



# ULTIMATE SPIRITS CHALLENGE

NO SHORTCUTS. JUST HONEST, IMPARTIAL JUDGING

## TOP 100 SPIRITS OF 2020

Ultimate Beverage Challenge is delighted to announce the second ULTIMATE SPIRITS CHALLENGE TOP 100 SPIRITS list. This roster of superlative brandies, whiskeys, gins, vodkas, tequilas, liqueurs, rums, baijius, mezcals, and shochus honors a century of the foremost entries from USC 2020. Said award-winning USC Judging Chairman F. Paul Pacult, who made the final determination of the list, "Every spirit included on the USC TOP 100 list for 2020 scored an aggregate rating

of at least 94-points throughout USC's rigorous, weeks-long process of multistage judging this past June and July. Panels comprised of the world's foremost spirits authors, educators, bartenders, journalists, and consultants cited these spirits as being benchmarks in their individual categories. The USC TOP 100 SPIRITS of 2020 is an astonishingly diverse and comprehensive list of blue chip spirits, hailing from all corners of the world. All of them are exemplary spirits of world-class quality."

1. **Thomas H. Handy Sazerac Straight American Rye Whiskey** (United States) **99-points**
2. **George Bowman Caribbean Dark Rum** (United States) **99-points**
3. **Glenrothes 18 Years Old Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **98-points**
4. **Boyd & Blair Potato Vodka** (United States) **98-points**
5. **Stagg, Jr. Kentucky Straight Bourbon** (United States) **98-points**
6. **Jean Fillioux Tres Vieux XO Extra GrandeChampagne Cognac** (France) **98-points**
7. **Plantation Isle of Fiji Aged Rum** (Fiji) **98-points**
8. **Green Spot Chateau Leoville Barton Irish Single Pot Still Whiskey** (Ireland) **98-points**
9. **Oban 18 Years Old Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **98-points**
10. **Gordon's Traveller's Edition London Dry Gin** (United Kingdom) **97-points**
11. **Highland Park 21 Years Old Orkney Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **97-points**
12. **Barrell Dovetail American Whiskey** (United States) **97-points**
13. **Delord 25 Years Old Bas Armagnac** (France) **97-points**
14. **Dewar's Double Double Aged 27 Years Old Blended Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **97-points**
15. **METAXA Ouzo** (Greece) **97-points**
16. **Kilchoman Sanaig Islay Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **97-points**
17. **The Matsui Mizunara Cask Single Malt Japanese Whisky** (Japan) **97-points**
18. **818 Anejo, 100% Agave Tequila** (Mexico) **96-points**
19. **By the Dutch White Batavia Arrack** (Indonesia) **96-points**
20. **Hillrock Exceptional Cask Solera Aged Bourbon Whiskey** (United States) **97-points**
21. **BenRiach Curiositas Peated Malt 10 Years Old Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **97-points**
22. **Redemption Barrel Proof 10 Years Old American Rye Whiskey** (United States) **97-points**
23. **Appleton Estate Reserve 8 Years Old Aged Rum** (Jamaica) **97-points**
24. **Belvedere Lake Bartezek Single Estate Rye Vodka** (Poland) **97-points**
25. **Glenmorangie Nectar d'Or Sauternes Cask Finish Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **97-points**
26. **George T. Stagg Kentucky Straight Bourbon** (United States) **97-points**
27. **Cinzano 1757 Vermouth di Torino G.I. Rosso** (Italy) **96-points**
28. **Westland Garryana 2019 Edition 4|1 American Single Malt Whiskey** (United States) **96-points**
29. **Yushan Mikado Pheasant 8 Years Old Kaoliang Liquor** (Taiwan) **96-points**
30. **Talisker 18 Years Old Skye Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **96-points**
31. **Gran Demonio Albilla Pisco** (Peru) **99-points**
32. **Mortlach Distiller's Dram 16 Years Old Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **96-points**
33. **Teeling Single Cask Irish Single Malt Whiskey** (Ireland) **96-points**
34. **Tequila Ocho Plata, 100% Agave Tequila** (Mexico) **96-points**
35. **Aberfeldy 16 Years Old Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **96-points**
36. **Arbeg Traigh Bhan 19 Years Old Islay Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **96-points**
37. **Bainbridge Battle Point Two Islands Hokkaido Cask American Wheat Whiskey** (United States) **96-points**
38. **Wild Turkey Rare Breed American Rye Whiskey** (United States) **97-points**
39. **Mezcal Vago Elote Mezcal** (Mexico) **96-points**
40. **Wemyss Malts Peat Chimney Blended Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **96-points**
41. **Asbach Selection 21 Years Old European Brandy** (Germany) **96-points**
42. **Heaven's Door Bootleg Series 2019 Edition 26 Years Old Blended Whisky** **96-points**
43. **Barrell Bourbon Batch 022 5 Years Old Straight Bourbon** (United States) **96-points**
44. **Dartigalongue 1980 40 Years Old Bas Armagnac** (France) **96-points**
45. **Bib & Tucker Small Batch 6 Years Old Bourbon Whiskey** (United States) **96-points**
46. **Plantation Stiggins' Fancy Pineapple Rum** (Barbados & Jamaica) **96-points**
47. **Glenfiddich Grand Cru 23 Years Old Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **96-points**
48. **Hibiki Japanese Harmony Japanese Whisky** (Japan) **96-points**
49. **Avion Reserva 44 Extra Anejo, 100% Agave Tequila** (Mexico) **95-points**
50. **Redbreast 21 Years Old Irish Single Pot Still Whiskey** (Ireland) **96-points**
51. **Scapegrace Gold Gin** (New Zealand) **96-points**
52. **Parker's Heritage 13th Edition 8 Years Old Straight American Rye Whiskey** (United States) **96-points**
53. **Christian Drouin Pays d'Auge 2000 Calvados** (France) **95-points**
54. **Horse Soldier Reserve Bar rel Strength Straight Bourbon** (United States) **96-points**
55. **Don Q Signature Release 2009 Single Barrel 10 Years Old Aged Rum** (Puerto Rico) **96-points**
56. **Yellow Rose American Rye Whiskey** (United States) **96-points**
57. **Jameson Bow Street Cask Strength 18 Years Old Irish Blended Whiskey** (Ireland) **95-points**
58. **Four Roses Small Batch Select Kentucky Straight Bourbon** (United States) **96-points**
59. **William Larue Weller Kentucky Straight Bourbon** (United States) **96-points**
60. **Comte de Lauvia Reserve Armagnac** (France) **96-points**
61. **Bunnahabhain 12 Years Old Islay Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **96-points**
62. **Blanton's Gold Edition - Single Barrel Kentucky Straight Bourbon** (United States) **96-points**
63. **Dalmore Sherry Cask Select 12 Years Old Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **96-points**
64. **Storywood Speyside 7 CS Reposado, 100% Agave Tequila** (Mexico) **95-points**
65. **Henry McKenna Single Barrel 10 Years Old Bottled-in-Bond Kentucky Straight Bourbon** (United States) **96-points**
66. **Frapin Cellar Master's Edition No 1 Grande Champagne 10 Years Old Cognac** (France) **96-points**
67. **Rhum HSE Blanc Rhum Agricole** (Martinique) **96-points**
68. **Elijah Craig Single Barrel 18 Years Old Kentucky Straight Bourbon** (United States) **96-points**
69. **Jack Daniel's Straight American Rye Whiskey** (United States) **96-points**
70. **Lagavulin 16 Years Old Islay Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **96-points**
71. **Purity Connoisseur 51 Reserve Vodka** (Sweden) **96-points**
72. **Old Elk 5 Years Old American Rye Whiskey** (United States) **96-points**
73. **The Last Drop Distillers 56 Years Old Blended Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **96-points**
74. **Fukano 10 Years Old Japanese Whisky** (Japan) **96-points**
75. **BLY Silver Rum** (United States) **95-points**
76. **Bauchant Orange Liqueur** (France) **95-points**
77. **Cutwater Spirits Fugu Vodka Spicy Bloody Mary Ready-to-Drink Cocktail** (United States) **95-points**
78. **iichiko Frasco Shochu** (Japan) **95-points**
79. **Corazon de Agave Anejo, 100% Agave Tequila** (Mexico) **95-points**
80. **Matsui Umeshu with Japanese Brandy Liqueur** (Japan) **95-points**
81. **Carolans Salted Caramel Cream Liqueur** (Ireland) **95-points**
82. **Germain-Robin XO Alambic American Brandy** (United States) **95-points**
83. **Heaven Hill 7 Years Old Bottled-in-Bond Kentucky Straight Bourbon** (United States) **95-points**
84. **Macaja Cask Gin** (Italy) **95-points**
85. **Glengoyne 18 Years Old Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **95-points**
86. **Noble Oak Double Oak American Rye Whiskey** (United States) **97-points**
87. **Cotswolds Dry Gin** (United Kingdom) **95-points**
88. **Vincenzi Capasso Aperitivo** (Italy) **95-points**
89. **The Glenlivet 15 Years Old Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky** (Scotland) **95-points**
90. **Camus Borderies XO Family Reserve Single Estate Cognac** (France) **95-points**
91. **Brain Brew Custom Whiskey 36% Rye Bourbon** (United States) **95-points**
92. **Lucano Amaro** (Italy) **94-points**
93. **Verdigris Dry Gin** (New Zealand) **95-points**
94. **Mister Sam Tribute Blended Canadian Whisky** (Canada) **95-points**
95. **Russell Henry Malaysian Lime Flavored Gin** (United States) **94-points**
96. **Vincenzi Amaretto di Torino** (Italy) **94-points**
97. **Del Maguey Single Village San Luis del Rio Azul Mezcal** (Mexico) **95-points**
98. **Rock Town Four Grain Sour Mash Arkansas Straight Bourbon** (United States) **95-points**
99. **Jaisalmer Indian Craft Gin** (India) **95-points**
100. **Chateau de Lacquy Hors d'Age Bas Armagnac** (France) **95-points**

For the full results from  
**ULTIMATE SPIRITS CHALLENGE 2020**  
please see  
[ultimate-beverage.com/USC2020results](https://ultimate-beverage.com/USC2020results)