

Wine Spectator

BIG AS A BARREL

The high-end, oak-friendly wines of Bordeaux and Napa are most often aged in barriques, as the smaller the barrel, the greater the ratio of wood to wine and, consequently, the more concentrated the oak influence. Prefer a ratio with more wine to wood? The world's largest barrel is Germany's Heidelberg Tun, built in 1751, with a capacity of 220,000 liters. However, it's been used far more often as a dance floor than as a wine barrel.

