

5 Best Beach-Safe Wines

Cardboard boxes, Tetra Paks, aluminum bottles, even plastic mini barrels: More and more winemakers today are putting high-quality reds and whites in offbeat containers. That's good news for people who want to bring wine to the beach, since bare feet and glass bottles (which sometimes break when rattling around picnic baskets) aren't an ideal match. Here are five great options:

2007 Bandit Cabernet Sauvignon California (\$9/1L) Bandit's medium-bodied, curranty Cabernet has a licorice hint on the finish. It's packaged in lightweight, recyclable Tetra Paks.

2007 Mommessin Beaujolais Grande Réserve (\$15/750ml) This fresh, cherry-rich French red—which comes in an aluminum bottle with a screw top—tastes best when slightly chilled.

2007 Powers Cabernet Sauvignon Washington State (\$15/3L) Powers's Cabernet has been a great value for several vintages straight, with dark, rich blackberry fruit and a subtle hint of spicy oak. Now it's available in a three-liter box (the equivalent of four regular bottles).

2007 Boho Vineyards Central Coast Chardonnay (\$20/3L) This simple, tropical-fruit-inflected California white comes in an eco-friendly box made from recycled cardboard.

2007 Red Truck Wines Mini-Barrel (\$30/3L) Red Truck's miniature plastic wine barrel is filled with a spicy California Syrah blend and will stay fresh for six weeks after the first pour.



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