

# Regulating wine

We are responsible for ensuring European Union wine regulations are enforced in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

## How we regulate your vineyard

Our objectives:

- encourage growers and traders to comply with laws on wine by offering advice and education
- carry out a programme of inspections, using risk analysis to deliver a targeted and cost-effective service
- identify breaches of the law and gather evidence for legal action in serious cases
- work with other regulatory bodies

We intend to safeguard the quality, authenticity and correct labelling of wine products. Our enforcement covers trade and premises within the production and distribution chain, including:

- bottling plants
- bonded warehouse
- importers
- wholesalers
- vineyards

We maintain the UK Vineyards Register which records:

- area covered by vineyards
- annual harvest
- production returns from growers and producers

Wine from Protected Designation of Origin and Protected Geographical Indication Wines from Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) or Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) must submit applications to the European Commission. More information can be found on [eBacchus](#).

[View Due diligence guidance for wine traders as PDF](#) (316.13 KB)

## Wine retailers, liquor licensing and fruit wine

Wine regulations at retail premises are enforced by the local authorities, for guidance visit the [Trading Standards Department](#). For enquiries about wine with any fruits, other than grape, visit the Trading Standards Department.

Local authorities administer the Liquor Licensing requirements which fall under Personal and

Premises Licences. For more information about trade and wine, visit the Wine and Spirit Trade Association.

Find more information about [importing wine](#) and [making wine](#) in the UK.