



# Sweet 16 of American Whiskey



Over the past year, The Bourbon Guys have had the honor of tasting many different American Whiskeys. As a result we have decided to share our list of our Sweet Sixteen of American Whiskeys. We've also decided to release this list in honor of March Madness. We see this as fitting for two reasons: 1. It's the start of the NCAA Basketball tournament, and 2. We are likely to stir up a little "Madness" with our choices.

Though there are many other American Whiskeys that could easily be added to this list, we could only include sixteen, and of course we understand that the best whiskey is the one that you enjoy. With that said, the following are The Bourbon Guys overall favorites.

## **16. Wild Turkey 101**

Availability - Readily Available

Price Range - \$17.00 to \$24.00

For the price, Wild Turkey 101 is what we call a "go-to" bourbon. Wild Turkey 101 is fantastic bourbon for the price and is great for sipping as well as mixing. Every whiskey lover should have this in their collection.



### 15. Breckenridge Colorado Whiskey

Availability - Only Available in a few states

Price Range - \$40.00 to \$50.00

Breckenridge Colorado Bourbon is excellent young bourbon that is full of flavor and very easy to drink. We recommend you drink this one neat for maximum enjoyment. If you find this one in your area grab a bottle and thank us later!



### 14. Knob Creek Single Barrel

Availability - Readily Available

Price Range - \$30.00 to \$40.00

At 120 proof, Knob Creek Single barrel comes packed with a little heat but a lot of flavor. Knob Creek's sweet and nutty flavors combined with a little cinnamon spice makes for very nice bourbon!



### 13. EH Taylor Rye

Availability - Limited Production but quite available

Price Range - \$65.00 to \$75.00

This is the first year for EH Taylor Rye and wow is this a great start. This is one delicious Rye Whiskey with plenty of spice and a very nice finish that leaves you wanting another.



### 12. Eagle Rare 10 Yr Old Single Barrel

Availability - Readily Available

Pricing Range - \$30.00 to \$40.00

This entry from Buffalo Trace is just an overall good bourbon. You get lots of oak, vanilla and caramel followed by that nice rye finish! The flavors are also very consistent for a single barrel.



### **11. High West Rendezvous Rye Whiskey**

Availability – Available at finer liquor stores

Price Range - \$45.00 to \$55.00

Rendezvous Rye is a blend of a 16 year rye and a 6 year rye. This whiskey is excellent! The strong, spicy and sweet flavors come through from beginning to end. When we say end, we mean the finish is incredible. Great job High West!



### **10. Russell's Reserve Single Barrel**

Availability – Soon to be available everywhere

Price Range - \$40.00 to \$50.00

Jimmy Russell has done it again! This new single barrel is excellent! Though we don't love the price point, it's still a great bourbon. Keep an eye out as this bourbon should be readily available over the next couple months.



### **9. Rock Hill Farms Single Barrel Bourbon**

Availability – Readily Available

Pricing Range - \$40.00 to \$50.00

Rock Hill Farms may be the best bourbon that no one has heard of. We are hoping to change that. This entry from Buffalo Trace comes from the same mash bill as Blanton's. This bourbon is complex and full of flavors like brown sugar, maple and honey. This bourbon needs more recognition in our opinion.



### **8. WL Weller 12 Year**

Availability – Readily Available

Price Range - \$23.00 to \$28.00

This bourbon from Buffalo Trace is another superb bourbon for the price. This well balanced, easy to drink, wheated bourbon is one that we always keep on hand. Be aware that this bourbon is only released a few times a year and can sometimes become scarce for short periods of time. You will not be disappointed with this bourbon.



### **7. Old Grand-Dad 100 Proof (*Sleeper of the year*)**

Availability – Readily Available

Price Range- \$15.00 to \$20.00

What can we say about Old Grand-Dad? For the price it's probably the best bourbon on the market. It's a smooth sipper with a nice sweet finish. Every bourbon lover needs to grab a bottle of Old Grand-Dad 100 proof. The traditional Old Grand-Dad 80 proof and Old Grand-Dad 114 are fantastic bourbons as well.



### **6. Old Medley 12 Year**

Availability – Limited to 2500 cases

Price Range - \$50.00 to \$55.00

Old Medley 12 Year is the new bourbon from the Charles Medley Distillery. This follow up to Wathen's is very nice. Probably the most approachable of all the bourbons on our list, its smooth and distinct flavor makes this one of the nice surprises of the year. Be sure to get a bottle or two before it's gone.



### **5. Elmer T Lee Single Barrel**

Availability – Readily Available

Pricing Range - \$28.00 to \$34.00

This is The Bourbon Guys' number one go-to bourbon. We are never without a bottle of Elmer T Lee. With a great nose, complex flavor and smooth finish, this bourbon is tops in its price range and deserves a taste by anyone wanting to taste a great bourbon.



### **4. Four Roses 2012 Special Edition Small Batch**

Availability – Very Hard to find at this point

Price Range - \$79.00 to 89.00

This year's Four Roses Special Edition Small Batch release is absolutely fantastic! We actually had this bourbon in our collection for quite some time before opening. Once opened, we discovered that we had a real winner in our midst. Lots of fruitiness throughout along with a very nice oak finish makes this a feast for any bourbon lover. One of the best of the year!



### **3. Thomas Handy Rye – Antique Collection**

Availability – Very hard to find

Price Range - \$70.00 to \$80.00

This year's version of Thomas Handy Rye was superb. At 128.6 proof, this whiskey is still highly approachable. Add a couple drops of water and this gem opens up even more. It may be too late, but if you can get your hands on this whiskey, you will be amazed at the overall flavor and balance! Excellent!!!



### **2. Pappy Van Winkle 15 Year**

Availability – Good Luck!

Price - \$65.00 to 75.00

There is a lot of hype behind this bourbon and we feel it's warranted. Anyone who says Pappy Van Winkle 15 Year is overrated probably doesn't have a bottle for themselves. At 107 proof, this version of Pappy Van Winkle is The Bourbon Guys' favorite of the Pappy line. The overall flavor profile is so well balanced it's a must try for any bourbon lover. With a nose that you'll enjoy all night long, the finish is long, rich and flavorful.



### **1. George T Stagg – 2012 Antique Collection**

Availability – Hard to Find!

Price Range - \$69.00 to 79.00

George T Stagg is The Bourbon Guys' favorite bourbon of the year! It's amazing that, at 142.8 proof, this is still an incredible sipping whiskey. The nose is rich, even at the high proof. The flavor is power packed with caramel, butterscotch, cinnamon and oak. The finish goes on and on and on! This is one incredible Whiskey!!! Congrats to Buffalo Trace!



Thanks for checking out our list! Please feel free to share any of your favorites with us. And once again, we know:

“The best bourbon is the one that you enjoy”!

Thanks, The Bourbon Guys!