

LCBO LABELLING REQUIREMENTS

The LCBO has some of the most stringent wine label requirements in the world. Non-compliance can result in costly penalties charged to producers and/or unnecessary delays in the release of wines into the market. A complete list of all requirements and specifications can be found online here.

Click here to see an example of a Simplified Wine Label:

Of particular note:

'Single Field of Vision' items (common name (ie white wine, red wine, etc.), net quantity, alcohol strength, UPC and country of origin) must be visible in a single field of vision; they cannot be split between the front and back labels. These mandatory items can either be together on the back or on the front label.

UPC codes must appear on all labels.

Allergen declarations must appear in a box and be black text on a white background, with a minimum font height of 1.1 mm (for the lower case 'o'). The English declaration must be on a separate line from the French version (which should not include 'des' (ie Contient des sulfites). Additionally, only titles 'contains/contient' may be in bold type, eg:

Contains: Sulphites or Contient: Sulfites

Lot Codes are required on each label. The LCBO has no specific requirements regarding the number of numbers and/or letters required for these codes. You can choose the format here. The regulatory language confirms that the lot code can be numeric, alphabetic or alphanumeric. It is very common in the industry to use a lot code that is linked to the packaging date, therefore in many cases it is a code that contains that information in one format or another.

Agent representation isn't required on the labels but it is something we would love for you to include if possible.

Represented in Ontario by Buyers+Cellars www.buyerscellarswine.ca

Nutritional labelling is not allowed in Canada in the same format that is required in the EU. This is a federal regulation, not created by the LCBO. Any reference to nutrient contents (such as 'calories') requires a very complicated label to meet Canadian standards. In order to avoid corrective labelling (and non-compliant fees), please remove or cover up any reference to cal (such as E = 339 kJ/81 kcal per 100ml). QR codes leading to your nutrition information can remain as long as they are just codes with no words referencing nutrition.

If customizing your labels to meet these requirements is not an option, we hope printing and affixing a corrective sticker to the back of your bottles might be. We have created a <u>template</u> that you can customize for each wine to be shipped. The vertical alphanumeric code is an example of a suitable Lot Code.