WHISKY LIST

5 High-Quality Barrel-Proof Bourbons to Try Now

Barrel-proof bourbon consistently wins over our blind tasting panel with its full flavors and ample character. The annual Top 20 list typically features a number of punch-packing drams, like 2020 Whisky of the Year Larceny Barrel Proof Batch B520. But we're constantly reviewing the latest barrel-proof bourbons, including these five outstanding examples, which all scored 94 points in the most recent Buying Guide.

WHISKY LIFE

Why Justified is the Greatest Whiskey Show of All Time

Many TV shows depict characters enjoying whiskey, but none emphasize it quite like "Justified." Set in Kentucky, the FX show frequently featured bourbon over its six seasons, using it to develop characters and shade in the world it was building. We spoke to the show's lead production designer about the whiskey's starring role, as well as to actor Walton Goggins, who consumed his fair share of great pours while playing Boyd Crowder (and look for a profile of Goggins in the Spring 2021 issue hitting newsstands March 23).
A worker at Akkeshi Distillery in Hokkaido, Japan checks the spirit safe, positioned beneath a Shinto shrine. A new set of voluntary regulations will, for the first time, provide a definition for Japanese whisky. (Photo by Carl Court/Getty Images)

NEWS

Japanese Whisky Finally Gets A Definition, But It's Complicated

Long prized for its elegance and rarity, Japanese whisky never had the stylistic definition that helps shape bourbon, scotch, and other categories. That is, until now. Japanese distillers have banded together to outline labeling requirements for Japanese whisky and while the move helps to solidify standards, it also leaves some inventive producers out. Here's what you need to know about the new decision.

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BLACKENED® American Whiskey Original & Cask Strength

Discover how the innovations behind a proprietary sonic-enhancement finishing process create an award-winning blend of bourbon and ryes, with BLACKENED's own master distiller and blender Rob Dietrich. View this tasting here.
WINTER 2020: TOP 20 & MORE
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