

Weekends of Whiskey: American Innovators Buying Guide

September 11th, 2021

Selections and Quantities May be Subject to Change

Product	Price Per Bottle	Theme	Release Method	Btls ANC	Btls WAS	Btls FAI	Notes
Blantons Brown Jug Barrel Pick Bourbon	\$ 69.95	*Barrel Pick Release	1 Per Person	125	48	48	Always an Alaskan favorite, our barrel pick showcases Blanton's signature character of vanilla, citrus and oak.
Smooth Ambler Old Scout Brown Jug Select	\$ 49.99	*Barrel Pick Release	2 per person	66	30	30	Smooth Ambler Old Scout is a high-rye straight bourbon. This single-barrel expression is non chill-filtered and bottled at barrel strength.
Angel's Envy Bourbon	\$ 49.95	American Innovators	2 Per Person	96	36	36	A Bourbon finished in port wine barrels, this rich and fruity whiskey is perfect for drinkers with a bit of a sweet tooth. While Alaskan availability of the Bourbon has improved, we still can't get as much as we'd like!
Angel's Envy Cask Strength	\$ 199.95	American Innovators	*Table	5	2	2	Ranked "The Best Spirit in the World" by the <i>Spirit Journal</i> , this very limited cask-strength expression of Angel's Envy is selected from their very best barrels.
Angel's Envy Rum-Finished Rye	\$ 89.99	American Innovators	*Table	34	12	12	Even more sought-after than their Bourbon, the Angel's Envy Rye is finished in Caribbean Rum casks for 18 months.
Balcones True Blue Corn Whiskey	\$ 53.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	72	24	24	Made from roasted blue corn, the Balcones True Blue's notes of deep oak, char, leather and chocolate make it a favorite among Bourbon drinkers.
Barrell Craft Spirits 15 Year Bourbon	\$ 225.99	American Innovators	*Table	12	4	4	There's a lot to say about Barrell Craft spirits - and if you can't tell from the selection of offerings from them I'm a big believer of their products - but the Barrell "Gray Label Bourbon" stands apart. Blended from Tennessee, Kentucky and Indiana Bourbons all at least 15 years old and bottled at cask strength.
Barrell Craft Spirits Armida Whiskey	\$ 99.95	American Innovators	2 Per Person	54	18	18	One of the most fascinating finished Bourbons on the market. Armida is a blend of three straight Bourbon whiskeys finished separately in Pear Brandy, Jamaican Rum, and Sicilian Amaro casks. Beguiling, complex, and satisfying.
Barrell Craft Spirits Batch 22 Bourbon	\$ 99.99	American Innovators	1 Per Person	5	2	2	Unlike other brands that strive for consistent blends, part of the magic of Barrell is that each of their batch releases is a slightly different blend, showcasing a profile unique to that bottling. We were lucky to get a few older batches along with the newer batch 29. Batch 22 is a blend of classic dry and woody Kentucky Bourbon and floral and sweet Indiana Bourbon and bottled at 116.6 proof.
Barrell Craft Spirits Batch 23 Bourbon	\$ 99.99	American Innovators	1 Per Person	5	1	0	One of Barrell's older batch releases, Batch 23 is comprised of 10, 12 and 15 year barrels from Tennessee, Kentucky, and Indiana. 92pts from Whiskey Advocate.
Barrell Craft Spirits Batch 25 Bourbon	\$ 99.99	American Innovators	1 Per Person	4	1	1	A complex blend of 5-9 year old wheated Bourbon, 9-year high-rye Bourbon, and 13-15 year corn-forward Bourbon. Citrus and peppery with a touch of oaky opulence. 94pts from Whiskey Advocate.
Barrell Craft Spirits Batch 26 Bourbon	\$ 99.99	American Innovators	1 Per Person	4	1	1	A master-class in blending, Batch 26 is a blend of 9, 10, 11, 13 and 15-year-old barrels, each with unique profiles that contribute to a cohesive whiskey. 93pts from Whiskey Advocate.
Barrell Craft Spirits Batch 27 Bourbon	\$ 99.95	American Innovators	1 Per Person	8	2	2	A selection of 5, 6, 8, 9, 13, & 15-year-old barrels from Tennessee, Kentucky and Indiana. A cherry-bomb of a whiskey. 93pts from Whiskey Advocate.
Barrell Craft Spirits Batch 28 Bourbon	\$ 99.95	American Innovators	1 Per Person	8	2	2	Named one of the "12 Best Bourbons to Drink in 2021", the batch 27 is another one of Barrell's more mature batches, entirely comprised of barrels 10 and 11 years old.
Barrell Craft Spirits Batch 29 Bourbon	\$ 99.95	American Innovators	2 Per Person	96	36	36	One of the newest batch releases, Batch 29 has beat out Blanton's Straight from the Barrel, Larceny Barrel Proof, and Orphan Barrel Copper Tongue in blind taste-tests. A blend of 6, 7, 9, 10, 14, and 16-year-old Bourbons.
Barrell Craft Spirits Batch 3 Rye	\$ 99.95	American Innovators	2 Per Person	48	18	18	Barrell just doesn't only do Bourbon - their Batch 3 Rye is a blend of barrels ranging from 4 to 14 years in age from Indiana, Tennessee, Poland(!) and Canada, and bottled at cask strength.

Barrell Craft Spirits Brown Jug Barrel Select Bourbon	\$ 115.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	69	24	24	I'm biased, but this is probably my favorite Barrel Pick we've released this year. Deep, rich, and satisfying, drinking this Bourbon is like sinking into an overstuffed leather recliner after a long day.
Barrell Craft Spirits Pear Brandy Cask Whiskey	\$ 115.99	American Innovators	1 per Person	23	6	12	An exercise in micro-blending, every bottle of Barrell Private Release is a blend of four different whiskeys. Each blend is unique, and is only made once.
Barrell Craft Spirits Private Release BX-21 Whiskey	\$ 114.99	American Innovators	1 per Person	24	6	12	Another Private Release blend from Barrell, comprised of 30% 5 year, 25% 10 year, 20% 14 year and 25% 16 year Bourbons, with a pronounced chocolatey Indiana Bourbon influence.
Barrell Craft Spirits Seagrass Rye	\$ 99.95	American Innovators	2 Per Person	54	12	18	This Rye from Barrell is getting amazing press. A blend of American and Canadian Rye, meticulously sourced and finished in Martinique Rum, Apricot Brandy, and Madeira casks.
Barrell Craft Spirits Wine Finished Whiskey	\$ 114.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	36	18	18	There are actually three different selections of Kentucky Whiskey, the majority of it 18 years, old, finished in wine casks. One of the expressions is finished in a Roda Rioja Reserve cask, one in a Marine Layer Gap's Crown cask, and one in a Corimbo Ribera del Duero cask.
Bird Dog 7 Year Kentucky Straight Bourbon	\$ 25.99	American Innovators	2 per person	18	6	6	While Bird Dog is better known for it's sweet flavored whiskey, they're owned by the same folks that make Calumet Farm and Lexington. Very well-priced for a 7-year Bourbon.
Blackened by Mettlica	\$ 54.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	114	72	72	This releases on Friday, so quantities on Saturday are not guaranteed. Far from just a gimmick, Blackened was developed under the guiding eye of Dave Pickerell, godfather of the American craft whiskey movement. Well-aged bourbons and ryes are sourced from across North America and then finished in charred brandy casks.
Blade & Bow Bourbon	\$ 69.95	American Innovators	*Table	17	6	6	Blade and Bow's claim to fame is that it is a solera blend, which means that every year new product is blended into a selection that goes back years - in this case including some of the last remaining distillate produced at the old Stitzel-Weller distillery before the fire.
Blood Oath Pact No.7 Whiskey	\$ 94.99	American Innovators	1 per Person	43	16	16	Always unique, this year's expression of Blood Oath combined a 14-year high-rye Bourbon with two different 8-year high-rye bourbons before finishing them in French Sauternes dessert wine casks for a balance of sweetness and spice.
Bomberger Declaration Bourbon	\$ 99.99	American Innovators	*Table	15	6	6	From Michter's very limited Legacy Series, Bomberger's is a straight Bourbon whiskey aged in Chinquapin oak and bottled at 108 proof.
Bowman Bros. Small Batch Bourbon	\$ 33.99	American Innovators	1 Per Person	18	6	6	This Bourbon from Virginia is made by Sazerac, producer of Blanton's, Pappy, and Eagle Rare among others. While it hasn't yet garnered the attention that those others brands have, the key word is "yet". Murmurs in several Bourbon groups point to it being one of the next big allocated bourbons.
Breckenridge Port-Finished Bourbon	\$ 62.99	American Innovators	1 Per Person	9	3	3	Made with Breckenridge's signature high-rye Bourbon which is then finished in port casks for up to 6 months. This is an excellent dessert whiskey that deserves more attention then it receives.
Calumet Farms Single Rack 14 Year Bourbon	\$ 109.99	American Innovators	2 per person	30	12	12	Calumet Farms Single-Rack series takes small-batch sourcing one-step further, selecting 19 barrels at a time from a center-rack in an individual rickhouse.
Calumet Farms Single Rack 15 Year Bourbon	\$ 119.99	American Innovators	2 per person	24	9	12	Similar to the 14-year but a year older, smart money has these Calumet Farms Bourbons sourced from Barton 1792 distillery. There are simply not a lot of Bourbons out there with age statements over 12 years, so these extra-matured offerings are always fun to see.
FEW Coldcut Bourbon	\$ 54.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	18	12	12	While most Bourbons are cut with water to bring them to bottle-strength, FEW Cold Cut is cut with cold-brew coffee, bringing depth and boldness to their whiskey.
FEW Immortal Rye	\$ 52.99	American Innovators	1 Per Person	18	6	6	FEW Rye that has been cut down to bottle-proof with 8 Immortals Oolong Tea. Rye spice combined with the Immortals tea to bring notes of peach, honey and dragon fruit to the spirit.
FEW Rye	\$ 49.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	18	12	12	FEW Distillery ins a Grain-to-Glass distillery located just outside of Chicago. Their 93 proof rye shows a balance of rye spice and corn sweetness.
George Remus Repeal Reserve	\$ 89.99	American Innovators	1 Per Person	36	12	12	This is one of the biggest sleepers of this year's release. Crafted with a blend of Bourbons 13 to 16 years old, the Repeal Reserve is made to honor the repeal of Prohibition in 1933. This is one of the finest examples of MGP Bourbon that you'll find. As one reviewer put it when tasting this bottle, "MGP knows their shit."

High West Campfire	\$ 74.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	36	18	18	What used to be a readily available offering from High West has now become distillery only. We snatched up everything we could when we heard. A unique offering among the whiskeys released today, the Campfire is a blend of Bourbon, Rye, and peated Scotch.
Hirsch The Horizon	\$ 39.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	18	6	6	These five cases from Hotaling & Co. barely snuck in to Alaska in time for the release, and I'm really glad it did. The Hirsch Horizon is a blend of 5 and 6 year high-rye Bourbons sourced from MGP.
Hudson Backroom Deal Peated Rye	\$ 64.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	36	12	12	After Hudson dumps their Bourbon barrels, the empty casks are sent over the ocean to Scotland, where they're used to age Islay Scotch. After the Scotch matures, those same barrels are sent back over the Atlantic again to New York where Hudson fills them with their Rye whiskey. Like Campfire, this is American-bottled whiskey with a touch of Islay smoke.
Jack Daniels No.27 Gold Tennessee Whiskey	\$ 99.95	American Innovators	2 Per Person	36	18	18	Unlike regular Jack Daniels, the Gold undergoes a second maturation in maple-wood casks, adding notes of rich maple candy to the classic Jack profile.
Jack Daniels Sinatra Select Tennessee Whiskey	\$ 179.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	18	10	12	The barrels used for the Sinatra select have deep grooves carved in the staves, massively increasing the surface area of the charred wood that the whiskey is exposed to inside the cask. This added exposure adds a deeper color, more intense character and deeper barrel notes of smoke and vanilla.
Jack Daniels Single-Barrel Barrel-Proof Rye	\$ 67.99	American Innovators	*Table	5	2	2	While many whiskey aficionados pooh-poo Jack Daniels, those in the know recognize that Jack Daniel's Single-Barrel Barrel-Proof series is something special.
Jefferson Pritchard Hill 90.2pr Bourbon	\$ 94.95	American Innovators	2 Per Person	9	4	4	Jefferson's Pritchard Hill starts its life as Jefferson's Reserve Kentucky straight Bourbon before being aged for an additional 12 months in Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon casks.
Jefferson's Ocean Aged at Sea Voyage 23 Bourbon	\$ 99.95	American Innovators	2 Per Person	60	18	24	Like the name says, every barrel of Jefferson's Ocean travels on a cargo ship and crosses the equator at least twice. This journey took the spirit to Auckland NZ, Perth Australia, and Hitachanaka Japan before returning to Savannah Georgia where they voyage began.
Legent Bourbon	\$ 45.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	101	48	48	Legent Bourbon is a collaboration between Jim Beam's Fred Noe and Suntory's Shinji Fukuyo. Legent starts with traditional Kentucky Bourbon that is then aged in sherry and red-wine casks and blended with more straight Kentucky Bourbon, adding layers of flavor with each step.
Lock Stock & Barrel 18 Year Rye	\$ 219.95	American Innovators	1 Per Person	5	0	0	Some of the oldest Rye whiskey available on the market today (aside from the 20 year!), Lock Stock and Barrel is 100% rye that has been aged in new charred American Oak barrels for 18 years before being bottled at 109 proof.
Lock, Stock & Barrel 20 Year Rye	\$ 349.99	American Innovators	1 Per Person	9	3	3	100% rye aged in charred new American oak for 20 years. Only 3,000 bottles produced. Yes, you're paying for the age statement, but it's a fair price to pay for rye this good.
Michter's 10 Year Kentucky Straight Bourbon	\$ 134.99	American Innovators	**Raffle	1	1	1	Michter's 10 is often the Bourbon collector's White Whale, being harder to find in some markets (like Alaska) than bigger names like Van Winkle. It's been named "The Best American Whiskey" by <i>Food and Wine</i> magazine, and a single barrel of the 10 year has gone for over \$209,462 at auction. This is the real deal.
Michter's 10 Year Kentucky Straight Rye	\$ 144.99	American Innovators	1 Per Person	24	9	12	One of Michter's most limited production items. Michter's will often hold back on releasing their 10-year age statement ryes until they feel that the spirit is at its peak flavor. We don't know for sure, but this release is rumored to be older than it's 10-year designation.
Michter's US #1 Kentucky Straight Bourbon	\$ 54.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	42	24	24	Michter's flagship Bourbon, this used to be available on the shelf all-year long, but in recent years we've only been able to get it once a year in the fall, and in limited quantities.
Michters US #1 Sour Mash American Whiskey	\$ 59.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	42	24	24	Michter's Sour Mash uses a proprietary mashbill and is aged in toasted - not charred - oak casks.
Nooku Bourbon Cream	\$ 32.95	American Innovators	2 Per Person	120	60	60	From Old Elk Distillery, Nooku is my favorite Bourbon cream on the market. Made from authentic barrel-aged bourbon and real dairy cream with no artificial colors or flavoring, coffee with Nooku makes any morning better.
Old Elk Barrel Pick	\$ 64.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	102	48	48	A single-barrel selection of Old Elk's high-malt, slow-cut Bourbon.

Old Elk Sour Mash Reserve 105pr	\$ 99.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	36	12	12	A surprise last-minute addition to the release, the Old Elk Sour Mash Reserve is a high-proof expression of Old Elk using a different yeast strain than their flagship product.
Old Elk Straight Rye Whiskey	\$ 89.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	36	12	12	Ever since we launched Old Elk in the Alaskan market last year, we've gotten questions of "When are you going to get the rye?" Well, the wait is finally over!
Old Elk Straight Wheat Whiskey	\$ 76.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	36	12	12	Old Elk Wheat Whiskey has a mash bill of 95% soft red winter wheat and 5% malted barley and has been aged for five years. Vivacious and refreshing, bottled at 100 proof.
Old Elk Straight Wheated Bourbon	\$ 76.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	30	12	12	"Wheaters" are some of the Bourbon world's most sought after whiskies, and this mashbill clocks in at 45% wheat. Shows cream, toffee, vanilla and toasted almonds on the palate.
Rebel 10 Year Single Barrel Bourbon	\$ 61.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	30	24	24	This is wheated Heaven Hill Mashbill, so you're essentially getting an Old Fitzgerald 10. One of the most underrated Bourbons - and of the best wheated bourbons on the market while being easier to get than its competition.
Redwood Empire Emerald Giant Rye	\$ 43.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	39	18	18	We're happy to bring Redwood Empire to Alaska as a Brown Jug exclusive. 95% rye mashbill aged for 3 years. 97 points from Tasting Panel Magazine.
Redwood Empire Lost Monarch Whiskey	\$ 43.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	39	18	18	A blend of the Emerald Giant and the Pipe Dream, the Lost Monarch is more than the sum of its parts. Named one of the best available whiskies of 2020 by Bourbon Junkies.
Redwood Empire Pipe Dream Bourbon	\$ 43.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	87	36	36	A blend of house-distilled Bourbon with some older MGP stocks to round it out, Pipe Dream shows drinks well above its price point.
Rossville Union Barrel Proof Straight Rye	\$ 61.99	American Innovators	1 Per Person	36	12	12	Part of MGP's portfolio that recently came available in Alaska, this is straight-forward high-quality MGP rye at barrel proof. What's not to like?
Sazerac Rye	\$ 36.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	55	30	30	The OG rye whiskey from Buffalo Trace distillery, this is made with a lower rye mashbill than many rye whiskeys, clocking in at 51% rye, 39% corn and 10% malted barley. An essential, classic bottle for anyone's collection.
Stellum Bourbon	\$ 61.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	168	84	84	While Barrel Craft Spirits has made a reputation for being wildly experimental, never producing the exact same whiskey twice, Stellum represents an effort to produce a consistent high quality product. While it's too know to know if Stellum will be consistent, they nailed the "high-quality", with both the Bourbon and the Rye racking up critical appeal.
Stellum Rye	\$ 61.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	96	36	36	Shows a full mouthfeel and buttery sweetness along with classic rye spice. Like the Bourbon, it's earned a plethora of awards since its debut late last year.
Stranahan's Blue Peak	\$ 39.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	60	30	30	Formerly called "Diamond Peak", Stranahan's Blue Peak is American single malt distilled at high altitude, aged in new American oak, and Solera finished.
Stranahan's Sherry Cask	\$ 74.95	American Innovators	2 Per Person	60	30	30	Starts its life as Stranahan's Rocky Mountain Single Malt before being transferred to Oloroso Sherry casks to finish.
Thomas Moore Cabernet Cask Bourbon	\$ 71.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	72	24	24	The Thomas Moore line is comprised of 3 wine-finished bourbons released by Barton's 1792 distillery to experiment with extended cask finishing of their bourbons.
Thomas Moore Chardonnay Cask Bourbon	\$ 71.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	72	24	24	Buttery influence from the Chardonnay casks make this bottling an intriguing and unique bourbon.
Thomas Moore Port Cask Bourbon	\$ 71.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	36	12	12	Fans of Angel's Envy should look to Thomas Moore Port Cask Bourbon for a different take on the same finish. A little less sweet and more robust than the Envy.
Tin Cup 10 Year	\$ 47.95	American Innovators	2 Per Person	24	24	24	Smooth, easy-drinking, don't-feel-bad-if-your-buddies-drink-it whiskey.
Widow Jane 10 Year Bourbon	\$ 81.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	18	6	6	This very-small-batch bourbon (batches are usually only 5 barrels) is sourced from 10 year old barrels from Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana. The result is a straight-down-the-middle pour. Though it doesn't color outside the lines, it's delivers exactly what you want in an aged bourbon.

Widow Jane Rye Mash Applewood	\$ 54.99	American Innovators	2 Per Person	18	12	12	While the 10-year may play it safe, Widow Jane's Oak and Applewood aged Rye is a different story. Aged initially in a used Bourbon barrel, then finished with fresh-cut applewood staves, the finished whiskey shows notes of applewood smoke, baked apple, and citrus.
Widow Jane The Vaults	\$199.99	American Innovators	1 Per Person	12	6	6	I was surprised we were able to get our hands on this expression from Widow Jane, which is a release of their oldest and rarest bourbons. All the whiskey in the blend is at least 14 years old and then finished in unique American Oak casks coopered with 8-year-old seasoned wood (instead of the standard 1-2 years). Only 5,000 bottles released.