

INTRODUCTION

For 125 years, Young's Market Co. has strived to be the leader in wholesale and distribution of spirits, wine and selected beverages. Being a family-owned and operated business, we take great pride in representing artisanal family-owned breweries, distilleries and wineries from around the world.

Young's Market Co. is very proud to present our artisanal Japanese Sake, Shochu & Liqueur portfolio. We represent some of the best importers and producers and their brands. Some are familiar and authentic — others are innovative and cutting edge. We hope you find this booklet useful in exploring our dynamic portfolio, and also helpful in further understanding these wonderful beverages.

Thank you & Kanpai!

Young's Market Company / The Estates Group

ヤングス・マーケットはリキュール、 ワイン、その他アルコール飲料全般の 卸し業のリーダー的存在として、昨年 創業125年間を迎えました。ファミ リーオーナー、家族経営である弊社は、 同じく家族経営のブリューワリー、 ディスティラリー、そしてワイナリー を代表することを大変光栄と感じてお ります。

このカタログでは、日本の地酒、焼酎、その他リキュールをご紹介させていただきます。全国でも有数の製造元そして輸入元、そして彼らのブランド。中には見覚えのある、オーセンティックなブランドもあり、または革新的な、最先端のブランドもあります。このカタログをご参照に、弊社のダイナミックなポートフォリオを検索してください。そして、この素晴らしい酒類カテゴリーへの理解を深めるのに貢献できれば幸いです。

ヤングス・マーケット代表

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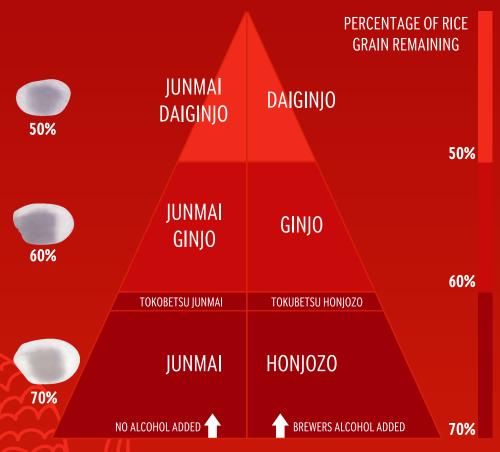
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*PREMIUM SAKE

(Tokutei Meisho-Shu)

The premium sake category contains eight classifications, although it accounts for only 25% of total sake production in Japan (the other 75% is known as Futsuu-shu, or table sake).



MILLING PERCENTAGE:

(Measured as percentage of the original grain remaining)

Relevant Terms: Daiginjo, Ginjo, Honjozo All sake is made from milled rice, but premium sake rice is more highly milled, resulting in a lower milling percentage. The more the rice is milled, the more ethereal, complex and fragrant the resulting sake becomes. The classifications refer to a legally required level of milling, and many brewers choose to exceed this amount in order to make an even more refined sake. The requirements are:

Daiginjo — 50% Ginjo — 60% Honjozo — 70%

Note that Junmai does not have a requirement associated with it. Thus, junmai sake can be milled to any percentage, although is typically milled to nearly the same level as honjozo.

TOKUBETSU DESIGNATION:

Relevant Terms: Tokubetsu Junmai, Tokubetsu Honjozo

Some sakes are labeled as tokubetsu, or special. This simply means that there is something unique about the sake: better rice, higher polishing or just that brewers paid special attention to the batch. The term only applies to the junmai and honjozo classifications. It is similar in concept to a riserva in wine, although it carries no legal requirements.

ADDED ALCOHOL:

Relevant Terms: Junmai

Any sake labeled with the word junmai is "pure" sake, made from only rice, koji-kin, yeast and water. It tends to have a stronger taste of rice, and be somewhat thicker on the palate. Contrary to popular conception, this does not make it superior to other sakes, and many brewers prefer to add some alcohol, claiming it helps thin the sake and lift its aroma. In the end, it is simply a matter of preference.

« COLOR »

Use the Color Guide to identify the product you are looking for. Each product is color coded based on the category and Sake grade.





EIKO FUJI BAN RYU

栄光冨士「万流」

"10,000 WAYS" FUTSU-SHU 普通酒

SMV: +1 Alcohol: 15.3% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 27149, 27227, 27159 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Fuji Brewing Company (est. 1778) Prefecture: Yamagata

Soft, balanced and easy going, this Sake is versatile and can be enjoyed in "10,000 Ways," from chilled to gently warmed, paired with light, heavy, spicy or sweet foods. The sake is crisp, clean and refreshing.



TOZAI 東西 "TYPHOON" FUTSU-SHU

SMV: +6.5 Alcohol: 14.9% Size: 720ml, 1.8L Code: 563521, 563560 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Kizakura Prefecture: Kyoto

A versatile premium sake that is delicious not only served chilled but also gently warmed.



MINATO "HARBOR" YAMAHAI NAMAGENSHU

港山廃生原酒 FUTSU-SHU普通酒

SMV:+1 Alcohol: 20-21% Size: 720ml Code: 14325 Importer: Craft & Estate



Brewery: Naba Brewing Company (est. 1815) Prefecture: Akita

Undiluted and unpasteurized, this sake has intense yeasty aromas with strong notes of mushroom. Its flavors allow it to pair with heartier foods, such as steak and barbecued meats. It can also be poured as an after-dinner sake.



YURI MASAMUNE 由利正宗

"BEAUTIFUL LILY" FUTSU-SHU 普通酒

SMV: +2.5 Alcohol: 15% Size: 200ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 27178,27128, 27158 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Saiya Brewing Company (est. 1902) Prefecture: Akita

Both mellow and rustic, this sake has aromas of fresh melon and a light nuttiness on the palate. It is the original brand of the brewery and a favorite among the Akita locals. Serve chilled or gently warmed.



EIKO FUJI HONKARA 栄光冨士「本辛」

"EXTRA EXTRA DRY" HONJOZO本醸造

SMV: +10 Alcohol: 15.6% Size: 720ml, 1.8L Code: 27027, 27059 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Fuji Brewing Company (est. 1778) Prefecture: Yamagata

This sake is an abbreviation for "Honjozo Karakuchi," meaning "extra dry Honjozo." It is rich and dry, silky and balanced with a crisp clean finish. Serve chilled or gently warmed with both light and hearty foods.



KARATAMBA

辛丹波 HONJOZO 本醸造

SMV: +7 Alcohol: 15.4% Size: 300ml Code: 81653 Importer: JFC International Inc.



Brewery: Ozeki Corporation (est.1711) Prefecture: Hyogo

Karatamba has refreshing, light flavor with a hint of fruitiness on the palate, finishing with balanced dryness.

Gold Award in Monde Selection.



HIDEYOSHI

秀吉生貯 NAMACHO HONJOZO 本醸造

SMV:+0.5 Alcohol: 14-16% Size: 300ml Code: 14049 Importer: Craft & Estate



Brewery: Suzuki Brewing Company(est 1689) Prefecture: Akita

This once-pasteurized sake is youthful and vibrant, with notes of toasted nut, fresh bread and lychee. Perfect for serving c hilled, it matches well with crisp salads and fresh fish. Pairs well with salads, tempura, meat and poultry.



TAKATENJIN

高天神

"SWORD OF THE SUN"
TOKUBETSU HONJOZO 特別本醸造

SMV: +4 Alcohol: 15.5% Size: 720ml Code: 84126 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Doi Shuzo (est. 1868) Prefecture: Shizuoka

The brewery was founded by Yasuichi Doi, the village leader who fought many battles near the ruins of Takatenjin Castle. This is the "little brother" of Soul of the Sensei, and shares the bright aromas and flavors.



AMA NO TO

天の戸

"HEAVEN'S DOOR" TOKUBETSU JUNMAI 特別純米

SMV: +4 Alcohol: 16.2% Size: 720ml Code: 562120 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Asamai Shuzo (founded in 1917) Prefecture: Akita

Asamai brewery only uses local Akita rice from a unique cooperative of 19 different local growers. They not only get quality rice from this cooperative but also quality brewery help: Four of their experienced growers (including Toji Moriya) also work in the brewery.



DEWATSURU SAKURA EMAKI

出羽鶴桜絵巻

"CHERRY BLOSSOM" JUNMAI 純米

SMV:-24 Alcohol: 11.5% Size: 360ml Code: 287941 Importer: Craft & Estate



Brewery: Akita Brewing Company (est 1865) Prefecture: Akita

With a beautiful and enticing pink hue derived from the color of the rice, this sake has elegant aromas of cherry and plum blossoms, underscored by notes of apples and berries. Enjoy this sake with wide range of pairing options, from shellfish, ceviche, grilled poultry, to pork tenderloin.



CHIYONOSONO

千代の園

"SHARED PROMISE"

JUNMAI 純米

SMV: +3.5 Alcohol: 15% Size: 720ml Code: 85621 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Chiyonosono Shuzo (est. 1896) Prefecture: Kumamoto

After the war, Chiyonosono crafted the first junmai sake (brewed without distilled alcohol nor additives of any kind) and celebrated by sharing it from a large, red lacquered sake cup called a Shuhai.



FUKI SAKE

富貴酒

SMV: 0 Alcohol: 16% Size: 750ml Code: 612026 Importer: Gemini Spirits and Wine



Brewery: Fu-Ki Brewery, Japan

Fu-Ki Sake is a Junmai-grade Sake with elegant fruity aroma. Enjoy with sushi, tempura and teriyaki chicken and steak and seafood. Best served chilled in a sake glass or in cocktails.



DEWATSURU

出羽鶴

"CRANE OF DEWA MOUNTAIN" KIMOTO JUNMAI生酛純米

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 14-15% Size: 720ml, 1.8L Code: 13922, 13962 Importer: Craft & Estate



Brewery: Akita Brewing Company (est. 1865) Prefecture: Akita

This old-style sake is produced in the original Kimoto brewing method, giving it a great mellow flavor and higher acidity. Its rustic nature allows it to stand up to broader range of food, from fried food, grilled meats, and aged cheeses.



FUKUCHITOSE YAMAHAI JUNMAI

福千歳 山廃純米

"HAPPY OWL" YAMAHAI JUNMAI 山廃純米

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 15.2% Size: 720ml Code: 89324 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Tajima Brewing Company (est. 1849) Prefecture: Fukui

The Tajima Brewery specializes in the Yamahai brewing method, which takes 3 times longer to brew than modern methods. This sake is rich, savory and complex with a long dry finish. Serve chilled or warmed with flavorful foods.



FUKUCHO 富久長 "FORGOTTEN FORTUNE" JUNMAJ 純米

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 16.5% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 82541, 82521 Importer: Vine Connections

J7

Brewery: Imada Shuzo (est. 1868) Prefecture: Hiroshima

Fukucho is the only brewery to use Hattanso, a once abandoned rice. Toji (brewer master) Miho Imada painstakingly revived the rice by first growing it herself in order to learn how to brew it.



HAKUSHIKA 白鹿 「セレクト」 "SELECT" JUNMAI純米

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 14.5% Size: 720ml, 1.8L Code: 81423, 81463 Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

A traditional favorite, Hakushika Select Junmai is mellow, fresh and versatile. Tremendously popular for its easiness to drink and affordable price point.



HAKUSHIKA CHOKARA

白鹿 超辛 "EXTRA DRY" IUNMAI 純米

SMV: +7 Alcohol: 14.5% Size: 300ml, 1.8L Code: 81545, 81565 Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Hakushika Chokara Extra Dry is a distinctly dry sake with a sharp and refreshing finish. With the full body typical of the finest Junmai sakes, this sake is a pleasant complement to bolder flavors.



HAKUSHIKA TANUKI PACK

白鹿 たぬきパック **"TANUK!"**

JUNMAI純米

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 14.5% Size: 3L Code: 81173 Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Dry with a refreshingly crisp finish, Tanuki Sake is a versatile sake which may be enjoyed chilled, room temperature or heated. A cup version is also available.



HAKUSHIKA

白鹿 「フレッシュ&ライト」

"FRESH & LIGHT" JUNMAI NAMACHO 純米生貯蔵

SMV: +2 Alcohol: 13.3% Size: 180ml, 300ml Code: 81556, 81546 Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Extremely soft with just a touch of sweetness on the finish, this sake drinks like perfectly clean water. Being pasteurized only once, Fresh and Light Namachozo is characterized by a refreshingly cool aroma and mild taste.



HAKUSHIKA YOSHINO TARU SAKE

白鹿吉野樽酒

"JAPANESE CEDAR SAKE"
JUNMAI TARUZAKE

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 13.5% Size: 300ml Code: 81140 Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Junmai sake briefly aged in wooden casks (taru) made from the fragrant Japanese Cedar "Yoshino Sugi," this is a sake reminiscent of the days when sake was sold from wooden barrels. Perfectly smooth, this sake is elegantly refreshing with a light cedar aroma. This sake is truly as nostalgic taste of "Old Japan."



IZUMO FUJI 出雲富士 "ANCIENT SHRINE" JUNMAI 純米

SMV: +4.5 Alcohol: 16% Size: 720ml Code: 84821 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Izumo Fuji Brewing Company (est. 1939) Prefecture: Shimane

Brewed using old school and traditional methods, this Junmai is gently made, fully by hand. It is soft, relaxed and expansive on the palate with an underlying sweetness and light savory note.



OZEKI DRY

大関 辛口 JUNMAI 純米

SMV: +8 Alcohol: 14.5% Size : 375ml, 750ml Code: 81645, 81625 Importer: JFC International Inc.



Brewery: Ozeki Sake (U.S.A.) Inc. (est. 1979) Prefecture: California, U.S.A.

Smooth and earthy with a very dry finish.



JOTO JUNMAI

上等 純米

"THE GREEN ONE" JUNMAI 純米

SMV: +7.5 Alcohol: 15.5% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 86943, 86923, 86963 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Fuji Brewing Company (est. 1778) Prefecture: Yamagata

Rich and solid with hints of fruit and light acidity on the palate with a dry balanced finish. This sake is extremely approachable both in its label and its flavor. Serve chilled to gently warmed.



OZEKI DRY FANCY

大関辛口

JUNMAI 純米

SMV: +8 Alcohol: 14.5% Size: 180ml Code: 81650 Importer: JFC International Inc.



Brewery: Ozeki Sake (U.S.A.) Inc. (est. 1979) Prefecture: California, U.S.A.

Smooth and earthy with a very dry finish.



OZEKI SAKE

大関

JUNMAI純米

SMV: +4 Alcohol: 16% Size: 750ml, 1.5L Code: 81623, 81663 Importer: JFC International Inc.



Brewery: Ozeki Sake (U.S.A.) Inc. (est. 1979) Prefecture: California, U.S.A.

Slightly dry with rounded clean flavor through out the finish. Silver award of the U.S. National Sake Appraisal.



OZEKI ONE CUP

大関ワンカップ JUNMAI 純米

SMV: +5 Alcohol: 13.5% Size: 180ml Code: 81659 Importer: JFC International Inc.



Brewery: Ozeki Corporation (est.1711) Prefecture: Hyogo

Slightly dry and earthy with a hint of herbal notes.



RIHAKU 李白 "DANCE OF DISCOVERY" JUNMAI 純米

SMV: +5 Alcohol: 14.8% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 83941, 83921 Importer: Vine Connections

J19

Brewery: Rihaku (est. 1882) Prefecture: Shimane

The sake is made with a recently developed rice called Kannomai - a word made of the Japanese characters "kan," which means God, and "mai," which can mean dance or stage. The rice is only used in the Shimane Prefecture.



TAIHEIKAI

太平海

"PACIFIC OCEAN" TOKUBETSU JUNMAI 特別純米

SMV: +2 Alcohol: 15.5% Size: 720ml Code: 34526 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Huchu Homare Brewing Company (est. 1854) Prefecture: Ibaragi

Taiheikai is the brewery's original sake dating to 1854. It is a symbolic reverence of the nearby Pacific Ocean. The sake is abundant yet balanced with fruitiness and nuttiness and a rich mouth feel. Serve chilled.



SEIKYO TAKEHARA

誠鏡 竹原

"MIRROR OF TRUTH"

SMV: -1 Alcohol: 15.4% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 28247, 28227, 28267 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Nakao Brewing Company (est. 1871) Prefecture: Hiroshima

This Junmai is soft and balanced with a mellow and rustic, fruity and mineral rich flavor. It was the first sake of the brewery and has been a local favorite ever since. Serve chilled or at room temperature.



TENSEI

天青

"THOUSAND WAVES"
TOKUBETSU JUNMAI YAMAHAI 山廃特別純米

Alcohol: 14% Size: 500ml Code: 84932 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Kumazawa Prefecture: Kanagawa

The Great Wave of Kanagawa, the famed Japanese woodblock print, was created in the prefecture where the brewery is located near the sea. Limited Edition — only 1,000 bottles of this special sake are produced each year.



SHICHI HON YARI

七本槍

"THE SEVEN SPEARSMAN" IUNMAI 純米

SMV: +4.5 Alcohol: 15-16% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 27140, 27120, 27163 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Tomita Brewing Company (est. 1540) Prefecture: Shiga

One of Japan's oldest breweries, this sake was brewed by the 16th generation of the family. It is complex, boasting aromas and flavors ranging from mushroom to melon. Dry and crisp on the palate, serve chilled to fully warmed.



TENTAKA

天鷹

"HAWK IN THE HEAVENS" IUNMAI 純米

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 15.6% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 563846, 563827, 563867 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Tentaka Shuzo (est. 1914) Prefecture: Tochigi

Brewed with water from the area's natural underground springs which goes through triple filtration to remove any unwanted natural debris. Locally adored, Tentaka Kuni only releases 20% of its brew out of Tochigi prefecture.



TENTAKA 天鷹オルガナカ **"ORGANAKA"** ORGANIC JUNMAI オーガニック純米

SMV: +7 Alcohol: 15.3% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 83841, 83821 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Tentaka Shuzo (est. 1914) Prefecture: Tochigi

One of the few organic sakes from Japan. Surrounded by three flowing rivers, idyllic mountains, and peaceful fields, the area where the rice is grown is very tranquil and seemingly untouched.



YUHO

遊穂

"RHYTHM OF THE CENTURIES" KIMOTO JUNMAI 生 酛 純 米

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 15.9% Size: 720ml Code: 83927 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Mioya Shuzo (est. 1897) Prefecture: Ishikawa

Toji Toshio Yokomichi uses the rhythmic poleramming technique called Yama-oroshi to mix the yeast starter for this Kimoto sake. It gives the sake more complex, pronounced flavors. It is aged for approximately four years, which rounds out the edges and creates overall smoothness.



TOZAI 東西 "LIVING JEWEL" IUNMAI 純米

SMV: +6.5 Alcohol: 14.9% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 563542, 563522 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Kizakura Prefecture: Kyoto

Produced in Kyoto's ancient brewing town of Fushimi, known for its abundant supply of pure, pristine, and soft water from many nearby mountains. The label image is a Japanese "koi" whose vibrant colors and shimmering scales have earned them the moniker "living jewels".



YUKI NO BOSHA

雪の茅舎

"OLD CABIN" YAMAHAI JUNMAI 山廃純米

SMV: +1 Alcohol: 16% Size: 720ml Code: 27827 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Saiya Brewing Company (est. 1902) Prefecture: Akita

Both rich and delicate, this sake is full and mellow with notes of roasted nuts and brown butter. It is brewed slowly and methodically with proprietary yeasts, yielding a unique sake that can be served from chilled to warmed.



YUHO 遊穂 "ETERNAL EMBERS" JUNNAI 純米

SMV: +6 Alcohol: 16% Size: 720ml Code: 83926 Importer: Vine Connections



淡麗 |tan-rel | Gua | Sale | Sa

TAN-REI BOX

淡麗

"CLEAN & DRY" JUNMAI 純米

SMV: +7 Alcohol: 13.5% Size: 19L Code: 82972 Importer: JFC International Inc.

Brewery: Mioya Shuzo (est. 1897) Prefecture: Ishikawa

Ishikawa prefecture is home to the lively Abare Festival, also affectionately called "Fire & Violence," where revelers playfully pay homage to the deity of destruction. Spectators watch as illuminated lantern floats and shrines are carried through the streets. The name Eternal Embers is a nod to this fun-filled festival.

Specially brewed by Ozeki for Young's Market Company, Tan-Rei is clean, mellow and distinctly dry.

Tan-Rei is great with a wide range of food, not simply Sushi & Sashimi. Suggested for Hot Sake machines or stored cold for serving chilled Sake by the glass or carafe.





CHIKURIN KAROYAKA

竹林 かろやか

"LIGHTNESS"

JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 16% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 27147, 67129 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Marumoto Brewing Company (est. 1867) Prefecture: Okayama

This brewery is an "estate brewery," a rare classification, meaning they grow their own rice to produce this sake. Made with extreme care and attention to every detail, this sake is light with Champagne-like delicacy. Serve chilled.



EIKO FUJI NAMAZAKE

栄光冨士生貯蔵酒

"GLORIOUS MT. FUJI" JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 15.3% Size: 720ml Code: 27229 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Fuji Brewing Company (est. 1778) Prefecture: Yamagata

Made from highly refined Yamada Nishiki rice, this sake is fresh, yeasty and lively with hints of banana and papaya. It is rich yet refreshing with a soft and delicate texture.



CHIKURIN ORGANIC KAROYAKA

竹林 オーガニック かろやか

"ORGANIC LIGHTNESS"

JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 16% Size: 720ml Code: 67329 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Marumoto Brewing Company (est. 1867) Prefecture: Okayama

This was the first Japanese sake made from 100% USDA-certified Organic sake rice, estate grown by the Marumoto Brewery. It is pure, clean, light and subtly fruity with balanced acidity and a dry finish. Serve chilled.



FUKUCHO

富久長水月

"MOON ON THE WATER" JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 16.5% Size: 720ml Code: 562529 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Imada Shuzo (est. 1868) Prefecture: Hiroshima

Miho Imada, Fukucho owner and toji (master brewer), is one of the few female tojis in Japan. This sake is made with the famous soft water of Hiroshima prefecture which gives it deep, persistent flavor.



CHIYONOSONO

千代の園

"SACRED POWER" JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +2.5 Alcohol: 15.9% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 562448, 562428 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Chiyonosono Shuzo (founded in 1896) Prefecture: Kumamoto

Chiyonosono revived the Shinriki rice strain by borrowing a handful of grains of the few thousand that remained in existence within various agricultural research centers. Chiyonosono is currently the only Japanese brewery to use Shinriki rice for sake brewing.



HAKUSHIKA

白鹿「クラシック」

"CLASSIC"

JUNMAI GINJO純米吟醸

SMV: +2 Alcohol: 14.8% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: In Process Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Meticulously crafted from premium Yamadanishiki and Nihonbare rice milled to 60% and the naturally excellent Miyamizu water of Nishinomiya (Hyogo Prefecture), this is a sake for the connoisseur. Perfectly clean and light.



HAKUSHIKA

白鹿純米吟醸

"WHITE DEER" JUNMAI GINJO純米吟醸

SMV: +1 Alcohol: 14.7% Size: 300ml Code: 81445

Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Mild and dry in taste with a fresh, slightly fruity Ginjo flavor and full body, this is a well-balanced sake with substantial character. Extremely easy to drink.



KANBARA

蒲原

"BRIDE OF THE FOX" JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 16.5% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 562622, 562642, 562662 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Kaetsu Shuzo (est. 1880) Prefecture: Niigata

This sake is named for the famous fox-bride festival held annually in Niigata to celebrate a local legend about mysterious lights that have appeared on nearby Mt. Kirin. Brewed with locally-grown Gohyakumangoku rice.



HAKUSHIKA

白鹿純米吟醸パック

"WHITE DEER" JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +1 Alcohol: 14.7% Size: 900ml Code: 81415 Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Mild and dry in taste with a fresh, slightly fruity Ginjo flavor and full body, this is a well-balanced sake with substantial character. Extremely easy to drink. Carton sakes is very common in Japan and very unique to the US market.



MABOROSHI

幺

"NAKAO'S SECRET" JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 15% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 28346, 28326, 28366 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Nakao Brewing Company (est. 1871) Prefecture: Hiroshima

Delicate, lightly fruity and floral, this sake is both complex and approachable. It is soft, airy, medium bodied and dry; beautifully capturing the Maboroshi house style. Serve chilled and enjoy with a variety of light or richer foods.



JOKIGEN

上喜元

"EUPHORIA" JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +4 Alcohol: 16~17% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 428641, 428621, 428661 Importer: Banzai Beverage



Brewery: Sakata Shuzo (est. 1650) Prefecture: Yamagata

Superbly structured--savory center with elegant sweetness and mellow softness. Finishes dry.



MANABITO

真人 GINJO 吟醸

SMV:+3 Alcohol: 14-16% Size: 720ml, 1.8L Code: 18821, 18850 Importer: Craft & Estate



Brewery: Hinomaru Brewing Company (est. 1689) Prefecture: Akita

Clean, Crisp, Refreshing! Its dry entry has a slight zest of grapefruit. Opens to reveal white stone fruits--nectarine or peach. A tease of white chocolate gives a surprising finish.



MANTENSEI

満天星

"STAR-FILLED SKY" JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 15.5% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 562848, 562828 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Suwa Shuzo Prefecture: Tottori

Located in a remote prefecture where there is an abundance of natural elements available. Their water is extremely soft allowing for a long, low-temperature fermentation, resulting in a gentle ginjo fragrance and a fresh lively flavor with a pleasant finish.



RIHAKU

李白

"ORIGIN OF PURITY"
JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 17.8% Size: 720ml Code: 563928 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Rihaku Shuzo Prefecture: Shimane

Discovered in 1859, Omachi is the only pure rice strain that has been grown consistently in Japan.



MUKUNE

無垢根

"ROOT OF INNOCENCE" JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +2 Alcohol: 16% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 563940, 563920 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Daimon Shuzo Prefecture: Osaka

Yasutaka Daimon is the brewery owner and skilled Toji. The Daimon brewery is blessed with its location in the shadows of the Katano mountains which allows Yasutaka to pipe water rich in minerals directly from the underground springs.



RIHAKU

李白

"WANDERING POET" JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 15.2% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 563946, 563926, 563966 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Rihaku Shuzo Prefecture: Shimane

Rihaku uses a koji-making machine, that allows tighter control of temperature and moisture during the koji-making process while metal "fingers" mix the koji every few hours, resulting in a cleaner, more uniform and consistent koji.



NANBU BIJIN

南部美人

"SOUTHERN BEAUTY"JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +1 Alcohol: 16% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 563942, 563922 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Nanbu Bijin Prefecture: Iwate

Truly a locally-produced sake. It is made with the local Ginginga rice which took over eight years to develop and perfect. The water, yeast, and brewing team are also all from lwate prefecture.



SEIKYO OMACHI

誠鏡 雄町 JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 15.4% Size: 720ml Code: 28022 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Sakata Shuzo (est. 1650) Prefecture: Yamagata

SNOW MOON BEAUTY is a limited production saké that is handcrafted by skilled artisans. It combines clarity and depth, using an artistic contrast between soft and light Niigata-style saké and the modern 21st century rich and vibrant style.



SETSUGETSU BIJIN

雪月美人

"SNOW MOON BEAUTY"

JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +4 Alcohol: 14% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 88745, 88725 Importer: Banzai Beverage



Brewery: Sakata Shuzo (est. 1650) Prefecture: Yamagata

SNOW MOON BEAUTY is a limited production sake that is handcrafted by skilled artisans. It combines clarity and depth, using an artistic contrast between soft and light Niigata-style sake and the modern 21st century rich and vibrant style.



TOZAI

東西

"WELL OF WISDOM" GINJO 吟醸

SMV: +5.5 Alcohol: 14.9% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 563547, 563524 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Daimon Shuzo Prefecture: Osaka

Crafted with pure, natural spring water from this family brewery nestled at the base of Osaka's scenic Ikoma mountains.



TENRANZAN

天覧山

"EMPEROR'S MOUNTAIN"

JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +2 Alcohol: 15-16% Size: 720ml Code: 428529 Importer: Banzai Beverage



Brewery: Igarashi Shuzo (est. 1897) Prefecture: Saitama

Spirited, Structured and Luscious. Tenranzan has a vibrant nose of fresh fruit. Its rich layers of flavors are an artistic contrast to its soft, elegant finish that is reminiscent of a perfectly oaked white wine.



WATARI BUNE

渡舟

"FERRY BOAT"JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 15-16% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 34540, 68529 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Huchu Homare Brewing Company (est. 1854) Prefecture: Ibaragi

The Huchu Homare brewery recultivated the previously extinct Watari Bune rice varietal in 1988. This iconic sake, made from the famous rice, receives international high praise. It is floral, fruity, lively and complex. Serve chilled.



TENSEI "SONG OF THE SEA" JUNMAI GINJO 純米吟醸

SMV: +3.5 Alcohol: 16% Size: 720ml Code: 84921 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Kumazawa Shuzo (est. 1872) Prefecture: Kanagawa

This sake is made with yeast that is obtained directly from the brewer that discovered it, rather than through the usual distribution channels. Yeast #9 makes the sake a bit more lively and intense. Song of the Sea is an ode to the brewery's seaside location in Kanagawa.



YUKI NO BOSHA

雪の茅舎

"CABIN IN THE SNOW" JUNMAI GINJO純米吟醸

SMV: +1 Alcohol: 16% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 27142, 27126, 27162 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Saiya Brewing Company (est. 1902) Prefecture: Akita

Abundantly aromatic, fruity, dense, full bodied and complex, this sake is famous both in Japan and in the USA. It is expertly hand-crafted by the multi award winning Saiya Brewery. Serve chilled.



CHOKAISAN 鳥海山 JUNMAI DAIGINJO 純米大吟醸

SMV: +1 Alcohol: 15-16% Size: 720ml Code: 13827 Importer: Craft & Estate



Brewery: Tenju Brewing Company(est 1874) Prefecture: Akita

A unique yeast derived from flowers gives this exceptionally elegant sake a pronounced floral bouquet. Tones of licorice and fresh herbs, coupled with a hint of Asian pear, make this a perfect example of everything Junmai Daiginjo has to offer. Serve as an aperitif, or with salads, oysters, nutty grains and creamy sauce.



JOKIGEN 上喜元 "RED LABEL" KIMOTO JUNMAI DAIGINJO 生酛純米大吟醸

SMV: +5 ALCOHOL: 16-17% SIZE: 720ML CODE: 428622 IMPORTER: BANZAI BEVERAGE



Brewery: Sakata Shuzo (est. 1650) Prefecture: Yamagata

A superb masterpiece. Rich and creamy on the palate. Flavors are expansive and endless on a smooth, seemingly endless finish. Absolutely exquisite.



GINGA SHIZUKU

銀河雫

"DIVINE DROPLETS"
JUNMAI DAIGINJO 純米大吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 15.6% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 562640, 562620 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Takasago Shuzo (est. 1899) Prefecture: Hokkaido

This sake is drip-pressed (shizuku), a rarity by itself, and it is the only sake in the world drip-pressed in an ice igloo which is rebuilt every year outside the main brewery building in Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island.



JOTO DAIGINJO

上等大吟醸

"THE ONE WITH 72 CLOCKS" DAIGINJO大吟醸

SMV: +5 Alcohol: 16.5% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 86945, 87021, 86965 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Nakao Brewing Company (est. 1871) Prefecture: Hiroshima

The Nakao brewery uses their proprietary apple yeast to brew this Daiginjo. The label's 72 Clocks represent the 72 hours it takes to mill the rice for this sake. It is clean and bright with notes of green apple. Serve chilled.



HAKUSHIKA GOKA SENNENJU

白鹿「豪華千年寿」

"WHITE DEER"

JUNMAI DAIGINJO純米大吟醸

SMV: 0 Alcohol: 15.7% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 81341, 81321 Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Let your senses be captivated by this elegant Junmai Daiginjo sake! Fruity in fragrance, Goka Sennenju has a delightfully rich body and smooth taste. Awarded the Monde Selection Grand Gold Medal in Brussels three consecutive years (2009-2011).



KONTEKI

坤滴

"PEARLS OF SIMPLICITY" JUNMAI DAIGINJO 純米大吟醸

SMV: +2 Alcohol: 15.5% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 763926, 763925 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Higashiyama Shuzo Prefecture: Kyoto

Made with Japan's highest quality rice and local Fushimi mizu, the soft, pure water from Japan's Eastern Mountains.



KONTEKI

吟醸

"TEARS OF DAWN" DAIGINJO 大吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 15.5% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 763927, 763924, 763967 Importer: Vine Connections

Brewery: Higashiyama Shuzo Prefecture: Kyoto

Made with Japan's highest quality rice and local Fushimi mizu, the soft, pure water from Japan's Eastern Mountains.



OZEKI ONE CUP DAIGINJO

大関ワンカップ大吟醸 DAIGINJO 大吟醸

SMV: +4 Alcohol: 15% Size: 180ml Code: 81657

Importer: JFC International Inc.

Brewery: Ozeki Corporation (est.1711) Prefecture: Hyogo

Refreshingly fruity aroma with a crisp, dry taste is the brilliance of this Daiginjo.



MABOROSHI KUROBAKO

幻"黑箱"

"MYSTERY" JUNMAI DAIGINJO 純米大吟醸

SMV: +1 Alcohol: 16.5% Size: 720ml Code: 28327 Importer: Joto Sake LLC

Brewery: Nakao Brewing Company (est. 1871) Prefecture: Hiroshima

This revolutionary Junmai Daiginjo is the original sake made from the brewery's proprietary apple yeast. Multi award winning, meticulously made by hand, rich in fragrance and flavor, this is the pinnacle of the brewer's art.



SHICHI HON YARI SHIZUKU

七本槍 雫 JUNMAI DAIGINJO純米大吟醸

SMV: +5 Alcohol: 16-17% Size: 500ml Code: 27122 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Tomita Brewing Company (est. 1540) Prefecture: Shiga

This limited-production sake is slowly fermented and "pressed" by gravity, drop by drop. A method reserved for the most premium sakes in Japan, this Junmai Daiginjo is brilliant, smooth, and deeply complex. Serve chilled.



NANBU BIJIN

南部美人

"ANCIENT PILLARS" IUNMAI DAIGINIO 純米大吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 17.9% Size: 720ml Code: 565925 Importer: Vine Connections

Brewery: Nanbu Bijin Prefecture: Iwate

Ancient Pillars is nama-chozo genshu. The result is a stronger sake with some of the livelier flavors generally associated with unpasteurized sake.



TAKATENJIN

高天神

"SOUL OF THE SENSEI" JUNMAI DAIGINIO 純米大吟醸

SMV: +5 Alcohol: 16.8 Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 564144, 564124 Importer: Vine Connections

Brewery: Doi Shuzo (est. 1868) Prefecture: Shizuoka

This sake is brewed in memory of former Takatenjin Master Toji Shokichi Hase. Toji Hase worked tirelessly at the same brewery for over 40 years which in itself is surely an achievement worth honoring.



TENTAKA 吟翔

"SILENT STREAM" JUNMAI DAIGINJO 純米大吟醸

SMV: +2 Alcohol: 16.8% Size: 720ml Code: 83820 Importer: Vine Conections



Brewery: Tentake Shuzo Prefecture: Tochigi

Originates deep in the jagged, snow-covered Nasu Mountains of Tochigi and runs hundreds of miles to the brewery, pure, clear and untouched water goes into this sake. The sake was collected using the laborious, low-yielding, ultra-gentle drippressing method known as shizuku.



WATARI BUNE

渡舟

"LIQUID GOLD"
JUNMAI DAIGINJO 純米大吟醸

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 16-17% Size: 720ml Code: 38527 Importer: Joto Sake LLC.



Brewery: Huchu Homare Brewing Company (est. 1854) Prefecture: Ibaragi

Made from the famous Watari Bune rice, this Junmai Daiginjo is unbelievably luscious — deep, rich and fruity with notes of honeydew and pineapple. Serve chilled and pair with high quality seafood and triple cream cheeses.



YUKI NO BOSHA AKITA KOMACHI

雪の茅舎 秋田こまち "BEAUTY OF AKITA"

DAIGINJO 大吟醸

SMV: +2 Alcohol: 18% Size: 720ml Code: 27527

Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Saiya Brewing Company (est. 1902) Prefecture: Akita

This amazing Daiginjo is brewed from the local and famous Akita Komachi rice, grown by the Saiya brewery's own workers during the summer season. It is abundantly aromatic, fruity and full bodied. Serve chilled.



CRAZY MILK くれいじぃー みるく NIGORIにごり

Alcohol: 14% Size: 300ml Code: 88941 Importer: Banzai Beverage



Brewery: Umenoyado Brewery (est. 1865) Prefecture: Nara

CRAZY MILK is brewed by a passionate group of artisans. It is so well rounded that any drinker would find something to love in its complex personality. It's time you expected more from your NIGORI.



JOTO JUNMAI NIGORI

上等 純米 にごり

"THE BLUE ONE"

NIGORI にごり

SMV: -3 Alcohol: 15.4% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 86944, 86924, 86964 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Nakao Brewing Company (est. 1871) Prefecture: Hiroshima

This premium and refined Nigori is bright and lively with fresh tropical aromatics. Creamy and almost chewy on the palate with a dry finish, it pairs well with spicy foods and should be served chilled.



DEWATSURU

出羽鶴 純米にごり NIGORIにごり

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 14-15% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 287924, 287940 Importer: Craft & Estate



Brewery: Akita Brewing Company (est 1865) Prefecture: Akita

Bright and clear, this sake displays up-front aromas of green apples and sweet melons with hints of citrus fruits and sweet almonds. On the palate, it is delicate, dry, and creamy with a pleasant, clean finish. Best paired with crisp salad, citrus based Tiraditos, and light poultry dishes.



OZEKI NIGORI

大関 にごり NIGORIにごり

SMV: -30 Alcohol: 14.5% Size: 375ml, 750ml, 1.5L Code: 81644, 81664, 81644 Importer: JFC International Inc.



Brewery: Ozeki Sake (U.S.A.) Inc. (est. 1979) Prefecture: California, U.S.A.

This Nigori has balanced sweet tropical flavors with a course, rich finish.



HAKUSHIKA 白鹿

「スノービューティー」

"SNOW BEAUTY"

NIGORI にごり

SMV: -13 Alcohol: 14.7% Size: 300 ml, 720 ml Code: 81547, 81527 Importer: IFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Velvety in texture with a pleasant fragrance of freshly steamed rice, this nigori sake (roughly filtered sake) is a traditional favorite. Creamy with a mild sweetness, this sake is deliciously unique with a slightly tart finish.



ONE CUP NIGORI

大関ワンカップにごり NIGORI にごり





Brewery: Ozeki Corporation (est.1711) Prefecture: Hyogo

The creamy rich flavor is balanced with an elegant sweetness and a refreshing aftertaste.



RIHAKU "DREAMY CLOUDS" NIGORI にごり

SMV: +3 Alcohol: 15.5% Size: 300ml, 720ml, 1.8L Code: 563944, 563924, 563964 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Rihaku (est. 1882) Prefecture: Shimane

This Nigori is quite special because its milling rate of 41% technically qualifies it as Junmai Ginjo grade sake- a rare quality level for a nigori (cloudy) sake.



TOZAI

東西

"SNOW MAIDEN" JUNMAI NIGORI 純米 にごり

SMV: +6.5 Alcohol: 14.9% Size: 300ml, 720ml Code: 563540, 563520 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Kizakura Prefecture: Kyoto

Named Snow Maiden in homage to Japan's most famous koi, "Hanako", which lived 226 years in the icy waters at the foot of Japan's Mt. Ontake.



YUKI NO BOSHA JUNMAI GINJO NIGORI

雪の茅舎 純米吟醸 にごり

"YUKI'S SNOW"

NIGORI にごり

SMV: +1 Alcohol: 16% Size: 300ml Code: 27144 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Saiya Brewing Company (est. 1902) Prefecture: Akita

Expertly brewed long and slow, this is an "usu," or light, Nigori. It is highly refined with less rice solids than most Nigori and has abundant tropical and floral aromatics, a bright, creamy and complex palate. Serve chilled.



BUNNY NATURAL

SPARKLING SAKE

スパークリング酒

Alcohol: 7% Size: 300ml Code:428848 Importer: Banzai Beverage



Brewery: Umenoyado Brewery (est. 1865) Prefecture: Nara

Premium sake has been handcrafted by Toji skilled artisans of sake — and naturally carbonated by yeast in the bottle. Banzai Bunny is elegantly sweet with a soft texture from natural bubbles and a crisp, refreshing finish.



BUNNY YUZU

SPARKLING SAKE

スパークリング酒

Alcohol: 7% Size: 300ml Code: 428843 Importer: Banzai Beverage



Brewery: Umenoyado Brewery (est. 1865) Prefecture: Nara

A new style of sparkling beverage infused with natural juice and zest of yuzu citrus fruit, then carbonated. Bunny Yuzu has the vibrant aroma of fresh yuzu zest. It is elegantly sweet and refreshingly tart.



BUNNY BLUEBERRY

SPARKLING SAKE

スパークリング酒

Alcohol: 7% Size: 300ml Code: 428841 Importer: Banzai Beverage



Brewery: Umenoyado Brewery (est. 1865) Prefecture: Nara

A new style of sparkling beverage infused with blueberries and naturally carbonated by yeast in the bottle. Elegantly sweet with the vibrant aroma and rich flavor of the fresh blueberries harvested near the brewery.



HANA AWAKA

花泡香

SPARKLING FLOWER

SPARKLING スパークリング酒

SMV: -60 Alcohol: 7% Size: 250ml Code: 81651 Importer: JFC International Inc.



Brewery: Ozeki Corporation (est.1711) Prefecture: Hyogo

Tiny tight bubbles with a slightly sweet flavor refreshes the palate. This unique sake is perfect for everyone.....the Champagne of Sake! Light in Alcohol at only 7%.



BUNNY WHITE PEACH

SPARKLING SAKE

スパークリング酒

Alcohol: 7% Size: 300ml Code: 428842 Importer: Banzai Beverage.



Brewery: Umenoyado Brewery (est. 1865) Prefecture: Nara

A new style of sparkling beverage infused with white peaches and naturally carbonated by yeast in the bottle. Drinking Banzai Bunny White Peach is like biting into a juicy white peach. It is elegantly sweet with refreshing finish.



HANA FUGA 花風雅 "EMPRESS" **SPARKLING**

スパークリング酒

SMV: -Alcohol: 7% Size: 250ml Code: 81658

Importer: JFC International Inc.



Brewery: Ozeki Corporation (est.1711) Prefecture: Hyogo

Light and refreshing sparkling sake with a hint of peach flavor. This sparkling sake represents elegance and refinement.



HANA HOU HOU SHU

花泡々酒

"PINK BUBBLE"

SPARKLING スパークリング酒

SMV: -40 Alcohol: 6% Size: 300ml Code: 17148 Importer: Joto Sake LLC



Brewery: Marumoto Brewing Company (est. 1867) Prefecture: Okayama

This naturally sparkling sake is bottle fermented, resulting in a fine elegant bubble. It is infused with rose hips and hibiscus, which contribute complex fruity, floral and herbaceous flavors and bright acidity. Serve chilled.



HOU HOU SHU

泡々酒

"BUBBLE BUBBLE"

SPARKLING スパークリング酒

SMV: -40 Alcohol: 6% Size: 300ml Code: 17146 Importer: Joto Sake LLC

K8

Brewery: Marumoto Brewing Company (est. 1867) Prefecture: Okayama

This naturally sparkling sake is bottle fermented like Champagne, resulting in a fine elegant bubble. Bright, fruity and refreshingly sweet, it is unique, crowd pleasing and dazzling with beautiful balance. Serve chilled.



HIDEYOSHI LACHAMTE

秀吉 ラシャンテ SPARKLING SAKE スパークリング酒

SMV: -79 Alcohol: 8% Size: 280ml Code: 287942 Importer: Craft & Estate



Brewery: Suzuki Brewing Company(est 1689) Prefecture: Akita

A playful straw-lemon in color with medium-fine perlage and a persistant mousse, this sparkling sake shows lively notes of white peaches and honeysuckle that are underscored by hints of toasted almonds and minerality.



CHOYA CLASSIC

蝶矢 クラッシック UMESHU梅酒

Alcohol: 15 % (spirits) Size: 50ml, 375ml, 750ml Code: 584197, 584147, 584127 Importer:

Choya Umeshu USA Inc.

U1

Brewery: Choya Umeshu Co., Ltd. Prefecture: Osaka

Beautifully balanced sweet & tart of the ume fruit with notes of almond from the ume pit.



CHOYA UMESHU WITH FRUIT

蝶矢梅酒UMESHU梅酒

Alcohol: 14.6 % Size: 50ml, 500ml, 750ml Code: 584194, 584133, 584120 Importer: Choya Umeshu USA Inc.

U4

Brewery: Choya Umeshu Co., Ltd. Prefecture: Osaka

A uniquely sweet and gently tart taste of ume fruit with notes of almond from the pit. Serve straight, slightly chilled or on-the-rocks.



CHOYA SHISO

蝶矢 紫蘇 UMESHU梅酒

Alcohol: 15 % (spirits) Size: 750ml Code: 584126 Importer:Choya Umeshu USA Inc.



Brewery: Choya Umeshu Co., Ltd. Prefecture: Osaka, Japan

Beautifully balanced sweet & tart of the ume fruit with notes of almond from the ume pit. Shiso is a popular Japanese herb that adds aroma & dimension.



CHOYA EXCELLENT

蝶矢 エクセレント UMESHU梅酒

Alcohol: 14 % (spirits)
Size: 750ml
Code: 584120
Importer: Choya Umeshu USA Inc.

U5

Brewery: Choya Umeshu Co., Ltd. Prefecture: Osaka

Elegant taste of French brandy with fruity notes of Umeshu. Enjoy chilled and straight, on-the-rocks, or as a cocktail base.



CHOYA HONEY

蝶矢 VMESHU 梅酒



Brewery: Choya Umeshu Co., Ltd. Prefecture: Osaka

Beautifully balanced sweet & tart of the ume fruit with notes of almond from the ume pit. Locally sourced honey adds texture & round out the acidity.



FUKI CHERRY

富貴酒 FRUIT WINE 梅酒・ワイン

Alcohol: 9% Size: 750ml Code: 612222 Importer: Gemini Spirits and Wine

Brewery: Fu-Ki Brewery, Japan

Deep red color shows well in a wine glass. Aromas of nuts and cherry with intense, yet delicate flavors of wild, dark cherry. Light, clean taste and balanced fruitiness.



FUKI PLUM

富貴酒

FRUIT WINE 梅酒・ワイン

Alcohol: 9%
Size: 750ml
Code: 612025
Importer: Gemini Spirits and Wine

Brewery: Fu-Ki Brewery, Japan

Deep, amber color shows well in a wine glass. A distinct flavor of plums, and a hint of nuts. Delicate, light, and well balanced.



HAKUSHIKA JAPANESE ORCHARD WHITE PEACH

白鹿森の果物 白桃 JUNMAI WITH NATURAL WHITE PEACH FLAVOR

SMV: -25 Alcohol: 10% Size: 720ml Code: 81721 Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Made with premium junmai sake and the excellent Miyamizu water of Nishinomiya. An exciting new type of natural flavor-infused sake. luscious and juicy with a delicate sweetness.



FUKI GREEN TEA

富貴酒

FRUIT WINE 梅酒・ワイン

Alcohol: 9% Size: 750ml Code: 86225 Importer: Gemini Spirits and Wine

Brewery: Fu-Ki Brewery, Japan

Fu-Ki Green Tea is a Plum wine with green tea with other natural flavors. Green tea flavor is intrend and now found in many foods from Ice Cream to Chocolate. Delicious alone, or the perfect ingredient for Asian inspired cocktails.



HAKUSHIKA JAPANESE ORCHARD JAPANESE PEAR

白鹿森の果物 梨 JUNMAI WITH NATURAL YUZU FLAVOR

SMV: -25 Alcohol: 10% Size: 720ml Code: 81721 Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Made with premium junmai sake and the excellent Miyamizu water of Nishinomiya. An exciting new type of natural flavor-infused sake. Crisp and clean with a mild green tartness.



HAKUSHIKA JAPANESE ORCHARD YUZU

白鹿森の果物 柚子 JUNMAI WITH NATURAL YUZU FLAVOR

JUNMAI WITH NATURAL YUZU FLAVOR

SMV: -25 Alcohol: 10% Size: 720ml Code: 81721 Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Made with premium junmai sake and the excellent Miyamizu water of Nishinomiya. An exciting new type of natural flavor-infused sake. zesty and tangy with a pleasant acidity.



HAKUSHIKA JAPANESE ORCHARD PINEAPPLE

白鹿森の果物 パイナップル JUNMAI WITH NATURAL YUZU FLAVOR

SMV: -25 Alcohol: 10% Size: 720ml Code: 81721 Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Made with premium junmai sake and the excellent Miyamizu water of Nishinomiya. An exciting new type of natural flavor-infused sake. Zingy and tangy with an excellent balance of tropical sweetness.



HAKUSHIKA UME ODORI PLUM

白鹿梅おどり

"DANCE OF THE PLUM BLOSSOMS" UMESHU 梅酒

SMV: -68 Alcohol: 12.7% Size: 720ml Code: In Process Importer: JFC



Brewery: Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co. (est. 1662) Prefecture: Hyogo

Luxuriously smooth and tangy crafted with the traditional concept of flavoring fine sake with rich and fruity plums. Pleasantly sweet with a refreshingly citrus-like acidity, Ume Odori is made with natural Japanese plum extract and Junmai Ginjo sake.



TOZAI

東西

"BLOSSOM OF PEACE"

UMESHU 梅酒

Alcohol: 10.5% Size: 720ml Code: 563527 Importer: Vine Connections



Brewery: Kizakura Prefecture: Kyoto

This is the only "ume-shu" crafted with premium Japanese sake and the region's highest quality ripe green plums, or "shiro-kaga". The plums are soaked in sake for over three months to achieve a rich, sweet aroma and subtle plum flavors.



KIKKOMAN PLUM WINE

キッコーマン UMESHU梅酒

Alcohol: 12.5% Size: 720ml, 1.5L Code: 81722, 81762 Importer: JFC International



Brewery: Kikkoman Prefecture: California

Rich & Sweet Plum Wine. Pure quality and fruity aroma with distinct flavor. The aromatic bouquet and velvet finish lingers elegantly.



IKEZO SPARKLING PEACH JELLY SAKE

大関 スパークリング ピーチ ゼリー酒

Alcohol: 5.5% Size: 180ml Code: 81652 Importer: JFC International Inc.



Brewery: Ozeki Corporation (est.1711) Prefecture: Hyogo

Refreshing and mouthwatering jelly sparkling sake with a hint of peach flavor. A unique "Jello Sake Shot!"



TORI KAI

鳥飼 RICE SHOCHU

Alcohol: 24% (beer & wine) Size: 720ml Code: 234020 Importer: Progressive Beverage



Brewery: Torikai Brewing Company Prefecture: Kumamoto

Popular rice shochu is fruity & delicate like a well-made Sake. Known as "The Drink of Royalty", Tori Kai is served exclusively at upscale hotels, restaurants, and bars. Suggested serving method: on the rocks



HAN FIRE SOJU 48 PROOF

Alcohol: 24% (beer & wine) Size: 200ml, 750ml Code: 76954, 72924 Importer: Progressive Beverage



HAN FIRE is a rice based distilled spirit infused with cinnamon and other flavors which impart a lightly spicy flavor on the pallet. Good as a chilled shooter alone or chaser with the beer of your choice, chilled in a rocks glass for sipping or in a mixed drink with Cola, HAN Fire is a flavorful complement to the HAN line of Asian spirits. Suggested serving method: straight, chilled, in cocktails



HAN CANE SOJU 48 PROOF

Alcohol: 24% (beer & wine) Size: 200ml, 750ml Code: 76954, 72924 Importer: Progressive Beverage



HAN Cane is a rice based distilled spirit infused with the flavor of Caribbean rum. Smooth and flavorful, it can be used like a rum spirit in Cuba Libre cocktails, on the rocks or with a splash of tonic. A prefect complement to any occasion which calls for rum. Suggested serving method: on the rock, in cocktails.



HAN SOJU ORIGINAL SOJU 48 PROOF

Alcohol: 24% (beer & wine) Size: 200ml, 750ml Code: 76925, 72824 Importer: Progressive Beverage

S5

HAN Soju Original is a rice based distilled spirit known as "Asian Vodka". The use of super-premium rice in the fermenting and distillation process, gives it a soft and smooth mouth feel. HAN is the choice of connoisseurs who appreciate fine imported spirits.



HAN CITRUSS SOJU 48 PROOF

Alcohol: 24% (beer & wine) Size: 200ml, 750ml Code: 76954, 72924 Importer: Progressive Beverage



HAN Citruss is a rice based distilled spirit, similar to vodka, infused with premium citrus flavors. The nose has hints of orange, lemon and lime and it is smooth and soft on the pallet. Good in a mixed drink, Martini or simply on the rocks with a wedge of orange or lemon, HAN Citruss complements any occasion or meal at which fine spirits are required. Suggested serving method: on the rock, in cocktails.



HAN TEQ SOJU 48 PROOF

Alcohol: 24% (beer & wine) Size: 200ml, 750ml Code: 76954, 72924 Importer: Progressive Beverage

S6

HAN Teq is a rice based distilled spirit infused with the flavors of premium Mexican Tequila. Similar in taste profile to premium Blanco Mexican Tequilas, HAN Teq can be used in a premium Margarita, as a shooter or served chilled in a salt rimmed martini glass with lime garnish. Suggested serving method: straight, chilled, in cocktails.



100 YEARS OF SOLITUDE

百年の孤独

BARREL AGED AUTHENTIC BARLEY SHOCHU 樽熟成本格麦焼酎

Alcohol: 40% (spirits) Size: 750ml Code: 428424 Importer: Banzai Beverage

S7

Brewery: Kuroki Distillery (est. 1885) Prefecture: Miyazaki

This shochu is a masterpiece created from longterm aging of cask strength Naka-Naka ("Pretty") in American white oak barrels. The flow of time has imparted a gem-like amber hue and a gorgeously mellow flavor. Suggested serving method: straight, on the rocks, or broken with water (hot/cold).



YAMASEMI

山翡翠

"KINGFISHER"
AUTHENTIC RICE SHOCHU

本格米焼酎

Alcohol: 25% (spirits) Size: 750ml Code: 428423 Importer: Banzai Beverage

S10

Brewery: Osuzuyama Distillery (est. 1998) Prefecture: Miyazaki

This shochu was made using locally grown Miyazaki rice varieties "Hinohikari" and "Hanakagura". Fermentation is done using our proprietary inhouse yeast and natural spring water of Mt. Osuzuyama.



KIROKU

きろく

"MEMORY" AUTHENTIC SWEET POTATO SHOCHU

本格芋焼酎

Alcohol: 25% (spirits) Size: 750ml Code: 428421 Importer: Banzai Beverage **S8**

Brewery: Kuroki Distillery (est. 1885) Prefecture: Miyazaki

Made using a combination of freshly harvested estate grown and locally grown "Kogane Sengan" sweet potatoes. The rice koji is made from locally grown "Hinohikari" rice of Miyazaki. Great care is taken in the distillation and maturation of this shochu. Enjoy the rich flavor and soft texture.



NAKA NAKA

中々

"PRETTY" AUTHENTIC BARLEY SHOCHU

本格麦焼酎

Alcohol: 25% (spirits) Size: 750ml Code: 428422 Importer: Banzai Beverage **S9**

Brewery: Kuroki Distillery (est. 1885) Prefecture: Miyazaki

Made from Kyushu wheat cultivated in the organic farm and the choicest barley . Using time honored method, the distiller produces the starter mash in traditional ceramic pots with proprietary in-house yeast.

PRODUCT LISTING

BY IMPORTER



www.banzaibeverage.com

BANZAI BEVERAGE (THE ESTATES GROUP)

Banzai Beverage was founded in 2003 by Takahiro Tokura. Being Japanese, he was disheartened by how saké was perceived as a novelty beverage and not taken seriously in the United States. He traveled extensively throughout Japan to look for saké that would compete legitimately against the world's top wines. His selection largely features limited production saké in Japan's current hōjun umakuchi (rich & tasty) style. The progressive and rebellious attitude has earned Banzai Beverage the reputation having a uniquely eclectic selection. www.banzaibeverage.com

Bunny Sparkling **K1, K2, K3, K4**Crazy Milk Junmai Nigori **N1**Setsugetsu Bijin "Snow Moon Beauty" Junmai Ginjo **G19**Jokigen "Euphoria" Junmai Ginjo **G9**Jokigen Omachi Kimoto "Red Label" Junmai Daiginjo **D4**Tenranzan "Emperor Mountain" Junmai Ginjo **G20**

Shochu (full spirits)
Kuroki Kiroku Shochu **S8**Kuroki Naka Naka Shochu **S9**Kuroki Yamasemi Shochu **S10**Kuroki Hyakunen no Kodoku Aged Shochu **S10**



www.choya.com

CHOYA U.S.A. (YOUNG'S MARKET COMPANY)

CHOYA is the world's most widely distributed Umeshu, or Japanese plum wine/liquor brand. Choya is revered throughout Japan for its balance of sweetness, acidity, and exotic fragrances. Choya celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2014. www.choya.com

Choya Umeshu Classic **U1** Choya Umeshu Classic Shiso **U2** Choya Umeshu Classic Honey **U3** Choya Umeshu with Plum **U4** Choya Umeshu Excellent **U5**



www.geminispiritswine.com

GEMNI SPIRITS & WINE COMPANY (YOUNG'S MARKET COMPANY)

Gemni Spirits & Wine Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Sazerac family of businesses, specializing in the building of niche, specialty, developmental spirit & wine brands. Gemni's sake brand, Fuki, is one of the most established authentic sake imported from Japan, and has been distributed in the United States since 1972. www.geminispiritswine.com

Fuki Sake **J5**Fuki Cherry **U6**Fuki Plum **U7**Fuki Green Tea **U8**



www.hakushika.co.jp/en

HAKUSHIKA / JFC (YOUNG'S MARKET COMPANY)

Tatsuuma-Honke Brewing Co., producer of Hakushika Sake, was established in 1662 in the town of Nishinomiya, Hyogo Prefecture in western Japan. Nishinomiya, famed for its excellent "Miyamizu" water, Yamadanishiki rice and climate, is one of Japan's most prominent centers for brewing sake. Owned by the Tatsuuma Family since its inception, Hakushika is one of Japan's most respected Japanese brands and was appreciated in export markets as early as 1889 when it was awarded a Gold Medal at the World's Fair in Paris, France. Hakushika, produced in a wide variety of styles and package sizes, is known as smooth, easy-to-enjoy sake that is always a good choice. www.hakushika.co.jp/en

Hakushika Chokara Extra Dry **J8**Hakushika Classic Junmai Ginjo **G6**Hakushika Goka Sennenju Junmai Daiginjo **D3**Hakushika Japanese Orchard Japanese Pear **U11**Hakushika Japanese Orchard White Peach **U10**Hakushika Japanese Orchard Yuzu **U9**

Hakushika Junmai Ginjo Pack **G8**Hakushika Namacho Fresh & Light **J9**Hakushika Select Junmai **J10**Hakushika Snow Beauty Nigori **N3**Hakushika Tanuki Junmai PACK **J11**Hakushika Yoshino Taru **J12**



www.jotosake.com

JOTO SAKE, LLC. (YOUNG'S MARKET COMPANY)

Joto is Japanese for "highest level." This describes their sake makers and their aspirations as importers. Founded in 2005, Joto imports from 8 multi-generation, family owned and operated breweries and represents 29 individual sakes in the USA. Their sakes are described as jizake, or "local," and are all from different regions of Japan. Joto's brewers produce their saké in small batches and primarily use locally grown rice. www.jotosake.com

Chikurin Karoyaka Junmai Ginjo G1
Chikurin ORGANIC Karoyaka Junmai Ginjo G2
Eiko Fuji Ban Ryu F1
Eiko Fuji Honkara "Super Dry" H1
Eiko Fuji Namazake Junmai Ginjo G4
Fukuchitose Yamahai Junmai J6
Hana Hou Hou Shu K7
Hou Hou Shu K8
Izumo Fuji Junmai J13
Joto Daiginjo D5
Joto Junmai J14
Joto Nigori N4
Maboroshi Junmai Daiginjo D8
Maboroshi Junmai Ginjo G11
Seikyo Omachi Junmai Ginjo G18

Seikyo Takehara Junmai J20

Shichi Hon Yari Junmai J21
Shichi Hon Yari Shizuku Junmai Daiginjo D11
Taiheikai Tokubetsu Junmai J22
Watari Bune Junmai Daiginjo D14
Watari Bune Junmai Ginjo G23
Yuki No Bosha Akita Komachi Daiginjo D15
Yuki No Bosha Junmai Ginjo G24
Yuki No Bosha Junmai Ginjo Nigori N8
Yuki No Bosha Yamahai Junmai J29
Yuri Masamune F4



www.ozekisake.com

OZEKI, KIKKOMAN/JFC (YOUNG'S MARKET COMPANY)

JFC is a leading Japanese food distributor in the United States, with a company philosophy of Qualtiy Merchandising & Good Service. Ozeki U.S.A. is an award-winning sake brewery, which has been making affordable and quality sake in the U.S.A. since 1979. www.ozekisake.com

Ozeki Dry Junmai **J16**Ozeki Fancy Dry Junmai **J17**Ozeki Hana Awaka Sparkling Sake **K5**Ozeki Hana Fuga Peach Sparkling Sake **K6**Ozeki Ikezo Sparkling Peach Jelly Sake **U15**Ozeki Junmai **J15**

Ozeki Nigori **N5**Ozeki One Cup Junmai **J18**Ozeki One Cup Daiginjo **D10**Ozeki One Cup Nigori **N6**Kikkoman Plum Wine **N14**



www.probrandsinc.com

PROGRESSIVE BEVERAGE (YOUNG'S MARKET COMPANY)

Progressive Beverages, Inc. is a boutique spirits importer specializing in premium soju and shochu. Brands which they import include HAN Soju and HAN Flavored Soju and the legendary Tori Kai Shochu. www.probrandinc.com

Han Cane Soju 48 Proof **S2** Han Citruss 48 proof **S3** Han Fire 48 Proof **S4** Han Soju Tequila 48 Proof **S6** Han Soju Vodka 48 proof **S5** Tori Kai Soju Premium 48 Proof **S1**



www.winebow.com

CRAFT & ESTATE (YOUNG'S MARKET COMPANY)

Winebow, Inc. is a major importer and distributor of fine wine, craft spirits, and sake from around the world. Founded in 1980 by Leonardo LoCascio, Winebow imports an impressive range of Italian wines under Leonardo LoCascio selections label, and an esteemed portfolio representing over 15 countries, including Argentina, Austria, Chille, Japan, Portugal, and Spain. www.winebow.com

Chokaisan Junmai Daiginjo **D1**Dewatsuru Kimoto Junmai **J3**Dewatsuru Junmai Nigori **N2**Dewatsuru Sakura Emaki Rose **J4**

Hideyoshi Namacho Honjozo **H2** Hideyoshi Lachamte Sparkling Sake **K9** Manabito Ginjo **G12** Minato Harbor Yamahai Nama Genshu Futsushu **F2**



www.vineconnections.com

VINE CONNECTIONS (THE ESTATES GROUP)

Vine Connections is a Sausalito, California-based importer and the exclusive U.S. representative of some of the world's most unique and exciting wines and Japanese sake. Vine Connections has pioneered some of the best imported artisan wines from Argentina and Chile as well as introduced Americans to a selection of premium Japanese ginjo sake from boutique, family-run brewers. The wines and sake sourced consistently over deliver value while providing education to the customers who sell, serve, and enjoy these amazing fermentations. www.vineconnections.com

Ama No To Tokubetsu Junmai J1 Chiyonosono Sacred Power Junmai Ginjo G3 Chiyonosono Shared Promise Junmai J2 Fukucho Moon on the Water Junmai Ginjo G5 Fukucho Forgotten Fortune Hattanso Junmai J7 Ginga Shizuku Devine Droplets Junmai Daiginjo D2 Kanbara Bride of the Fox Junmai Ginjo G10 Konteki Pearls of Simplicity Junmai D6 Konteki Tears of Dawn Daiginjo D7 Mantensei Star-filled Sky Junmai Ginjo G13 Mukune Root of Innocence Junmai Ginjo G14 Nanbu Bijin Southern Beauty Junmai Ginjo G15 Nanbu Bijin Ancient Pillars Junmai Daiginjo D9 Rihaku Dreamy Clouds Tokubetsu Junmai Nigori N6 Rihaku Wandering Poet Junmai Ginjo G17 Rihaku Origin of Purity Omachi Junmai Ginjo G16 Rihaku Dance of Discovery Junmai J19 Takatenjin Soul of the Sensei Junmai Daiginjo **D12** Takatenjin Sword of the Sun Tokubetsu Honjozo H4 Tensei Song of the Sea Junmai Ginjo G21 Tensei Thousand Waves Tokubetsu Junmai Yamahai J23 Tentaka Kuni Hawk in Heavens Junmai J24 Tentaka Organaka Organic Junmai J25 Tentaka Silent Streams Junmai Daiginjo **D13** Tozai Blossom of Peace Plum **U16** Tozai Living Jewel Junmai J26 Tozai Snow Maiden Junmai Nigori N7 Tozai Typhoon Futsushu F3 Tozai Well of Wisdom Ginjo G22 Yuho Eternal Embers Junmai J27 Yuho Rhythm of Centuries Kimoto Junmai J28







Sake, often called the "Drink of the Gods" by the Japanese, is a beverage produced from sake varietal rices, pure water, koji spores, and specially selected yeasts. It is brewed like beer but drinks like a fine wine. The sake that we import is created without flavorings or additives and is more specifically referred to as "ginjo" sake--chilled, ultra-premium, artisan sake--not the boiled, cheap stuff that has (unfortunately) been served to Americans in small, ceramic carafes at sushi bars for decades.

Chilled Japanese premium sake has been enjoying an almost 20% annual growth over the past five years! Sake's popularity is due, not only to the infusion of Asian culture into the American art and food scene, but also because Americans are becoming better educated and aware of this fine brew.

In the following pages, discover the world of Sake! Though sake is often referred to as rice wine, the process of making sake has more in common with the brewing of beer. Despite the parallels with beer, sake making is distinguished from other brewing methods by its use of multiple, parallel fermentation processes. When making an alcoholic beverage from grains, it is necessary to convert starch into sugar and sugar into alcohol. When brewing beer this occurs in two steps. With sake, the process is simultaneous.

The true origins of sake are unknown; we do know the Japanese honed and cultivated the brewing process over the last two thousand years, producing the quality sake enjoyed today. Sake was first brewed in Japan after the practice of wet rice cultivation was introduced around the third century.

Lacking today's modern machinery, the initial, rudimentary brewing process included chewing grains of rice and spitting them into bowls. (The chewing process produced the enzymes necessary for fermentation). More orthodox methods were later introduced when it was discovered that adding Koji-Kin mold and yeast would promote the fermentation process. Further advancements followed, including polishing the rice to remove the bran, which produced better-quality sake.

Japan first began producing sake on an industrial scale during the Edo period (1603-1868). This era saw the introduction of the waterwheel, which became the means of propelling rice-polishing machines (eliminating the previous manual process of polishing rice grains).

Sake production improved dramatically during the 20th century with the first government sake brewing research institute opening in 1904 (more advanced machinery and specifically selected yeast strains). Wooden barrels were also replaced with enamel-coated steel tanks, which eliminated the flavor the wooden barrels imparted, allowing for the sake's pure flavor to remain.

Always at the cutting edge of brewing technology, Japan's larger breweries have incorporated computer-controlled equipment, producing sake on an even greater industrial scale. However, the time-honored methods of producing handcrafted, premium sake remains alive among smaller, family-owned and operated breweries. These breweries source local ingredients while utilizing their microclimate to showcase regional styles and flavors producing what is known as Jizake, or regional sake.

Whether sake comes from north, south, east, west, mountain or coastal areas, one can expect certain styles and flavors as a direct result of each regional influence. The taste of sake is achieved with four simple ingredients: water, Koji-Kin, yeast and rice; yet, many flavor profiles and styles can be attained. The parameters are focused around sweet to dryness, acidity, texture, fragrance, umami, complexity and finish.

Sake continues to be a divinely enjoyable drink, offering variety and depth that holds its own on any table or wine list.



O WHAT IS SAKE?

Sake is an alcoholic beverage uniquely brewed from rice. Although it drinks very similarly to wine it is not a rice wine, it is actually brewed almost identically to beer.

O IS SAKE AS STRONG AS VODKA OR SOJU?

No, sake is not distilled and is generally much lower in alcohol content than typical spirits such as vodka, soju, rum, whiskey, etc.

WHAT IS THE ALCOHOL CONTENT OF SAKE?

For the most part, Sake is between 15% - 16% ABV. On average, beer has an ABV of 5%, wine 13.5%, soju 24% and vodka 40%

O HOW "CLEAN" IS SAKE AS AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE?

Many consumers find Sake to be easy to drink and gentle on their body due to it being 80% water and both sulfite & gluten-free. A handful of sakes are even Kosher!

O HOW LONG DOES UNOPENED SAKE KEEP?

It is best consumed within 1 year of leaving the brewery. Sake typically is not meant to be aged, the fresher the better.

HOW LONG DOES SAKE KEEP AFTER OPENING?

Sake does not go bad like wine. Its lifespan varies tremendously depending on the individual product. Ideally, sake is consumed within 7 days of opening but can often times be enjoyed for weeks or even months after. Refrigeration strongly recommended. Basically speaking, well-built / clean Sakes tend to have a longer lifespan than more aromatic & delicate styles.

CAN ALL SAKE BE SERVED HOT AND COLD?

Poorly crafted sakes tend to be best served hot. Well-made, artisanal sakes are usually best served chilled at chardonnay temperature BUT many craft sakes are beautiful gently warmed to body temperature — rustic, robust, kimoto & yamahai type sakes are excellent warmed this way.

O WHAT IS THE BEST SAKE GLASSWARE?

There are no standardized glasses for serving sake. Anything that features the beverage well works — small rocks glass or wine glass, cordial glass, stemless wine glass, etc.

O WHAT IS THE STANDARD POUR FOR SAKE?

4 ounces is the standard for a glass of sake, carafes are usually 8 to 12 ounces.



Acidity: acidity is stated on a bottle of saké in Japan, with low acidity being around 1.1 and high acidity being over 2.0. Like the nihonshudo or sake meter value, we do not use this term very often.

Aruten (ah-roo-ten): any saké that is made with the addition of a small amount of neutral spirit. Adding neutral spirit can bring out additional aromatics and flavors along with create a leaner, lighter textured sake. Oftentimes, the addition of neutral spirit helps create dryer sake.

Daiginjos (die-Geen- joe): are aruten sakés that are made with rice which has been polished to 50% or less of its original size. People often use "Daiginjos" to include Junmai Daiginjos as well. Daiginjos are lighter in body and more refined than Ginjos. Daiginjos will generally be more aromatic than their Junmai Daiginjo counterparts.

Fune (foo-neh): a traditional method of pressing sake, separating the solids in the mash (lees) from the fresh sake, in a large box usually made of wood.

Gen-shu (G'en-shoe): is sake which has not been diluted with water after fermentation. Thus, Genshu usually has an alcohol content of 20%, whereas most saké is brought down to about 15% to 16%. Genshu is generally released and marketed as a special product.

Ginjos (Geen-joe): are aruten sakés that are made with rice that has been polished to 60% or less of its original size. Ginjos tend to be more fragrant and complex than Honjozo's and often leaner and more aromatic than their Junmai Ginjo counterparts.

Honjozo (hohn-joe-zoh): is made with rice which is polished to 70% or less of its original size with a slight addition of neutral spirits added which tends to create a light, clean, crisp, sometimes aromatic style of sake.

Jizake (jee-zah-kay): "Local" sake made by smaller brewers from a particular region. Similar to the beer term micro-brew.

Junmai (juhn-my): literally means "pure rice," and refers to a family of saké as well as a grade of saké within that family. Junmai or pure rice saké is made using water, rice, yeast and koji only. There is no neutral spirit in Junmai saké.

Junmai-shu (juhn-my-shoe): is the first level of Junmai saké. Junmai-shus are usually made with rice which has been milled to 70% or less of its original size. Junmai's tend to be robust and flavorful. They are good food sakés because of their hearty personalities.

Junmai Ginjo (juhn-my-Geen-joe): is saké made with rice which has been polished to 60% or less of its original size with no neutral spirit added. Junmai Ginjos are elegant and refined but still have some of the richer qualities found in Junmai's. Generally speaking, these sakes are more full-bodied with playful aromatics and a beautiful finesse.

Junmai Daginjo (juhn-my-die-Geen-joe): is saké made with rice which has been refined to 50% or less of its original size with no neutral spirit added. Junmai Daiginjo's are delicately elegant and complex with tremendous depth. Oftentimes wonderfully aromatic and many have a "Ginjo style" fruitiness.

Kimoto (key-mo-toe): Ki means "original" and moto is the yeast starter; thus, kimoto means "original yeast starter." Started in the 1700's, the kimoto method requires saké brewers to mush up the yeast starter with bamboo poles for hours on end, day in and day out for roughly four weeks. Mushing the yeast starter tightens the mixture and removes oxygen. As a result, lactic bacteria cannot easily survive and lactic acid is naturally created. Kimoto saké tends to be rustic, robust, layered and rich with a beautiful length in flavor.

An excellent rich or oily food pairing sake!



Kasu (kah-sue): The lees that remain after the mash has been pressed to give clear sake; unfermented remains of the moromi.

Koku (koe-koo): Originally a measure of rice equal to one thousand masu, or about 380 kilograms, for sake, a measure equal to one hundred isshobin, or about 180 liters.

Kura (koo-rah): A sake brewery

Kurabito (koo-rah-bee-toe): A sake brewery worker or workers

Masu (ma-sue): a small wooden box traditionally used for measuring rice and sometimes used for drinking sake

Namazake aka Nama: saké which has not been pasteurized. Most saké is pasteurized twice to maintain stability. Nama-zake or "raw saké" has not been pasteurized and thus has a raw, bright personality to it. Namazake is usually released in the spring instead of going through the usual six month storage period. Namazake should always be kept refrigerated and consumed immediately after being released.

Nama Genshu (na-ma-G'en-shoe): is unpasteurized & undiluted sake, literally sake in its rawest form and must be refrigerated.

Nihonshudo (knee-hohn-shoe-doe): also referred to as the SMV or Sake Meter Value. This is a plus (+) or minus (-) number attached to sakes which in theory is used to express the sweetness or dryness of a particular sake. This number comes from a test of specific gravity in a sake during fermentation. Conceptually, the higher the number the dryer the sake. Keep in mind that he sensation of dryness on ones palate primarily comes from acidity level and alcohol content, neither of which are measured by the Nihonshudo. Only in extremes (+7 to -7) does this prove to be an reliable tool for predicting sweet vs dryness in a sake.

Nigori (knee-gory): literally translates to "particles floating around" and is saké with the lees or undissolved rice from fermentation kept in the bottle. This is achieved in many ways, oftentimes running the saké through a coarser filter or by adding the lees back in after filtration. Nigori saké has a creamy mouthfeel and a smooth, easy-going flavor. Refrigeration recommended.

Sakagura (sa-kah-goo-ra): Literally translates to sake brewery and is a combination of the words "sake" changed to saka, and "kura" changed to gura, meaning "brewery".

Seimaibuai (say-my-boo-eye): is the degree to which the rice used in a sake is polished. It is always expressed as the percentage of the original rice grain that is left. Thus, a Seimaibuai of 70% means that 30% has been polished away.

Sugidama (sue-gee-dah-ma): is a ball made of cedar branches that is hung in front of a sake brewery. Fresh green Sugidama are hung at the beginning of October when the brewing season begins and gradually turns brown as the winter progresses and it is said that when it is entirely brown, in the spring, then the saké is ready.



WHAT IS SHOCHU?

Shochu is a distilled beverage native to Japan made most commonly from barley, sweet potato, sugarcane / brown sugar and rice.

Shochu is divided into two categories — Kou-rui and Otsu-rui. Kou-rui shochu is distilled multiple times and is generally used for mixing cocktails due to its low flavor profile and subtle character. Otsu-rui is a category of single-distilled shochu which typically is known to have a robust character and bolder flavor profile.

There is also a sub-category known as Honkaku which is considered premium shochu due to it being produced only by water and the distilled grain of choice.

·WHAT IS SOJU?

Soju is a distilled beverage native to Korea made traditionally from rice but is now also produced from other starch sources such as potato, wheat, barley and tapioca. It is commonly distilled using the chain distillation method but some single-distilled products do exist.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SAKE, SHOCHU AND SOJU?

Sake is not distilled and has an average ABV of 15% - 16% and is generally served gently warmed or chilled like a white wine.

Shochu is distilled and has an ABV between 25% - 35% depending. Shochu is generally served on the rocks, with warm water added or with slightly chilled water added with sometimes a fruit or plum garnish.

Soju is distilled and has an ABV between 16% - 45% with an average of 20% ABV. Soju is generally sweeter than shochu due to the addition of sugars during fermentation. Traditionally, Soju is consumed as chilled shots alongside a beer but Soju based cocktails are tremendously popular in the US.

WHEN CAN I SERVE SOJU AND WHEN CAN I SERVE SHOCHU?

Liquor licensing laws in the state of California specifically exempt the sale of Soju from regulations relating to the sale of distilled spirits under Beer & Wine licenses. A product must be under 25% ABV and the word "Soju" must be clearly listed on the label in order for a non-Spirits licensed account to serve it.

Due to this exemption, many producers of Japanese Shochu have lowered their ABV to 24% and have labeled their products Soju in an effort to make their product available to the broader Beer & Wine licensed account base in California.



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