

Satellite-Assisted Winemaking, for Free

Satellite imagery offers winemakers many low-cost solutions for capabilities beyond those achievable in terrestrial or aviation monitoring techniques.

For years vineyards worldwide have used the free data captured by the European Union's Sentinel satellites to predict grape phenolics and colour and to track variations in the vines throughout a vineyard. Such data helps to improve the quality of wine, identify optimal plantation segments, detect diseases early and determine the best times to apply nutrients or pesticides.

The data from the Sentinel satellite system is accessible through the EU's Earth observation programme called Copernicus. Copernicus offers a range of free datasets and tools, including seasonal forecasts and climate projections. Among other uses, these resources enable winemakers to prepare for droughts and adjust grape content rates for maintaining distinctive or preferred wine elements.

The Sentinel system also allows producers to continuously monitor vineyards for insights into vine health and productivity. With such observations, winemakers can make timely adjustments to cultivation practices and adapt to changing climate conditions. Satellite imagery can also be integrated with ground or UAV-sourced measurements for more informed decision-making.

While adopting satellite technology may seem too complicated or expensive, the benefits to winemakers in both high and low-income economies far outweigh the costs. The free data and tools available from Sentinel satellites form one example of how earth imagery captured from space empowers wine producers to avoid more expensive or time-consuming ground-based monitoring.

Please contact [IALPG](https://www.ialpg.com) if you would like more information on how low-cost satellite services assist businesses.

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Currently valued at 633 billion USD, the global space economy is expected to grow by over 180% by 2035. Part of IALPG's mission is encouraging businesses and communities to harness the benefits from this growth to advance their interests.

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