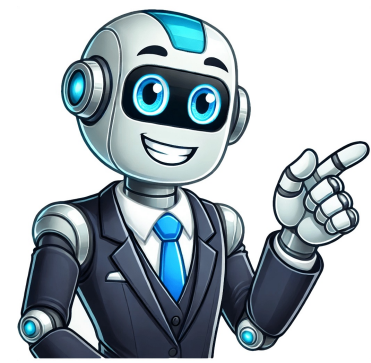


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Distillery: Makers Mark Proof: 90 Age: No Age Statement Mashbill: 70% Corn, 16% Wheat, 14% Malted Barley Price: \$30 Company Makers Mark is one of the most iconic bourbon brands out there. Theyre known best for their red wax and quality bourbon that wont blow your ears off (quote from founder, Bill Samuels, Sr). Production The standard Makers Mark expression is a wheated bourbon made in batches of under 1,000 gallons (19 barrels). Barrels are rotated between the upper and lower levels of the rickhouse to even out the variations in temperature each barrel is exposed to. Its really a sight that I recommend seeing if you ever have a chance to go to the distillery. Nose 94/100 Sweet and rich with notes of caramel, vanilla, and brown sugar. The epitome of what a bourbon smells like. Palate 92/100 Less flavor than the rich nose would suggest, but still sweet and easy to drink with notes of vanilla and oak. An almost buttery mouthfeel makes this a crazy easy bourbon to sip neat. Finish 89/100 Less sweet than the nose and palate. The oak comes through more in the finish with notes of toffee and a bit more spice than anticipated. Its a satisfying, but unremarkable finish. Value -92/100 Makers Mark is one of my favorite bourbons under \$30. Its sweet, easy to sip, and versatile. It makes a great old fashioned and can be used as a mixer for just about any other drink you can think of. The price has crept up over the years, which is certainly something to watch, but for now, Makers is a must on your shelf if you like sweeter pours. If youre more of a rye person, Makers just isnt going to scratch that itch for you (and it shouldnt because it wasnt designed to). Verdict 91.5/100 We score each bourbon based on nose, palate, finish, and value. Scoring System: Platinum 95+ Gold 90-94 Silver 80-89 Bronze