



Object of the Newsletter

To promote the appreciation of fine Whisky, the area from which it comes, the people that inhabit the land and it's history. By the way, I am merely expressing my opinion on the whiskies I am tasting, as you know, everybody has one.

I now look at Bulleit Rye, which I first tasted a number of years ago while hosting a whisky and chocolate pairing table at Whisky Live in Los Angeles. The outstanding pairing for me and most of the people who came to my table was the Bulleit Rye paired with a See's dark chocolate and lemon cream filling candy. I can still vividly remember the surprise when I tasted the two of them together, Both were good on their own, but combined they just ZINGED!

I have been slow to appreciate Rye Whisky, but I have to say it is winning me over, so go ahead and give it a try, at this price what do you have to lose?

Would I buy it, that is a definite yes from me. This is a nice Whisky at a great price and if you can get them, try it with that See's candy.

[You can buy Bulleit Rye for around \\$22.00 a bottle.](#)

Tasting Notes

Nose - Cherries & Vanilla.

Palate - Cherries, peaches & spice.

Finish - Sweet cinnamon & spice.



"Slainte Mhath"

Paul Bissett



The Best American Rye Whiskeys According to the 2021 International Wines & Spirits Competition By Joseph V Micallef

A total of four American rye whiskeys scored Gold Outstanding or Gold medals at the recently completed 2021 International Wines and Spirits Competition (IWSC) spirits judging.

The IWSC is an annual wine and spirits competition. Founded in 1969, by Anton Massel, it has grown to become the largest such competition in the world. Spirits are evaluated on a 100-point scale and awards are given out for Gold Outstanding (98-100 points), Gold (95-97 points), Silver (90-94 points) and Bronze (85-89 points).

The competition employs over 250 judges, drawn from all over the world, which evaluate thousands of wines and spirits across 1,500 different categories.

The top scoring rye whiskey was **Heaven Hill Distillery, Parker's Heritage Collection Rye Whiskey, 10 YO, 60% ABV, 750 ml**. This is the 14th edition in the series and is not yet available in many markets.

The expression is a balanced, fruit forward rye whiskey, with notes of sweet marmalade and lingering notes of clove and cinnamon.

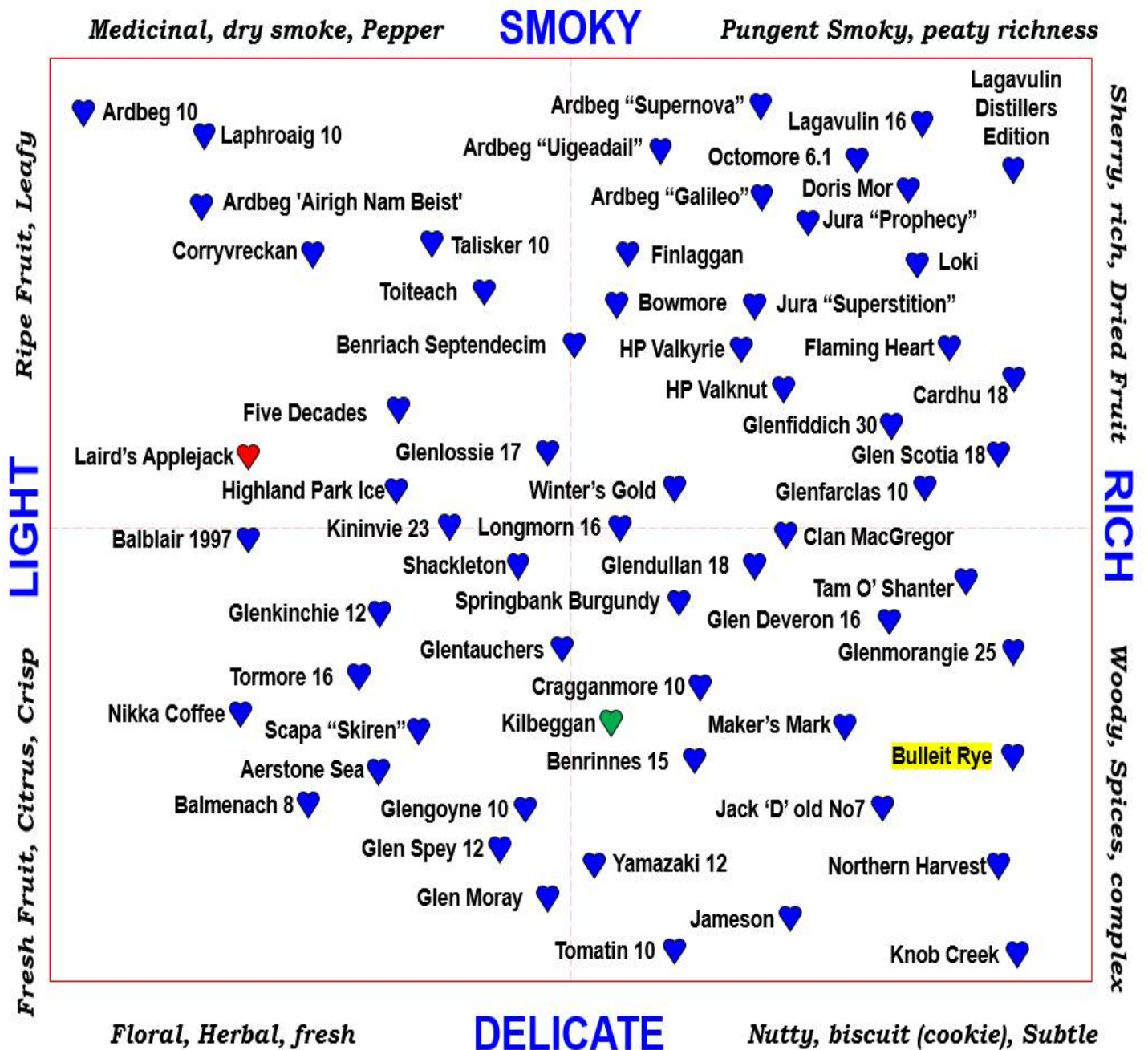
It's part of the annual release of the Parker Heritage Collection named after the distillery's late Master Distiller Parker Beam. The whiskey is based on Heaven Hill's tradition rye mash bill of 51% rye, 35% corn and 14% malted barley.

It's matured in barrels that have been charred to a #5 char. These barrels are charred for 90 seconds versus the traditional #3 char of 40 seconds. The more extensive charring brings out additional flavors of caramel and maple syrup.

Heaven Hill also won a Gold medal for its **Pikesville Straight Rye Whiskey, NAS, 55% ABV, 750 ml**. This is a Maryland style rye whiskey that was first produced in the 1890s. Unlike Pennsylvania style ryes, which typically had a mash bill of 90% rye or more, the Maryland rye expressions had more corn, making them more bourbon like.



Below is a simple guide to help you choose your Whisky, and the flavor notes you should expect from it. Being Scottish I recommend you find a likely candidate and try it in a bar before buying the whole bottle. This Issue; [Bulleit Rye](#). For more information on [Bulleit](#) whiskies go to [www.bulleit.com](#)





The Best American Rye Whiskeys According to the 2021 International Wines & Spirits Competition Cont.

Pikesville was the last Maryland produced rye to shut down. The brand is now owned by Heaven Hill, and the rye whiskey is produced in Kentucky using its historic mash bill. Although the expression carries no age statement, the whiskey, according to the distillery, is 6 years old.

This is a dry and spicy rye, with aromas of chocolate and a hint of oak wood smoke on the nose. On the palate, it offers up notes of honeyed rye, clove and baking spices and vanilla.

Buffalo Trace took the other two Gold medals in the Rye Whiskey category for its **Colonel E. H. Taylor Jr., Kentucky Straight Rye Whiskey, NAS, 50% ABV, 750 ml** and for its **Thomas H. Handy Sazerac Rye Kentucky Straight Rye Whiskey, NAS, 64.5% ABV, 750 ml**.

Buffalo Trace does not disclose its mash bills, but it is believed to employ two quite different mash bills for its rye whiskeys. The Colonel E. H. Taylor Jr. rye whiskey is a high rye mash bill that consists solely of rye and malted barley and excludes any corn. The other rye mash bill, which it uses for the Sazerac and Thomas H. Handy rye expressions, has less rye and more corn. The result is two quite different aroma and taste profiles.

The E. H. Taylor Jr. rye whiskey features pronounced notes of dried fruit black pepper and a hint of dill. It's both sweet and savory on the palate, with caramel, dried fruit and spicy rye notes.

The Thomas H. Handy Sazerac rye, on the other hand, is a very aromatic, robust, full-flavored rye whiskey with flavors of butterscotch, candied fruit, coconut and baked fig, along with notes of mint and spice notes of cinnamon, allspice, nutmeg and clove.

Its overproof strength is quite noticeable – best served on the rocks to reduce some of the alcohol burn.

These are all outstanding rye whiskeys. Certainly, worth a taste if you like rye, and worth exploring if you are new to that whiskey category.