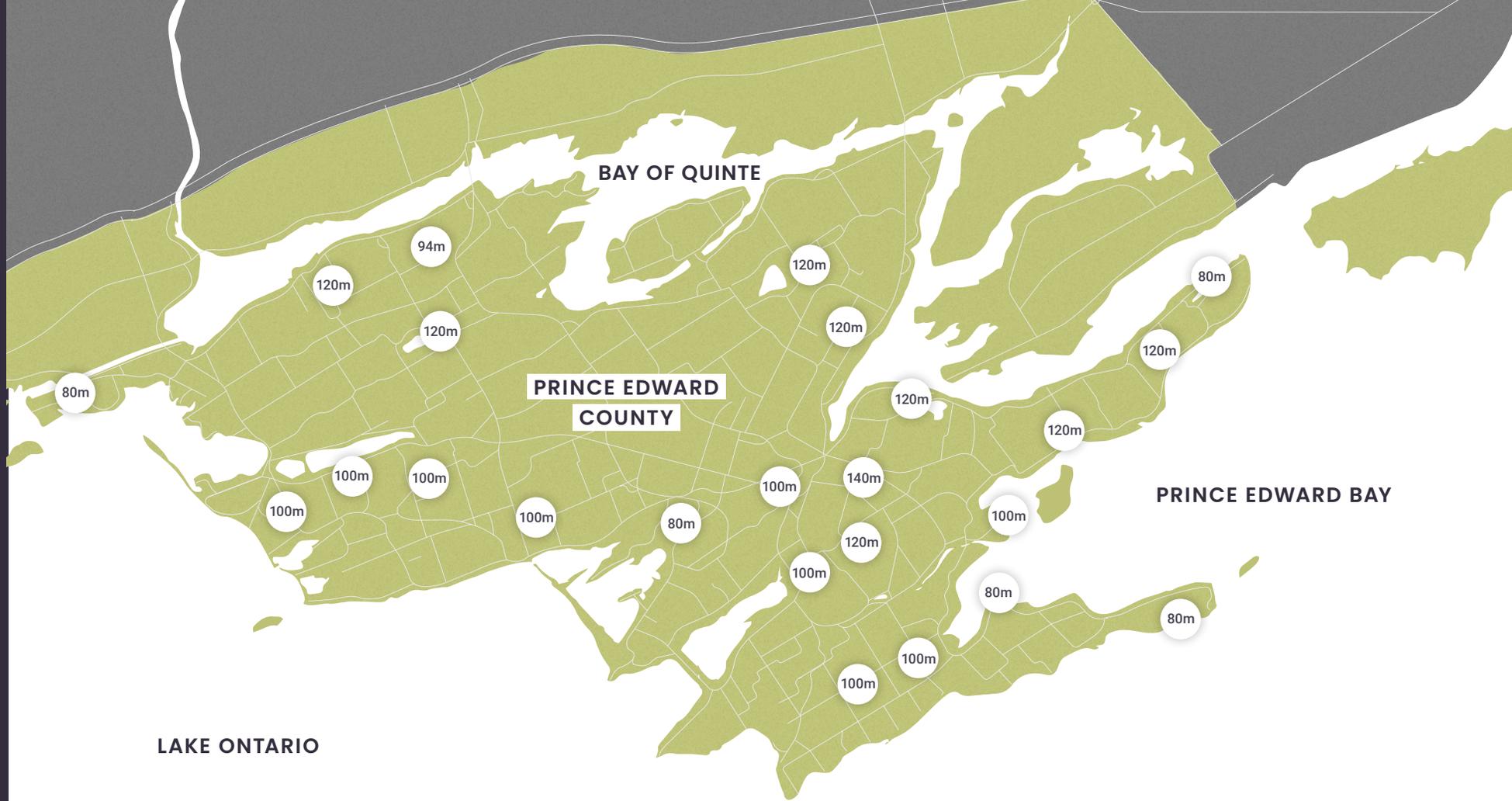
PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY

PRINCE EDWARD BAY

Prince Edward County SOIL MAP

COMMON PROPERTIES OF SOIL MAP GROUPS

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
|  Lacustrine silty clay |  Reddish-hued lacustrine Heavy clay |  Lacustrine silt loam |
|  Lacustrine heavy clay |  Clay loam till |  Lacustrine silty clay over clay loam till |
|  Sandy or loamy sediments over lacustrine clays or loams |  Eolian sands, sometimes duned |  Variable alluvial deposit on floodplains |
|  Lacustrine very fine sandy loam, loamy sand & sand |  Reddish-hued coarse sandy loam & gravelly sand |  Shallow soils over dolostone bedrock |
|  Organic soils |  Misc. Natural land units | |
|  Reddish-hued silty clay over queenston shale bedrock |  Misc. Man-modified land units | |



Prince Edward County
TOPOGRAPHY MAP

ONTARIO WINE

APPELLATION AUTHORITY



VQA is the starting point for every authentic wine of origin and quality in Ontario. The Ontario Wine Appellation Authority is the regulatory agency responsible for the integrity of local wine appellations, enforcing wine composition and labelling standards, and ensuring consumers have the information they need to make an informed choice when buying VQA certified wines.

Ontario Wine Appellation Authority

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VQAONTARIO.CA