

*designed by Dick Clark, AIA
Dick Clark Architecture
Austin, Tex.*



ROOM FOR WINE

IF YOU'RE A COLLECTOR of fine wine, you're probably motivated to store it in the most optimal of conditions. Protecting your wine assets by investing in a properly constructed wine room or cellar is ideal, but the logistics of such a structure can be daunting. Prudent collectors will consult with an architect well versed in the intricacies of wine storage, letting them figure out the proper materials and mechanisms for insulation and refrigeration.

While temperature and humidity are key factors, homeowners must also pay close attention to lighting. "You must ensure that the proximity of the lights will not generate heat that will adversely affect the wine, but also use color-corrected light bulbs that closely approximate natural daylight," advises Edward Shriver, 2006 Chair of the American Institute of Architects Retail Committee.

More and more wine enthusiasts are building wine rooms above ground, adjacent to their kitchens or dining rooms. Where will you build yours?

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THE NESTER



Photos: Paul Bardaghy

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CLIENT: Native Texan and famous motorcycle racer on the European circuit

DILEMMA: As an international motorcycle road racer, this client travels frequently to Europe, Asia and Australia, often for extended periods of time. He wanted to build a barn for his “toys”—motorcycles, tour bus and cars, which would also house a wine cellar/tasting room. For him, returning to the states is a reprieve from work; therefore, it was important that his space be comfortable and evocative of his personal character.

SOLUTION: Austin-based architect Dick Clark designed a barn that houses the owner’s automotive collection, as well as an elegant wine room. Reminiscent of the owner’s motorcycle racing attire, the walls are covered with warm brown leather. A mixture of warm, native stone collected from the owner’s property along with natural woods that extend from the wine cellar to trusses of the barn, create an intimate space that warmly greets the owner upon his homecoming.

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THE ENTERTAINER

CLIENT: Young, single banker and philanthropist

DILEMMA: As a philanthropist, the homeowner frequently hosts large social and fundraising events and needed a space that would accommodate that function. Architect Dick Clark’s challenge was to convert an abandoned, historic commercial space on Austin’s main street into an expansive living, entertaining space that complements the client’s lifestyle.

One of the major requirements was to create a wine room to both display fine wines and host wine tasting events.

SOLUTION: Contemporary elements, such as steel and glass, combined with the warmth of Texas limestone come together to create an inviting, modern space. A wine closet partially encased by 12-foot glass walls sits to the side of the dining area, allowing guests to view the collection from the table.



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Special thanks to the American Institute of Architects
for graciously providing content for this special section.