



SUSTAINABLE



FARMING

THE ESSENTIAL

French certification, exclusively dedicated to the wine sector,
recognized by the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food.



Terra Vitis: what is it?

Terra Vitis is a **French certification**, exclusively dedicated to the wine sector, **recognized by the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food**.

Founded in 1998 in the **Beaujolais region** by a group of committed winemakers sharing the same love for a generous, dynamic land, cultivated with respect, Terra Vitis is based on the **three pillars of Sustainable Development**:



**ENVIRONMENTAL
COMMITMENT**



**SOCIAL
RESPONSIBILITY**



**ECONOMIC
SUSTAINABILITY**

Within these three broad fields of application, Terra Vitis certifies that the winegrowing estates **comply with demanding, measurable specifications**, guiding the estates via an approach based on **responsibility and progress**.

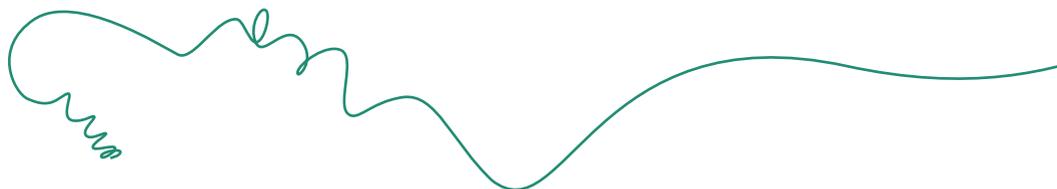
For each wine estate, the **80 requirements** that make up the specifications are checked and certified on a yearly basis. Support is provided to the member - whether winemaker or grower - by the local Terra Vitis association and then audited by an independent, approved organization, guaranteeing professionalism and transparency.

Consequently, the Terra Vitis certification provides consumers with a **guarantee for certified, sustainable viticulture**. In effect in winegrowing areas throughout France with **over 1800 committed members**, it is the leading certification in the wine industry alongside the AB label (Agriculture Biologique) for organic agriculture.

Why get involved in Terra Vitis?

Above mentioned, Terra Vitis members decided to get recognition for the quality of their practices. They drew up **specifications accompanied** by a wide range of commitments to ensure compliance with the following **10 principles of action**:

- 1 Promote sustainable viticulture** and maintain or develop the three-part performance: environmental, economic and social!
- 2 Give priority, above all, to natural mechanisms** that regulate the vineyard and learn to protect its natural balance.
- 3 Encourage a healthy environment** to protect the health of producers and their employees as well as their neighbors and citizens in general.
- 4 Choose, as a last resort, phytosanitary products that have the lowest impact** on the environment and their health as well as the health of those around them and the health of consumers.
- 5 Ensure the production of healthy grape** and make outstanding wine while reducing phytosanitary residue levels to a minimum.



-  **6 Increase and enhance biological diversity** in winegrowing plots and their surroundings.
-  **7 Improve or preserve the water, air and soil quality.**
-  **8 Improve worker safety.**
-  **9 Ensure excellent hygiene in wineries.**
-  **10 Limit waste production,** sort waste and ensure waste is managed in the appropriate channels.

Being a Terra Vitis member means belonging to a network of winegrowers who share the same values:

-  **Respect for the vines, grapes, Earth and human beings**
-  **Reasoned management of interventions**
-  **Transparency and traceability**
-  **Sustainability of winegrowing**

Finally, getting involved and committing to Terra Vitis means benefitting **from support of experienced professionals** and **sharing experiences** with a network counting several hundred winegrowers throughout France!

It also means being able to use a **certification label officially recognized** by the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food and by the wine industry.



How to get involved in the Terra Vitis approach?

Obtaining Terra Vitis certification: how does it work?

1 Winegrowers who want to get involved in the certification process **join the regional Terra Vitis association.**

2 They take **a training course to learn how to manage their vineyards and meet** the various requirements defined in the specifications, to get a better understanding of the Terra Vitis approach.

AND/OR

A coordinator will visit the vineyard to conduct **a complete diagnosis of the operation with the winegrower and draw up a plan for adjustments.**

3 Winegrowers are **provided support and referred** to the relevant people for carrying out the necessary actions to get ready for a **compliance audit.**

4 The coordinator or accredited auditor visits the vineyard and conducts an **audit intended to check compliance with the requirements in the specifications.** Any non-compliances are reported at the end of the visit.

Winegrowers then have a few weeks to comply with the requirements, otherwise they will not be certified.

5 Winegrowers are **audited* by an approved and independent certifying organization,** that conducts a precise audit on site at the vineyard.

*depending on the audit plan in effect

6 **The auditor then provides Terra Vitis with a report,** which points out any possible failures to comply with the specifications or confirms compliance with them.

7 **Terra Vitis, via its technical commission, rules on the applications** submitted by each winegrower audited and decides whether to validate or refuse the vineyard's certification for the wines of that vintage.

8 Winegrowers receive their **proof of certification** for the ongoing vintage.

From then on, they can put the Terra Vitis logo on their certified bottles and take part in the Terra Vitis approach.



*"Sometimes, I say that Terra Vitis is about putting **common sense back at the center of our agricultural practices!** The basic statement that sums Terra Vitis up well is "I do what I write, and I write what I do"; that implies total transparency in our practices, and I think that's a real plus for the consumer."*

Marie Courselle - Winegrower
Château Thieuley, Entre-deux-mers

contact@terravitis.com



www.terravitis.com

Founded in 1998, Terra Vitis is a French certification, exclusively dedicated to the wine sector, recognized by the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Fédération Nationale Terra Vitis - 210 Boulevard Vermorel - 69400 Villefranche-sur-Saône
Association loi 1901, RNA : W692000893 - SIRET : 448 196 402 00011