



BUYERS+CELLARS

WINE PURVEYORS

January 2024

The LCBO will be enforcing new Product Packaging Standards for all Consignment Warehouse Purchase Orders that are processed after January 1st, 2024. We have highlighted the important criteria, as well as recent key changes, here. Please review this information carefully and forward any questions you may have to Alisa (info@buyersandcellars.ca). Non-compliant shipments face the possibility of processing delays and financial penalties.

LCBO QUOTE FORM (new)

To process new Purchase Orders, the LCBO requires you to complete their [Quote Sheet](#). This is the only version of this form that is accepted. Quote Sheets must include an **SCC** number for each wine to be ordered.

ORGANIC DECLARATION / ORGANIC CERTIFICATE

The LCBO Quote Form has a spot for you to declare whether the wine we want to order is organic or not. If it *is* organic, you must provide an **Organic Certificate** at the same time as you complete the Quote Sheet. The Organic Certificate must have a date on it. If you are sending us an older vintage, please send us the Certificate that covers the vintage we have ordered, not the most recent one. The name of the wine on the Quote must exactly match the name of that wine as it appears on the Certificate (unless the entire production at the winery in the year that the wine to be ordered was harvested and produced is certified Organic). You will also need to complete the LCBO's [Organic Declaration Form](#) which is a fillable PDF.

You can find more Detailed information can be found here - <https://www.doingbusinesswithlcbo.com/content/dbwl/en/basepage/home/quality-assurance/quality-assurance-policies---guidelines/labelling/simplified-labelling-requirements/simplified-organic-labelling-and-certificate-guidelines.html>

LABELLING REQUIREMENTS

Every wine imported into Ontario is reviewed by the LCBO's Quality Assurance Department prior to release for sale. In addition to a chemical analysis, the LCBO will be checking for label compliance. 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.

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

[HERE](#)

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W I N E P U R V E Y O R S

Of particular note:

'Single Field of Vision' items (common name (i.e. white wine, red wine, etc.), net quantity, alcohol strength 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.

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

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.

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

[LABEL TEMPLATE](#)

BOTTLE PARTITIONS

Effective January 1, 2024, the LCBO requires bottle partitions in all cases of Consignment wine shipped to Ontario. These partitions must provide adequate **protection** against damage or breakage, prevent direct bottle to bottle contact and provide **vertical stability** during transportation and storage. They must be assembled so they remain **interlocked** and must be **secured** into the shipping container in a manner that will prevent them from becoming displaced.

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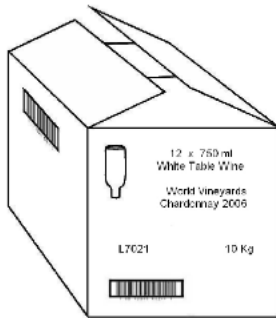
SHIPPING CONTAINER LABEL

You must affix a customized label to all cases shipped to Ontario. These labels must include the Shipping Container Code, the name and vintage of the wine, bottle size and case configuration (ie 12 x 750mL) and Purchase Order Number. The LCBO Item Number is not allowed to appear on this label. Please send us a copy of these labels to approve before shipping. The LCBO will charge for any corrective work needed.

1.3.3 Shipping Container Markings

(Example drawings below – see Chart 2 for full requirements)

A) Product sealed with a cork closure and stored in an inverted position.



B) Product stored in an upright position.

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PRODUCT PACKAGING STANDARDS

Customized label to all cases A complete list of all requirements and specifications for shipping wine to Ontario can be found online: <https://bit.ly/LCBOProductPackagingStandards>