

Rattlesnake Hills AVA

- Established in 2006. Washington's 9th AVA
- 68,500 Acres / 1500 vineyard acres
- The first commercial vineyards were planted in 1968
- Today there are around 17 wineries in the region.
- Located within the boundaries of the Yakima Valley AVA. The region is centered around the city of Zillah
- Made up of a series of hills running east to west along the northern point of the Yakima River and south of Moxee Valley. Elevation begins at 850 ft and reaches 3085 ft. The region has the highest elevation in Yakima Valley.
- The ridgeline contains north and south-facing slopes that create a diverse landscape of canyons, ridges and terraces running south to the Yakima River.
- Somewhat of a controversial area. There is a group of growers that feel that the region is unique enough to be considered a separate AVA from Yakima Valley and some growers disagree with this and feel that it is merely a marketing ploy.
- **Soil:** Fine textured soils, silt loam, with neutral alkali and pH levels.
- **Climate:** Moderate to warm. Warmer than Red Mountain and Walla Walla AVA thus the vineyards are less likely to suffer frost damage. Cool evenings and warm summer temperatures. 7 inches of annual rainfall.
- **Grape Varieties:** Major varieties include Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Syrah, Riesling, Chardonnay, and Malbec. Other varieties include Petite Verdot, Touriga Nacional, Chenin Blanc, Semillon, Petite Sirah, Muscat Canelli, Viognier and Gewurztraminer.
- **Vineyards:** 29 vineyard sites



Map Reference: <http://www.rattlesnakehills.com/map.htm>