Atlas Peak received American Viticultural Area (AVA) status in 1992 and is one of the five major mountain sub-appellations within Napa Valley. It is a remote, mountainous area, named after the highest point in the region. This peak sits at 2,663 feet above sea level and is part of the Vaca Mountains, the range that forms Napa Valley’s eastern rim, and is located just east of the Stags Leap District AVA.

**SIZE:** 11,400 acres, 2,000 of which are planted to vineyards. Antica Napa Valley owns 1,800 acres, 600 of which are planted to vineyards.

**ELEVATION:** From 760 to 2,663 feet above sea level. Antica’s vineyards range from 1,450 to 1,800 feet above sea level. This wide range allows plantings tailored to the ripening cycles of each variety: Chardonnay thrives at the lower altitudes of the Foss Valley and Cabernet Sauvignon at the higher ones.

**SOIL:** Well-drained and derived from volcanic material; dominated by residual upland soils, though the Foss Valley is filled with alluvium (mostly gravelly loam). The thin, stony topsoil forces vines to dig deep for nutrients, making grape growing challenging, but the steep slopes provide excellent sun exposure and drainage, resulting in optimal ripening.

**CLIMATE:** Cool and mountain influenced, with an average annual rainfall of 38 inches. The high elevation of Atlas Peak contributes to steady weather patterns that yield more consistent ripening and fewer vintage variations. Cooler nighttime temperatures bring out Chardonnay’s aromas while maintaining acidity. On the higher slopes, Cabernet enjoys full daylight, a sunny haven from the fog and warmer nighttime temperatures.

**WINERIES AND GROWERS:** There are a dozen wineries in Atlas Peak, as well as many growers who farm and sell grapes to top Napa Valley wineries.

**MAJOR GRAPE VARIETIES:** Atlas Peak is predominantly known for its Cabernet Sauvignon, but also grows Chardonnay, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Petit Verdot and Zinfandel, among others.
Though just 30 miles long and a few miles wide, Napa Valley is home to diverse microclimates and soils uniquely suited to the cultivation of a variety of fine wine grapes.

**SMALL PLACE, BIG REPUTATION.** The first Agricultural Preserve in America, the region's incomparable natural beauty and winegrowing heritage are being preserved for future generations through environmental leadership and community stewardship. With 4% of California’s wine grape harvest, Napa Valley is small in size yet big in stature. It was the first American Viticultural Area or AVA to be designated in California in 1981.

**CLIMATE & GEOGRAPHY.** Only 2% of the world enjoys a dry Mediterranean climate. In Napa Valley this climate provides vintage-to-vintage consistency and exceptional quality that few other winegrowing regions can boast. Because of its unique geologic history, Napa Valley has a remarkable diversity of microclimates, weather and geography, as well as some of the most diverse soils found on earth, and an array of wine grapes thrives here.

**VARIETALS.** Wines produced include Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Zinfandel and Cabernet Franc.

**THE PEOPLE & THE PLACE.** In spite of its international renown, Napa Valley is one of the smallest winegrowing regions in the world, with only one-sixth the planted acreage of Bordeaux. Nearly all wineries (95%) are family-owned businesses. The region’s viticultural practices result in low yields of grapes, from which winemakers craft Napa Valley’s renowned wines. In 1968, Napa Valley became home of the first Agricultural Preserve in the U.S. and today has the most comprehensive and stringent land use and environmental regulations of any winegrowing region. To ensure quality of life for all of the community, the Napa Valley Vintners has invested $200 million to local health, youth and housing non-profits through its annual fundraiser, Auction Napa Valley.