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Red Wine Grapes - Rubavu

1. Pinot Noir.

Excellent match for cool nights + volcanic soils.

Produces high-value wines.

Already successful in other volcanic highlands (Etna, Chile, Oregon).

Top recommendation for premium red wine.

2. Syrah (Cool-Climate Syrah / Shiraz)

Thrives on volcanic soils.

Performs well in mild climates at elevation.

Produces elegant, peppery wines.

Strong commercial and viticultural choice.

3. Tempranillo (High-altitude clone)

Adapted to cool nights (grown in Rioja Alavesa at 700–900 m).

Handles volcanic and Andosol mixtures.

Reliable productivity.

Good for stable yields and structured wines.

4. Gamay

Highly suited to granite & volcanic soils.

Naturally high acidity → good in warm days/cool nights.

Resistant and productive.

Ideal for Rubavu's moderate heat and fertile soils.

5. Cabernet Franc

Better than Cabernet Sauvignon in cool or variable climates.

Performs well on volcanic soils.

Good disease tolerance.

A smart, climate-resilient red choice.

White Wine Grapes - Rubavu

6. Sauvignon Blanc

Excellent match with high altitude + volcanic soils.
Keeps acidity even in warm days.
Already successful in Kenya & Ethiopia highlands.
Top white recommendation.

7. Chardonnay

Performs extremely well on both volcanic soils and cool climates.
Allows premium wine styles.
Highly adaptable.
Reliable cornerstone variety.

8. Riesling

Thrives in cool climates.
Loves volcanic soils (Alsace, Germany's slate & volcanic regions).
Built for high acidity environments.
Premium high-altitude white.

9. Chenin Blanc

Superb drought tolerance.
Thrives on volcanic and mixed soils.
Extremely versatile for winemaking.
Very well suited to Andosols with good water retention.

10. Viognier

Excellent aromatic expression on volcanic soils.
Handles mild humidity with proper canopy management.
High-value niche wine.
A strong option for unique premium products.

All International Red Wine Grapes

Aglianico – Italy
Alicante Bouschet – France
Aramon – France
Baco Noir – France
Barbera – Italy
Bastardo / Trousseau Noir – Portugal / France
Blaufränkisch / Kékfrankos – Austria / Hungary
Bobal – Spain
Boğazkere – Türkiye
Bonarda (Douce Noir) – France / Argentina
Brachetto – Italy
Cabernet Franc – France
Cabernet Sauvignon – France
Canaiolo – Italy
Carignan / Mazuelo – Spain
Carménère – France / Chile
Castelão – Portugal
Cinsault – France
Dolcetto – Italy
Dornfelder – Germany
Durif (Petite Sirah) – France / USA
Frühburgunder (Pinot Noir Précoce) – Germany
Gaglioppo – Italy
Gamay – France
Garnacha / Grenache Noir – Spain / France
Graciano – Spain
Lambrusco (red types) – Italy
Lemberger (Blaufränkisch) – Austria / Germany
Listán Negro – Spain (Canary Islands)
Malbec – France / Argentina
Mammolo – Italy
Mataro / Mourvèdre / Monastrell – Spain
Merlot – France

Mondeuse – France
Montepulciano – Italy
Moschofilero Noir (rare) – Greece
Nerello Mascalese – Italy (Sicily/Etna)
Nero d’Avola – Italy
Negroamaro – Italy
Nebbiolo – Italy
Norton – USA
Okuzgozu – Türkiye
Plavac Mali – Croatia
Pinot Meunier – France
Pinot Noir – France
Primitivo (Zinfandel family) – Italy
Rondo – Germany / Poland
Rubesco (Sangiovese clone) – Italy
Rubired – USA
Ruby Cabernet – USA
Ruché – Italy
Sagrantino – Italy
Sangiovese – Italy
Saperavi – Georgia
Shiraz / Syrah – France
Susumaniello – Italy
Tannat – France / Uruguay
Tempranillo – Spain
Teroldego – Italy
Tinta Amarela / Trincadeira – Portugal
Tinta Barroca – Portugal
Tinto Cão – Portugal
Touriga Franca – Portugal
Touriga Nacional – Portugal
Vranac – Montenegro / Balkans
Zinfandel / Crljenak Kaštelski – Croatia / USA
Zweigelt – Austria

All International White Wine Grapes

Airén – Spain
Albariño / Alvarinho – Spain / Portugal
Albillo – Spain
Aligoté – France
Arinto – Portugal
Assyrtiko – Greece (Santorini)
Aubin Blanc – France
Auxerrois Blanc – France
Carricante – Italy (Sicily/Etna)
Catarratto – Italy
Chardonnay – France
Chasselas – Switzerland
Chenin Blanc – France
Clairette Blanche – France
Colombard – France
Cortese – Italy
Durella / Durello – Italy
Encruzado – Portugal
Erbaluce – Italy
Fernão Pires (Maria Gomes) – Portugal
Fiano – Italy
Folle Blanche – France
Friulano – Italy
Furmint – Hungary
Garganega – Italy
Gewürztraminer – Germany / Alsace
Glera – Italy
Godello – Spain
Grasevina / Welschriesling – Central Europe
Greco – Italy
Grenache Blanc – France / Spain
Grillo – Italy
Grüner Veltliner – Austria

Hárslevelű – Hungary
Hondarrabi Zuri – Spain
Incrocio Manzoni – Italy
Inzolia / Insolia – Italy
Jacquère – France (Savoie)
Kerner – Germany
Koshu – Japan
Loureiro – Portugal
Macabeo / Viura – Spain
Malvasia Bianca (family) – Mediterranean
Moscato / Muscat family – Ancient Greece / Mediterranean
Müller-Thurgau – Germany
Nosiola – Italy (Trentino)
Ortega – Germany
Palomino Fino – Spain
Parellada – Spain
Pedro Ximénez (PX) – Spain
Petit Manseng – France
Pinot Blanc / Weissburgunder – France / Germany
Pinot Gris / Pinot Grigio – France / Italy
Riesling – Germany
Rkatsiteli – Georgia
Roussanne – France
Sauvignon Blanc – France
Savagnin – France (Jura)
Scheurebe – Germany
Sémillon – France
Seyval Blanc – France
Silvaner – Germany
Sultana / Thompson Seedless – Middle East
Trebbiano / Ugni Blanc – Italy / France
Torrontés – Argentina
Verdejo – Spain
Verdelho – Portugal / Madeira
Verdicchio – Italy
Vermentino – Italy / France
Vernaccia – Italy
Vidal Blanc – Canada / USA
Viognier – France

Xarel·lo – Spain

Zibibbo (Muscat of Alexandria) – North Africa / Mediterranean