

SPIRIT JOURNAL

NEISSON

Rhum Agricole Blanc
Appellation d'Origine Controlée
(Martinique; Caribbean Spirits, Inc.,
Chicago, IL)
50% abv

Transparent, silvery, and impeccably clean. The frontline aroma is marvelously beany, grassy, and stalk-like; in the later sniffings the aroma turns more baked/burnt and charcoal-like, as sweetish flavors of dark caramel, chimney soot, and dark, old honey make for scrumptious inhaling. The palate entry is spectacularly honeyed, warm, and cocoa-like; at midpalate, there's a grassy/weedy/cane-like taste that balances the honeyed sweetness in perfect style and grace. Concludes cocoa-like, intense yet smooth, and memorably sweet. A clinic on how to make outstanding white rum from sugar cane juice.

Spirit Journal Rating:

★★★★/Highest Recommendation
& Best Buy

NEISSON

Rhum Agricole Elevé Sous Bois
Appellation d'Origine Controlée
(Martinique; Caribbean Spirits, Inc.,
Chicago, IL)
50% abv

The color is honey gold/Sauternes yellow; flawlessly clean. In the first nosings there are fabric-like aromas of synthetic, cotton, and rayon; secondary sniffings pick up vegetal scents of peas and asparagus plus a waxy/floor polish background note. The palate entry is pointed, pleasantly spirity, and lightly toffee-like; the midpalate flavor profile features dead-on tastes of cane, honey, and vanilla bean. Ends on an off-dry note that offers smooth, biscuity, and grassy flavors deep in the throat. A picture of rum agricole elegance and understatement.

Spirit Journal Rating:

★★★★/Highly Recommended

NEISSON

Rhum Agricole Réserve Spéciale
Appellation d'Origine Controlée
(Martinique; Caribbean Spirits, Inc.,
Chicago, IL)
42% abv

Gloriously bright copper color; ideal purity. The first whiffs detect agile scents of white pepper, citrus, and saddle leather; following seven minutes of air contact the bouquet ratchets up the volume in the forms of old oak, sautéed almonds, candied walnuts, old library, and distant oloroso sherry. The palate entry is rich, nutty, oaky, and long; the midpalate bursts with woody, sherried, honeyed, vanilla extract flavors that keep multiplying and deepening. Finishes opulent, fathomless, honeyed, and elegant. Holy moly.

Spirit Journal Rating:

★★★★/Highest Recommendation

