



July 23, 2021

**WINES OF THE WEEK: HUNGARIAN WHITE WINE FROM TEMPOS VEGA SICILIA,
NEW RED FROM CAKEBREAD, AND XO RUM FROM KIRK AND SWEENEY**

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VPM: 66,108,360

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Finally, I cannot recommend highly enough the Kirk & Sweeney Dominican Rum XO Edición Limitada No. 2, a spectacular spirit crafted from blackstrap molasses obtained from sugarcane harvested by hand immediately to the south of the distillery in Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic. It was crafted from a range of rums of up to 26 years in age, and matured in both French and American barrels before bottling. The result is a spirit of richness and elegance, with layers of toffee and nougat, brown butter, and almond pizzelles. Those aromas are subtly layered with caraway seeds and pineapple rhum baba, and all tee up flavors of cinnamon stick, allspice, salted caramel, dried fruit, the crispy top of a perfect vanilla crème brûlée, as well as the

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suggestion of cooked honey. With a bit of water, the natural sweetness emerges, and a pure, silken texture reveals orange blossoms, honeysuckle, more sweet spice, and a touch of caramel enrobed with chocolate. What a remarkable rum. It carries its 131 proof with real elegance. Only 2,000 bottles were produced, and it's well worth snapping one up.

KIRK AND SWEENEY / XO RUM LIMITADA NO. 2