

Berkshire Bourbon Smoke and Peat

45%

It would be easy to hate on this as bourbon, but taken merely as a whiskey, it's compelling, original, and surprisingly well-knit. The nose betrays the smoke and sea of its Islay cask finish, while the palate offers more sweet vanilla, candied nuts, and citrus before circling back with distinct vegetal notes of seaweed and jalapeño. Perhaps bourbon is in the eye of the beholder.

—Vol. 26, #3