

KHVANCHKARA

GEORGIAN PROTECTED DESIGNATIONS OF ORIGIN



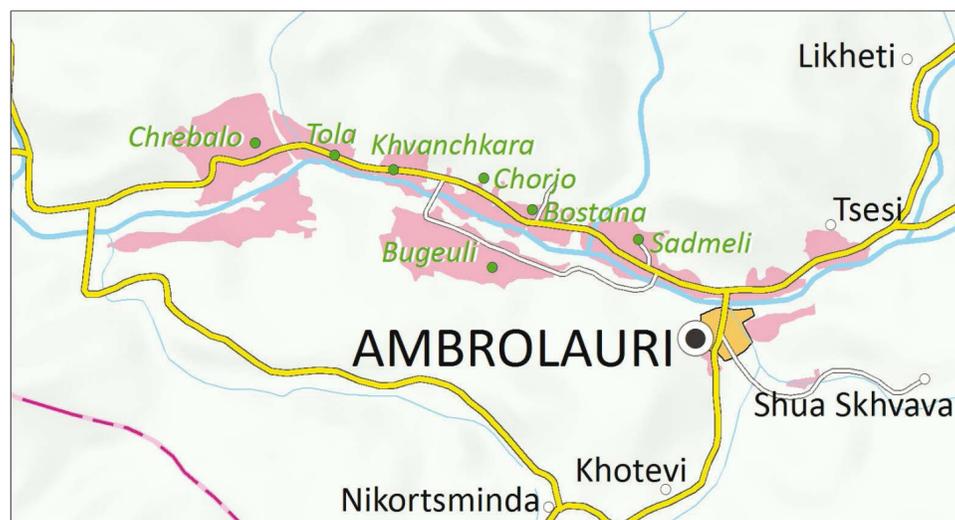
Georgian Wine Club

Geography

The Khvanchkara PDO is to be found in the western Georgian region of Racha's Ambrolauri municipality, on the southern slopes of the Lechkhumi mountain range; the vineyards are mostly planted at an altitude of between 450 and 750 metres above sea level. This micro-zone stretches along the right (and very rarely the left) bank of the Rioni river, covering the villages of Tsesi, Kvatskhuti, Sadmeli, Ghviara, Bostana, Didi ('Big') and Patara ('Small') Chordjo, Pirveli ('First') and Meore ('Second') Tola, Chrebalo, Chkvishi, Joshkha, Kvishari, Ghvardia, Bareuli, Ghadishi, Badji, Bugeuli, Saketsia, Djvarisa, Itsa, Krikhi, Akhalsopeli, Gori, Khimshi and Abanoeti.

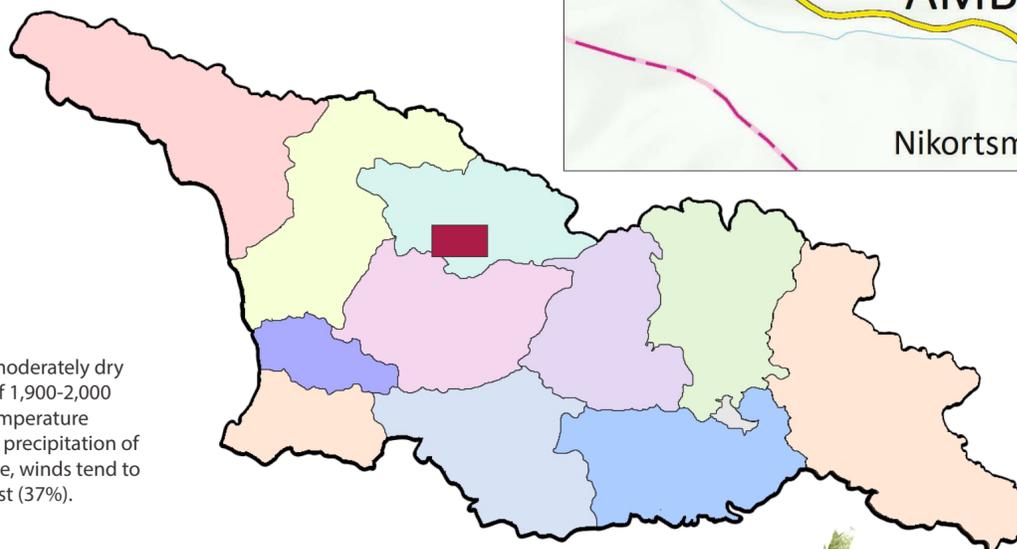
Surface area

903 ha.



Climate

Quite humid, with mild winters and hot, moderately dry summers. The sun shines for an average of 1,900-2,000 hours per year, with an average annual temperature ranging between 10.8 and 12.2°C. Annual precipitation of around 1,050-1,100 mm. In the Rioni gorge, winds tend to blow from either the east (39%) or the west (37%).

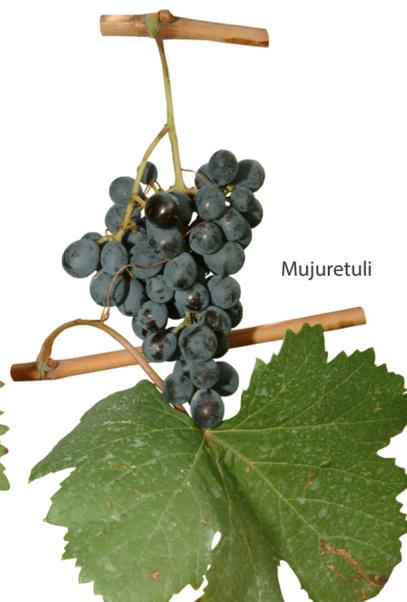


Terroirs

Patara (Small) Chala, Sapinieebi, Satsavi and Nakhorebi (in Khvanchkara); Kovelebi (in Sadmeli); Karieti (in Chordjo); Bereuli (in Pirveli Tola); Napudzvari (in Bostana), &c.



Aleksandrouli



Mujuretuli

Grape varieties

Aleksandrouli, Mujuretuli, Rachuli tetra, Dzelshavi, Tsoolikouri, Saperavi.

Soil

Gravelly, and rich in humus, quartz and limestone.



Wine

Produced under this appellation since 1932. In the XIXth century, this region was famous for its 'Kipiani' Khvanchkara wine, which is nowadays produced by blending the Aleksandrouli and Mujuretuli varieties of grape. Prince Kipiani's wine was, at the time, considered to be the best in the entire region, and XIXth-century experts compared the tenderness and velvety character of 'Kipiani' wines to wines from Burgundy. Khvanchkara continues to be popular nowadays—both in Georgia as well as abroad. Around 20 different kinds of wine are produced under this PDO.



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