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Father's Day Gift Guide: Around The World With Alcohol

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Travel

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Send dad to Scotland with The Macallan Estate Whisky. COURTESY OF THE MACALLAN ESTATE

Going on a trip with your father or the father figure in your life may not be an option this year as a way to celebrate Father's Day given the travel restrictions in the light of Covid-19. You can, however, take dad on a virtual tour of the world by gifting him alcohol from different countries, whether that means brandy from Bolivia, gin from Ireland or a gorgeous Pinot Noir from the United States courtesy of California's Sonoma County.

Below, my top nine picks for that global journey:

Belle Glos 2011 Taylor Lane Pinot Noir (\$300)

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2011 Belle Glos Taylor Lane Pinot Noir looks as elegant as it tastes. COURTESY OF BELLE GLOS

Grown from grapes on the Sonoma Coast, this splurge-worthy magnum by producer Joseph Wagner from the renowned Taylor Lane vineyard - with a bottle dipped in silver wax to boot - features a dynamic combination of fruity notes including cherry, apple and blackberry and has aromas of pepper, tobacco, and the forest floor. It's acidity and minerality make for silky smooth sipping, and even though the bottle is big enough to share, dad might not want to.

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The Philippines

Don Papa 10 Year Rum (\$70)



Don Papa 10 Year Rum is made of exquisite cane sugar. COURTESY OF DON PAPA

Rum from the Philippines? You bet! This is a bottle of decade-old super premium small-batch rum from the tropical island of Negros and is crafted with some of the best cane sugar in the world. It's aged in re-charred oak barrels in the foothills of Mount Kanlaon and has a rich, concentrated taste while keeping true to the brand's signature sweetness. It's perfect for sipping or blending into that perfect Father's Day cocktail.

Bolivia

Singani Brandy (\$28)



Singani 63 Bolivian Brandy has only just recently been marketed outside of Bolivia.

COURTESY OF SINGANI

Flaunting its status as both a Designation of Origin product and Geographical Indication recipient, Singani's grapes have been growing at a minimum altitude of 5,250 feet within the historic home of Singani in the Andes Mountains for over 500 years.

Brought to the world stage by director Steven Soderbergh, Singani 63 is a clean and mixable brandy using natural yeasts and distilled by a local farm-to-bottle producer called Casa Real.

Mexico

Clase Azul Anejo (\$500)



Clase Azul Anejo's bottle is outfitted with native Mexican symbolism and 24 karat gold.

(DINO GOMEZ)

Hooking the nose with scents of Mexican vanilla, cinnamon, apples, almonds and the aroma of caramel from cooked agave, Clase Azul Anejo sports a taste as intricate as the bottle it comes in, which is a love-letter to the country's Mazahua people. The tequila's extensive aging period gives the liquid an intense, hypothesizing amber color. A pricey purchase, sure, but it's one that's well worth it.

Italy

Amaro Nonino Quintessentia (\$55)



Amaro Nonino Quintessentia is a refresh of Antonio Nonino's ancient recipe. COURTESY OF TERLATO WINES

From the hills of Friuli and released on New Year's Day 2015, Amaro Quintessentia is a unique style of spirits that works great as a way to end a night- with or without your favorite dessert. Founding his distillery in the late 1800s, Orazino Nonino and his family began creating quality grappa through their own research, and to this day, the brand is a family run business. This deep red and amber drink uses an infusion of herbs with a portion of UE, a game-changing Nonino Grape Distillate, aged in barriques.

Scotland

The Macallan Estate (\$250)



The Macallan Estate is an homage to single malt whisky. COURTESY OF THE MACALLAN ESTATE.

Coming from the Easter Elchies estate from legendary Speyside, Scotland, The Macallan Estate is considered a tribute to the brand's heritage. Constituting a variety of scents like dried fruits (as well as banana and lemon), caramel, and wood spice, it treats the palate to a mix of citruses and dry oak spiked with fig. What makes this bottle even more special is that it's distilled just once a year over the course of a single week, making it a great, rare spirit for dad.

Ireland

Listoke Gin (\$60)



Listoke Gin makes an excellent half of a G&T. COURTESY OF LISTOKE GIN

Dubbed Ireland's most awarded gin, this Hibernian libation was dreamed up by two native Irish bartenders after leaving NYC behind to open a distillery back home. Designed as a sipping gin, it has a clean taste and gorgeous botanicals including Spanish lemon peel, juniper and coriander seed. But, it still works well as a mixer and makes for an exquisite martini with a twist of orange or in practically any modern cocktail.

France

Krug 2006 (\$300)



Krug 2006 prides itself on its nickname "Capricious Indulgence". COURTESY OF KRUG

You can never go wrong by gifting a Krug, one of France's most premium and admired champagnes and especially not when it's a vintage bubbly. Released last fall to great anticipation, it was blended in a year considered a great one for wines and has roundness and elegance. Opening notes include yellow and dried fruit, toasted almonds, hazelnut and mandarin liqueur, and to taste it is to experience a freshness combined with flavors of pastry, nougat, and grapefruit.

Greece

Kastra Elion (\$55)



Kastra Elion gets its name from Nafpaktos castle that stands over the brand's home region. COURTESY OF KASTRA ELION

Who says the only spirit from Greece is ouzo? Here comes vodka and one that has a sweeter taste compared to potato-based vodkas because it's made with olives- a fruit that's integral to Greek history and culture. Despite their tangy salty taste, this spirit sports a buttery-fruity finish with slightly spicy undertones. It works great for sipping, on the rocks, or chilled and in martinis.

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