

# BARREL PREP & MAINTENANCE

## Preparation and Maintenance of Radoux Oak Barrels



### Barrel Preparation for Immediate Use

#### Method A:

1. Completely fill the barrel with cold water.
2. Leave the barrel full for 48 hours.
3. Empty the barrel, rinsing once with fresh water, and allow it to drain completely.

#### Method B:

1. Fill the barrel with approximately 5 gallons (20L) of very hot water (175°F / 80°C).
2. With the barrel upright, rotate on both heads for at least two complete rotations.
3. Placing the barrel on its bilge (side), rock it from side to side allowing the barrel to turn around the water. Repeat this action so that the barrel makes four complete revolutions. Finally, remove the bung and let the barrel drain completely.

*Note: A silicone bung must be in place for steps 2 and 3.*

### What to do if Leaking Occurs

1. Drain the barrel completely and allow it to dry for approximately one hour with the bung hole facing downward.
2. Retest the barrel using Method B as seen in "Barrel Preparation for Immediate Use".
3. Empty the barrel, rinsing once with fresh water and allow it to drain completely.

*Note: If leaking continues, or appears later in the barrel's life, please contact either your sales representative or the Tonnellerie Radoux USA, Inc. office at 1-800-755-4393.*

### Extended Storage of Barrels

1. Leave the barrel wrapped in its plastic film.
2. Store the barrels in a place with the following characteristics:
  - Humidity of approximately 70-80%.
  - Absence of moving air currents.
  - Low light.
  - Covered with a tarp to avoid unnecessary exposure to UV light.
3. After an extended storage period, prepare the barrel using Method A as seen in "Barrel Preparation for Immediate Use".

### Storage and Maintenance of Used Wine Barrels

#### Method A:

1. Continually rinse the barrel with cold water until draining water becomes clear.
2. With the bung hole facing down, allow the barrel to dry completely.
3. Sulfur with 10-20 grams of sulfur wick per barrel, replace the bung and sulfur regularly if necessary.

#### Method B:

1. Begin by rinsing the barrel with cold water, passing to very hot water (175° F / 80° C), until the draining water becomes clear.
2. With the bung hole facing down, allow the barrel to dry completely.
3. Sulfur with 10-20 grams of sulfur wick per barrel, replace the bung and sulfur regularly if necessary.

*Note: Our barrels are delivered un-sulfured.*