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Italian wine stocks rose 7.2% to 47.7 million hectoliters by October 31

Cellar data pointed to persistent oversupply before harvest figures arrived, with northern regions holding 61.2% of the total

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Italian wineries held 47.7 million hectoliters of wine in storage on October 31, a 7.2% increase from October 31, 2025, according to the latest Cantina Italia bulletin based on electronic cellar registers.

The report, issued by ICQRF and based on 23,665 cellar records, also showed 15.8 million hectoliters of must in storage, up 10.6% from a year earlier, and 13.7 million hectoliters of new wine still undergoing fermentation, down 4%.

The figures add to signs that wine inventories in Italy remain heavy as the market absorbs production more slowly than in the past. Stocks have been rising for several months, and the October 31 data suggest that a large volume of wine is still sitting in cellars while the industry waits for official figures on the 2026 grape harvest.

Those harvest figures had not yet been released. WineNews reported that official data may only be published after harvest declarations due on November 30, or even after production declarations that are legally due on December 15. Until then, the cellar register data provide one of the clearest pictures of the supply already in the system.

Northern Italy accounted for most of the stored wine. The region held 61.2% of total wine stocks, with Veneto standing out as the main concentration point. That reflects the weight of northern production in Italian wine, especially in large commercial denominations.

The data also showed that protected origin wines made up most of the inventory. Wines with PDO status represented 56.9% of total stocks, while PGI wines accounted for 25.6%. Varietal wines were a much smaller share at 1.6%, and the remaining 16% fell into other wine categories.

A relatively small group of appellations dominated the overall stock picture. Only 20 of Italy’s 523 PDO and PGI denominations accounted for 59.6% of total inventories, according to the bulletin. That concentration suggests that supply pressures are especially strong in some of the country’s biggest and most commercial wine categories.

Prosecco DOC held the largest single volume in storage, with 4.9 million hectoliters, equal to 12.5% of total wine stocks. The denomination has remained one of the few major Italian wine categories still showing market growth in 2026, but it also carries by far the largest inventory.

Behind Prosecco DOC were Puglia IGT, Toscana IGT and Delle Venezie DOC. Each of those denominations had more than 1.4 million hectoliters in storage, and each represented 3.7% of the national total.

The October 31 bulletin does not by itself measure final annual production, but it gives a detailed snapshot of supply in cellars at a key point in the season. With official harvest numbers still pending, the storage data are likely to sharpen debate inside the Italian wine sector over demand, sales pace and the industry’s capacity to work through rising inventories.