

Nikka from the Barrel

51.4%

Wonderful to see this portly bottle in U.S. stores at last. An exotic nose, with turned woods, stewed plum, sultana, ground ginger, dried chilies, and black cherry, it oscillates between spice and dark fruits. Rich smoke is packed deep; it's far from the most dominant aroma. Orange, cherry, mango, and bubble gum notes are beaten back by a spicy rush of ginger and pepper, the sweetness prevailing over the cloves. *Editors' Choice*

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