

# THE BOURBONER

Supporting Your Life's Journey — with Bourbon

31 of the Best Bourbon Brands  
at Ten Oak Austin

[TheBourboner.com](http://TheBourboner.com)

## 1. CALUMET

**Proof: 80 proof**

**Smell: Notes of Vanilla, light in smell and texture**

Notes: Light, smooth taste with a bit of heat at the end of the sip. Though sporadic, the bite that presents itself here and there makes for an interesting surprise.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: We'd recommend having this with a colleague whose company you enjoy (as this Bourbon goes well with good conversation).

## 2. GEORGE STAGG JR.

**Proof: 130 proof**

**Smell: Potent, yet subtle, smell of maple and wood**

Notes: Flavorful, potent and with a heavier texture, the texture and taste of G.S. Jr. immediately envelopes all that it touches, coating the inside of your mouth with delicious goodness.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Invite friends and enjoyable colleagues only for this Bourbon, no office P.I.T.A.'s or mediocre desk-jockey's should enjoy this on your dime.



## 3. JEFFERSON OCEAN AGED AT SEA

**Proof: 90 proof**

**Smell: A great blended hint of sweetness due to the salt in the air during aging**

Notes: "Briny salty sea air mixed with the sugars", as Shawn describes it. This Bourbon has a slight resemblance of rum with a medium texture (starts light then comes around a bit more full bodied at the end of the sip).

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: This Bourbon should definitely be an experience reserved for select colleagues to partake and participate.



## 4. MIGHTERS, SMALL BATCH

**Proof: 90 proof**

**Smell: A great blended hint of sweetness due to the salt in the air during aging**

Notes: "Briny salty sea air mixed with the sugars", as Shawn describes it. This Bourbon has a slight resemblance of rum with a medium texture (starts light then comes around a bit more full bodied at the end of the sip).

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: This Bourbon should definitely be an experience reserved for select colleagues to partake and participate.

## 5. JEFFERSON, CHEF COLLABORATION

**Proof: 92 proof**

**Smell: Smells like hints of Vanilla**

Notes: Goes down as smooth as you could image. It's potent, yet flavorful.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Your enemy at work doesn't deserve this goodness (treat a friend).

## 6. COLONEL E. H. TAYLOR BARREL PROOF (UNCUT & UNFILTERED)

**Proof: 129 proof**

**Smell: Medium smell of Vanilla**

Notes: This Bourbon has a woody taste, pungent kick to the tongue, a "smooth slide" when consumed, and adds a type of fireplace warmth a few seconds later.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: This could be for an annoying colleague or a friend dependent on their taste (and tolerance). Sample this yourself at first to determine the latter decision.





## 7. RANGER CREEK RIMFIRE

**Proof: 86 proof**

**Notes: Very apparent mesquite taste, but smooth all the way down**

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Have this with someone you like versus the office P.I.T.A..



## 8. RANGER CREEK .36

**Proof: 96 proof**

**Smell: Great aroma**

Notes: Very smooth, balanced and flavorful taste (no sharp/sporadic "bites"). Traces of wood are present in between each sip and linger for your enjoyment.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Definitely good to have every once and awhile with colleagues.



## 9. GARRISON BROTHERS SINGLE BARREL

**Proof: 94 proof**

**Smell: Astute first smell (definitely awakens your senses).**

Notes: Strong but easy taste. A fist at first taste, but a massage as you finish. Hints of chocolate reveal themselves accompanied by a sporadic presence of nutty tastes.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Bring a work friend who made you mad that day and have them drink it quickly (for the P.I.T.A. at work, make them shoot it). But not you. You sip it and enjoy it.

## 10. ORPHAN BARREL RHETORIC

**Proof: 90 proof**

**Smell: Good smell of caramel**

Notes: This Bourbon has a strong flavor with a balanced taste of sweetness. A stint of wood flavor is present in between sips.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Definitely a "share with a colleague" Bourbon (the P.I.T.A. doesn't deserve this).

## 11. ORPHAN BARREL LOST PROPHET

**Proof: 90.1 Proof**

**Smell: Similar smell to the Orphan Barrel Rhetoric but sharper**

Notes: Denser notes of wood in between sips. We would call this a "I get to the point" Bourbon.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Bring a colleague you just met but aren't really attached to and see their reaction to this selection. Based on their reaction, gauge if they'll be a friend or P.I.T.A. in the future.

## 12. WELLER 12 YEAR

**Proof: 90 proof**

**Smell: Subtle smell**

Notes: Minimal bite with smooth composition

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Definitely bring the colleague you enjoy working with to experience this with you over a great conversation.

## 13. ELIJAH CRAIG SMALL BATCH

**Proof: 94 proof**

**Smell: Flowing smell of caramel and a hint of cinnamon**

Notes: Immediate wood taste, this is a tastebud-tingler but smooth from start to finish

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Definitely a Bourbon worthy of a colleague's company.

## 14. BALCONES BABY BLUE

**Proof: 92 proof**

**Smell: Stronger alcohol smell (the rye)**

Notes: This Bourbon has an apparent smokey flavor in between sips.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: This selection is definitely for the more "open" Bourboner (open = a person who lives outside of one set of expectations).

## 15. HUDSON MANHATTAN RYE

**Proof: 92 proof**

**Smell: A smell that seems to blend a stronger rye alcohol smell and something sweet (between caramel and chocolate)**

Notes: The HMR has an earthy smoothness about it but it's still delicious with a balanced sweet flavor to great your tastebuds.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Definitely have this with a colleague you're willing to build a friendship over time and don't mind working with on a daily basis.



## 16. MICTHER'S BOURBON SINGLE BARREL 10 YEAR

**Proof: 94.4 proof**

**Smell: Honey/sweet aroma**

Notes: This Michter's bites the tip of the tongue, warming everything it touches as it moves around the inside of your mouth—then goes down with a purpose! You'll also experience a slight wood taste in between sips.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Bring a colleague you enjoy working with, but this occasion should definitely be reserved for a tough day or juicy gossip-sharing (if you do that kind of thing).



## 17. BLANTON'S SINGLE BARREL

**Proof: 93 proof**

**Smell: Light smell (hard to make a distinction)**

Notes: Smooth taste, well balanced flavor, no bite but establishes a presence amongst your gums (if you coat the inside of your mouth with it).

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Definitely a Bourbon worthy of a colleague you get along with. This is even delicious enough to taste with your significant other. But if you're attempting to multitask and are dating your colleague then you've covered 2 birds with 1 stone (just be careful not to create a HR case if you're going back to work and got carried away enjoying the smoothness too much)!



## 18. ELMER T. LEE SINGLE BARREL

**Proof: 90 proof**

**Smell: Has a smell of caramel with the impression that it will be smooth and light (but that's the wrong assumption)**

Notes: Elmer T. Lee Single Barrel has an introductory bite that lets you know it has arrived, but it's not harsh. Even with a spike of flavor as you consume the sip, overall, it's a good sipping bourbon. But be forewarned, it's not sitting on the sideline—Elmer T. Lee is here to play the game!

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: If you enjoy subtle vengeance, bring the person from work who talks entirely too much, have them take a large sip and watch their words fall quickly into the Spartan-pit known as their throat. For those who you enjoy their company, let them know this Bourbon is a pleasant surprise (where "surprise" is the operative word).

## 19. ELIJAH CRAIG 12 YEAR

**Proof: 94 proof**

**Smell: Spicy and sweet smell**

Notes: You'll experience a wood and light smokey taste in between sips. With the combination of the wood and smoke, an earthy tone lingers but in a pleasant way.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: I would say to enjoy this one by yourself until you can determine if you would invite the colleague-friend or the office P.I.T.A..

## 20. HUDSON BABY BOURBON

**Proof: 92 proof**

**Smell: The smell is light and subtle**

Notes: The taste seems to have a bit of spice that's rich, flavorful and delicious with a bite towards the end of each sip.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Definitely a good bourbon to have with friends. We wouldn't share it with the office P.I.T.A.



## 21. ORPHAN BARREL OLD BLOWHARD

**Proof: 90.7 proof**

**Smell: A crisp and defined smell**

Notes: A bit thicker composition with a slight bite that lingers but full of flavor. After being aged 26 years, the wood is apparent with each sip

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: The Old Blowhard Bourbon is too aged with quality to waste on the office P.I.T.A. Reserve this Bourbon for enjoyable colleagues or moments of reflection (on Life, your career path, the promotion you're about to receive, or how you're going to make it up to your significant other for whatever you did the other night).



## 22. ORPHAN BARREL BARTERHOUSE

**Proof: 90.2 proof**

**Smell: Spicy/sweet honey smell**

Notes: Light flavor on the tastebuds but it is thoroughly appreciated. A balanced smooth texture and taste with the presence of the oak on the back of your tongue is present in between sips.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: We'd dismiss the office P.I.T.A. for this one as well. Surround yourself with goodness for this Goodness.

## 23. ANGEL'S ENVY CASK STRENGTH

**Proof: 119.3 proof**

**Smell: Strong smell (to be expected)**

Notes: Thick texture that automatically coats every aspect of your mouth. A robust flavor is present from beginning to the end of consumption (as it should be)—definitely should be treated as a treat.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: In our honest opinion, no office P.I.T.A. deserves a cask strength bourbon (they don't deserve this experience at your expense).

## 24. OLD RIP VAN WINKLE 10 YEAR (2014)

**Proof: 107 proof**

**Smell: Great smell.**

Notes: Great taste, bountiful with flavor and some spice. A smooth tasting experience, but your taste buds and saliva glands will definitely react on the first sip (and each one after),

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: This should only be reserved for the colleague you appreciate—no room for the P.I.T.A.



## 25. VAN WINKLE SPECIAL RESERVE 12 YEAR (2014)

**Proof: 90.4 proof**

**Smell: A lighter smell than expected**

Notes: Even with a thicker texture, and a lower proof than others in this list, it feels (on the tongue) like a heavier punch. Traces of wood linger in between sips but adds to its character.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Have this one after a long day. Sip and be merry, but no P.I.T.A. should be present.

## 26. PAPPY VAN WINKLE'S FAMILY RESERVE 15 YEAR (2014)

**Proof: 107 proof**

**Smell: Light but aromatic smell**

Notes: This Bourbon will warm the mouth, deliver a tingle to the tongue and open your nasal captivity (great for sinuses). Pappy Van Winkle's 15 establishes a presence on your gums as to say, "I am here." The proof is a bit more apparent compared to the 10 year Old Rip, but with 5 more years of barrel-evolution, what would you expect.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: We would say to punish the office P.I.T.A. by making them shoot this, but you may be asked to leave the bar (or get shot) for disrespecting this Bourbon—enjoy it yourself.

## 27. BALCONES SINGLE MALT

**Proof: 106 proof**

**Smell: A subtle but potent smell that you can taste in the back of your throat,**

Notes: sweet to the taste with a bite at the end of consumption, your gums will definitely feel the once present Balcones Single Malt,

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: have the office P.I.T.A. shoot this one (it should make their eyes water) and supply you with a small sense of satisfaction for whatever they did to you in the office that day (or week). The texture is so smooth, they won't even realize you were punishing them. (If they enjoyed the burn, don't buy them another round—they shouldn't be rewarded.)

## 28. EAGLE RARE 10

**Proof: 90 proof**

**Smell: Light smell of sweetness**

Notes: Light taste but well balanced and flavorful. Smooth texture that seems to have a gentle touch as its consumed accompanied by a light sense of wood in between sips. This Bourbon could be described as having an "airy and floaty" experience.

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Definitely reserve this for your pleasant colleagues from work. Sipping this with great company will seem like you're in one of your favorite movie scenes (where they're enjoying themselves while sipping a glass of goodness, obviously).

## 29. OLD WELLER ANTIQUE

**Proof: 107 proof**

**Smell: Subtle smell with a sharp reminder of its potency**

Notes: Smooth flavor and texture with a bit of a "spicy bite" after consumption. The presence of a sweet, wood taste lingers on the tongue symbolizing why this goodness is called "Antique".

Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.: Enjoy this with a colleague. This Bourbon lends to the statement of "good times with good people".





## 30. YELLOW ROSE BLENDED

**Proof:** 80 proof

**Smell:** Apparent wood/smokey smell though pleasant to the senses

**Notes:** Deliciously sweet taste and smoothly balanced, a bit sweeter than average Bourbons but still a pleasure to experience. Not harsh at all and devoid of any kind of bite, definitely a great choice for Bourboners who prefer sipping a Bourbon without getting “bit”.

**Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.:** This is a great Bourbon for a date—leave the colleagues and office P.I.T.A.’s out on this one.



## 31. YELLOW ROSE DOUBLE BARREL

**Proof:** 86 proof

**Smell:** Strong wood smell

**Notes:** Smooth, smoky taste and less sweet than its Blended counterpart. This is a tasty alternative to the “spicy bite” one may be used to with Bourbons. In the meantime, enjoy a pleasant wood taste in between sips.

**Colleague or Office P.I.T.A.:** This Bourbon is far from brash so please enjoy this with people you like and prefer to be around. This should not be shared with people who annoy you (it’ll ruin the experience with the Bourbon).

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