



## Rye Whiskey Tasting Menu

**Bulleit 95 Rye.** 90 proof. Produced by Bulleit Distilling Co., Illinois. 95% rye, 5% malted barley. Most likely made at the MGP mega-distillery in Indiana. Smooth, with hints of vanilla, honey and spice. Crisp finish with lingering flavors.

**Catoctin Creek Roundstone Rye.** Single Barrel, 80 proof. Catoctin Creek Distillery, Virginia. Fruity and slightly sweet. Made completely from scratch at Purcellville, Virginia. This pre-Prohibition style rye whiskey is made from 100% rye grain, sourced locally when available. Aged in new Minnesota white oak casks for a period of just under two years, the whiskey is smooth, with that true grain character achieved in a relatively young whiskey. Delicious woody taste, with notes of caramel, rich butter toffee, and just a hint of lemon in the nose.

**High West Double Rye!** 92 proof, High West Distillery, Utah. This is a blend of two ryes (hence the name). One is distilled at the MGP mega-distillery in Indiana and is two years-old with a 95% rye/5% barley malt mash bill. The second is distilled at Barton Distillery in Kentucky and is a 16 year-old with a 53% rye 37% corn mash bill. The blend of straight ryes is bottled non-chill-filtered. The *Breaking Bourbon* blog describes this whiskey as unique and in a class of its own, with an unusual flavor profile.

**Hudson Manhattan Rye.** Pot-distilled 92 proof. Tuthilltown Spirits Farm Distillery, New York. A true craft distiller. Made with locally sourced grain and a mash bill of 100% rye. The spirit's peppery start transitions to a honey-cinnamon depth. The *Whiskey Wash* blog says this rye has "sharp spice notes of cinnamon, allspice, and pepper start off the front. In the mid palate, the spice notes are balanced by mint, dry oak, and a slightly bitter cereal grain flavor. The finish is mild with dry oak and light pepper."

**Knob Creek Straight Rye.** Small Batch, 100 proof. Knob Creek Distillery (Jim Beam), Kentucky. Top rated in the *New York Times* December 2016 tasting. "Spicy, fruity and complex, with notes of citrus, coconut and toffee."

**Rittenhouse Straight Rye.** 100 proof. Heaven Hill Distillery, Kentucky. A "Pennsylvania-style" rye. A flavor bomb. The blog *Modern Thirst* says "If this whiskey can be produced for \$30, it's hard to imagine how much better other ryes that range upwards of \$200 or more can be. In fact, this should be considered one of the better value pours on the market, and one of the richer, more complex rye whiskeys available."

**Sazerac Straight Rye.** 90 Proof, Buffalo Trace Distillery, Kentucky. Difficult to find. Known as "Baby Saz" in reference to Buffalo Trace's 18 yr. product. The mash bill is 51% rye, so most likely there is plenty of corn sweetness. The *Modern Thirst* blog says "This is sort of a no-brainer if you like rye whiskey and you see it on a shelf. It's pretty darn tasty."

**Templeton Rye 6 Yr.** 91.5 proof, Templeton Distillery, Indiana. By 2019, this Rye will once again be made in Iowa. The move is intended to silence critics who claim Templeton had been misrepresenting its liquor by labeling it as "small-batch rye" and "made in Iowa," when it actually is made from aged stock whiskey distilled by MGP in Indiana. To settle lawsuits, the label now reflects its Indiana provenance. Mash bill 95% rye, same as Bulleit Rye, but with different flavoring additions. The *Whiskey Reviewer* blog says "it is easy to see how this whiskey has been able to secure a niche in the market."

**Whistlepig Straight Rye 10Yr.** 100 proof, Whistlepig Farm, Vermont. Made from an aged whiskey found in Canada and saved from the blending process. Aged further in American oak barrels. The *Wall Street Journal* said "this is the essence of rye whiskey: peppery and smoky with a long, long finish."