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Global Wine Production Is Expected to Fall 1% in 2026

The OIV’s early estimate of 225 million hectoliters follows a 4.8% decline in vineyard area since 2020

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The International Organisation of Vine and Wine, or OIV, said global wine production is expected to reach 225 million hectoliters in 2026, down 1% from 2025, in an early estimate that points to another year of restrained supply.

The figure adds to signs that the wine market is continuing to adjust to weaker demand rather than returning to a period of expansion. The OIV also said the global vineyard has shrunk 4.8% since 2020, reflecting a broader pullback in planted area as consumption patterns change.

Taken together, the two figures show that the industry’s supply base is still narrowing. A smaller vineyard does not translate directly into lower output every year, because harvest volumes also depend on weather and yields. But the decline in planted area suggests that part of the adjustment is structural, not only the result of one season’s conditions.

The OIV’s estimate is closely watched across the wine trade because it offers one of the first global benchmarks for the size of the harvest. For wineries, exporters, importers, distributors and retailers, that number can shape expectations about product availability, stock levels and purchasing plans. It can also affect how buyers in the broader beverage sector think about sourcing, inventory management and pricing discussions, especially in markets where wine competes for shelf space and consumer spending with beer and spirits.

The 2026 estimate indicates that producers are not expanding output despite lower supply in recent years. Instead, the latest data point to a market that is being brought more in line with demand. The contraction in vineyard area since 2020 supports that view, suggesting that some growers and producing regions have been reducing exposure as drinking habits shift and long-term consumption softens in parts of the world.

The OIV described the 225 million-hectoliter figure as a first estimate, meaning it is an early reading rather than a final total. That matters for market participants because initial production estimates often serve as a reference for commercial planning before more complete data are available. Even small changes in the final count can influence trade flows, release schedules and decisions on how long existing inventories need to cover demand.

The latest forecast comes at a time when the global wine business has been balancing several pressures at once. Producers in many countries have had to respond to changing consumer preferences, weaker wine consumption in some mature markets and the financial strain that comes when supply runs ahead of sales. A smaller vineyard footprint can be one way to limit oversupply, support prices and reduce the burden of carrying unsold stock, though it also leaves less room to increase production quickly if demand improves.

For companies that buy, ship or finance wine, the OIV’s estimate provides a fresh reference for assessing market conditions heading into the next sales cycle. A lower production figure does not on its own determine prices or availability in any single country, because carryover inventories and regional harvest differences also matter. Still, the projection of 225 million hectoliters, combined with the 4.8% decline in vineyard area since 2020, signals that the global wine supply base remains under pressure as the industry adjusts to a different demand environment.