

## M Drink

### Are You a Liquor Locavore?

If you think we don't make anything in the U.S.A. anymore, you're not drinking enough. Our new favorite gin? It's from Philly—not England. Here are six extremely tasty reasons to buy American when you stock your bar

• **HUDSON BABY BOURBON WHISKEY**  
*Gardiner, New York*  
Whoever said bourbon comes only from Kentucky told a damn lie. The folks at Tuthilltown Spirits are giving the Bluegrass State a run for its money in New York's Hudson Valley with this "baby bourbon." Distilled from Empire State corn, it has plenty of good oak and a taste as well-rounded as the bottle. 375 ml, \$40

**TRY IT:** On the rocks or in an old-fashioned.

• **CLEAR CREEK PEAR BRANDY**  
*Portland, Oregon*  
Clear Creek sells a pricey version with a fully grown Bartlett pear inside the bottle, but even the cheaper, pearless stuff tastes like an ultrapure distillation of the fruit it's made from.

Also plays well with other spirits. 750 ml, \$40  
**TRY IT:** Straight up after dinner or with equal parts Clear Creek, blended scotch, and dry vermouth, and a dash of orange bitters.

• **BLUECOAT GIN**  
*Philadelphia*  
They signed the Declaration of Independence in Philly back in 1776, and now we're declaring independence from English gin. It says "Dry" on that pretty blue bottle, but what's inside is lively and punchy, with plenty of citrus and sweetness behind the juniper. 750 ml, \$28

**TRY IT:** With a decent tonic or straight up with a twist.

• **RAGGED MOUNTAIN RUM**  
*Great Barrington, Massachusetts*  
Turns out rum distilled up in the Berkshires has all the burnt-sugar and banana flavors you get from the Caribbean stuff, plus some subtle smokiness and crisp complexity that taste exactly how New England feels this time of year. 750 ml, \$30

**TRY IT:** On the rocks or in a Dark 'n' Stormy.

• **KINGS COUNTY MOONSHINE**  
*Brooklyn*  
Given Brooklyn's obsession with all things turn-of-the-century, this artisanal moonshine came as no surprise. But we were shocked at how drinkable it is—smooth, mellow, slightly sweet. This ain't that stuff your

friend brought back from Alabama. There's no grimace when you take a sip—just a mild burn that makes you want another. 200 ml, \$20  
**TRY IT:** Straight from the bottle, which fits nicely in the back pocket of your selvaige jeans.

• **DEATH'S DOOR VODKA**  
*Madison, Wisconsin*  
Vodka is a neutral spirit, and Death's Door is as pure as they come, distilled from organic winter wheat that supports the local economy and leaves you with a clean palate and a clear conscience. 750 ml, \$33  
**TRY IT:** In a pristine martini or in the best damn Bloody Mary you've ever had. —STAN PARISH

