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Italian wine inventories climbed to 47.7 million hectoliters in October

The ministry’s report showed stocks rose 16.2% from September after fresh harvest output entered storage

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Italian wine inventories climbed to 47.7 million hectoliters as of October 31, a sharp rise from both a month earlier and the same point in 2025, according to the latest Cantina Italia report from Italy’s Agriculture Ministry. The report, published Monday, November

9, shows stocks were up 16.2% from September 30, when they stood at about 41 million hectoliters, and 7.2% from October 31, 2025, an increase of more than 3.2 million hectoliters.

The data point to a broad increase in volumes held in Italian cellars as the grape harvest moves through the winemaking system. Alongside finished wine, Italy also had 15.8 million hectoliters of must and 13.7 million hectoliters of new wine still in fermentation at the end of October. Taken together, those categories brought total product held in Italian wineries to about 77.2 million hectoliters.

The figures come from Cantina Italia report No. 10/2026, prepared by the Central Inspectorate for Quality Protection and Fraud Repression of Agri-food Products, known as Icqrf, using data from the country’s electronic wine registers. The ministry said about 23,665 registers were active as of October 31.

The increase in wine stocks alone amounted to 6,652,468 hectoliters in one month. That marked a clear reversal from the September reading, when inventories had been running below July levels. The new October data suggest the arrival of fresh production from the current harvest has significantly lifted the amount of wine now being held in storage.

Must and fermenting wine also rose strongly on a monthly basis. Must volumes reached 15.8 million hectoliters, up 23% from September 30 and 10.6% from October 31, 2025. New wine still in fermentation rose 55.1% from a month earlier to 13.7 million hectoliters, although that category was down 4% from a year earlier. Those products are at different stages of vinification and cannot all be treated as wine ready for sale, but they still indicate the scale of material now present in Italian facilities.

The regional breakdown shows northern Italy continues to dominate wine storage. The north held 61.2% of all wine stocks in the country, with Veneto alone accounting for 26.9% of the national total. At the provincial level, Treviso represented 13.2% of Italy’s wine inventories and Verona 7.9%. For must, the largest share was in southern Italy, which held 47% of national volumes, while the north accounted for 41.3%. Puglia and Emilia-Romagna together concentrated 62.4% of must stocks, with shares of 37.6% and 24.8%, respectively.

The composition of stored wine also highlights the weight of protected appellations in Italy’s market. Wines with protected designation of origin, or DOP, made up 56.9% of all wine in storage, while protected geographical indication, or IGP, wines accounted for 25.6%. Varietal wines represented 1.6%, and the remaining 16% fell into other wine categories. Within DOP wines, whites held a slight majority at 50.6% of inventories. Among IGP wines, reds led with 51.9%.

The report also showed a high concentration of stocks among a limited number of geographical indications. The top 20 denominations represented 59.6% of inventories for wines with a geographical indication. For the beverage sector, the build in inventories matters beyond cellar logistics. Larger wine stocks, especially when they exceed year-earlier levels at the start of the new production cycle, can potentially weigh on bulk wine prices and influence decisions on output planning, storage, and export strategy in the months ahead.