

## **Russian Sparkling Wine Production Up** 28% in September

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A worker on a sparkling wine bottling line at the Abrau-Durso winery in the village of Abrau-Durso, a suburb of Novorossiysk. **Dmitry Feoktistov / TASS** 

Sparkling wine production in Russia increased by 28% year-on-year in September to 11.15 decaliters, the state-run TASS news agency reported, citing data by the Federal Service for Control over Alcohol and Tobacco Markets (Rosalkogoltabakkontrol).

Russians, once known for their vodka affinity, have increasingly embraced wine as their alcoholic beverage of choice due to rising incomes and changing consumer preferences, bne IntelliNews has reported.

State subsidies and a complex geopolitical climate have moved domestic producers to the forefront, but a turbulent history and concurrent anti-alcohol campaign are hindering their potential. Russia's <u>\$3 billion domestic wine industry is projected to see an explosion in the coming years</u>.

In September grape wine production increased by 8% year-on-year to 24 million decaliters.

Vodka distillation inched up by 1.6% to 55.74 million decaliters, brandy production added 17% to 6,900 decaliters. The output of low-alcohol beverages plummeted by 40.5% to 9.3 million decaliters.

Overall, Russia produced 132.8 million decaliters of alcoholic beverages in 9M24 (not accounting for beer, beer-based beverages, cider, perry and mead) up by 0.6% year-on-year.

Distillation of alcoholic beverages with a strength above 9% increased by 7.5% year-on-year to 82 million decaliters.

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