



DEPARTURES

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THE BEST SPIRITS TO GIVE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

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Finding that perfect gift for friends and family can prove to be a difficult task. But for those of us that imbibe (in moderation, of course), a nice bottle of booze is a classy and pleasing way to go. There are so many different options available in all categories of spirits—tequila, rum, cognac, and whiskey (and whisky) from around the world. From limited releases to special packaging to a new expression from a storied distillery, there's something to please everyone's palate.

The fall and early winter are the perfect time of the year to shop for new spirits, as many distilleries and brands choose to release their latest and greatest as the temperatures cool down (especially in the world of brown spirits). Whiskey is booming in popularity and sales, with Irish whiskey, bourbon, and rye leading the way. But that's not the only category to explore. Aged rum expressions are getting a lot more interest from whiskey drinkers, tequila continues to expand with new barrel-aged offerings being released, and even cognac expressions are getting barrel finishes and special blends. This holiday season, there are plenty of splurge-worthy offerings to

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choose from, delicious special occasion spirits that will impress with both packaging and flavor. Here are 30 new bottles in a variety of spirits categories that will make the perfect gift this year.

Bozal Madrecuishe

The mezcal category continues to flourish, with several new releases hitting shelves this year. A recent higher-end expression comes from Bozal in the form of this single maguey mezcal, Madrecuishe. This type of agave brings different flavors to the spirit than the much more commonly used Espadín, with spice and beet-like notes complementing the smoky character.

BOZAL / MADRECUISHE SINGLE MAGUEY MEZCAL