

About Gin

Gin is a neutral spirit flavored with juniper berries and a wide variety of other botanical flavorings. Spices, roots, seeds, flowers, leaves, and fruits can all be used to flavor gin, but juniper must be the main flavor. Gin originated in Holland but can be produced all over the world. Styles of Gin include London Dry, Plymouth, Old Tom, and Genever.

There are two main categories of gin. Compound gin is less expensive and involves blending neutral spirits with flavorings and extracts. Distilled gin is made from a fermented mash in a pot still. The botanical components are added during the second distillation and can be mixed into the distilling mash or placed on a screen above the mash. Distilled gins have a more elegant and distinct flavor.

Types

Genever (or Schiedam gin) is the Dutch and Belgian version and the original style of gin. It was first distilled for medicinal purposes and was the original gin used in many of the classic American cocktails of the 19th century, rivaling Old Tom as the star of the bar. Genever is distilled from malted grain mash in a manner similar to whiskey. It tends to be lower proof (70 to 80 proof) than its English counterparts. Genever is often aged in oak casks for one to three years and comes in two styles. Oude (old) genever is the original style with a straw color; it is relatively sweet and aromatic. Jonge (young) genever has a drier palate and lighter body.

London dry gin is the best-known and most widely produced style of gin in the world today. It's often considered the benchmark that defines gin. This is a juniper-forward, very dry gin. Its flowery and aromatic characteristics are a result of adding the botanicals during the second or third distillation. The vapors from these flavoring agents reach the alcohol as they pass through a specialized still with an attachment called a gin head. London dry gin is often preferred for making martinis and the most versatile for cocktails.

Plymouth Gin is a clear, slightly fruity, full-bodied gin that is very aromatic. This style originated in the port of Plymouth on the English Channel. Only one distillery, Plymouth, Coates & Co., has the right to produce it today, so it is both a style and a brand name. It is typically a good choice for cocktails that include fruits.

Old Tom gin is a sweeter version of London dry gin. Simple syrup distinguishes this older style from its contemporaries and many include notes of citrus. Old Tom was the original gin used for the popular Tom Collins and the gin of choice for much of the 19th century. Not too long ago, Old Tom gin could be found almost exclusively in the U.K. Today it's produced by several U.S. distilleries as well.

Navy Strength gins must be 57 percent alcohol, or 114 proof, the same requirement that the Royal British Navy had for gins beginning in the early 1800s for officers. The reason given back then was: Gunpowder could still be fired if 114 proof gin was accidentally spilled on it.

"New Western Dry" gin (or "New American" gin) are names adopted by the international bartending community to describe a number of modern gins released in the early 2000s. These brands downplay juniper and were so different from the standard gins that there was much debate as to whether they could be classified as gin. Many were produced with modern cocktails and vodka drinkers in mind. They have a great appeal to consumers who are not fond of a heavy pine taste.

J. Rieger's Gin

Midwestern Dry Gin is inspired by the traditional London Dry Gins that famously emphasize the spicy and aromatic character of mature Juniper berries. By selecting only the finest botanicals from around the world, the result is bold, full-flavored Gin with layers of aroma and a complexity of flavor that makes it perfect for sipping on the rocks or ideal for classic cocktails.

Distillery: J. Rieger Distillery ABV: 46.1% Region: Missouri, United States
Known Botanicals: Angelica Root, Coriander, Juniper, Licorice Root & Orange Peel

Plymouth Gin

Welcome to the home of Plymouth Gin. Wherever you are on your gin journey, there is no better place to start than Plymouth. Our craft began way back in 1793, and we have never stopped searching for the new, the rich and smooth taste of Plymouth Gin is the result of a balanced blend of seven hand-selected botanicals.

Distillery: Black Friars Distillery ABV: 41.2% Region: United Kingdom
Known Botanicals: Angelica Root, Coriander, Juniper, Lemon Peel, Green Cardamom, Orris Root & Orange Peel

Roku Gin

In Japanese, Roku translates as the number six. Inside every bottle of Roku Gin, you will find six very special botanicals that are sourced in Japan. These represent Suntory's commitment to only use the best ingredients harvested from the best growing areas in Japan. Every aspect of Roku Gin is crafted by Japanese artisans with a centuries-old tradition of meticulous attention to detail. Not only are Roku Gin's ingredients of the highest quality, many are also uniquely Japanese and, therefore, best understood by Japanese artisans. Suntory's mastery of this process is the result of extensive experience gained over decades making gin. Suntory developed its own multiple distillation process as a result of the special features each botanical brings to Roku Gin's perfectly balanced mix.

Distillery: Suntory Distillery ABV: 47% Region: Japan
Known Botanicals: Angelica, Cardamom, Cherry Blossom, cherry leaves, Cinnamon, Coriander, green tea, Juniper, Lemon, Orange, sansho, yuzu

Pinckney Bend Navy Strength Gin

ABOUT Navy strength gin has a long and varied history with the British Royal Navy. While sailors were given rum rations ("grog") as part of their wages, gin was strictly for officers. If the officers suspected their supplies of gin were being diluted, they would test the strength of the alcohol by adding it to gunpowder. If the spirit was too weak, it would fail to light. If the mixture ignited, then it was 'proof' and accepted on board. Pinckney Bend Navy Strength Gin is a perfectly balanced, savory, over-proof expression of our highly decorated American Gin. FLAVOR PROFILE Fiery & complicated, juniper jumps off the pallet clearly enjoying its life at a higher proof.

Assertive rooty, citrus notes blend with other botanicals of lavender, orris root and angelica
Distillery: Pinckney Bend Distillery ABV: 57% Region: Missouri, United States
Known Botanicals: Angelica, Coriander, Juniper, Lavender, Lemon, Licorice, Lime, Orange, Orris Root

Harahorn Gin

The Harahorn gin is a dry gin named after a mountain in Hemsedal, and with inspiration from a fabulous animal, no one has seen live yet. Harahorn is produced by only 300 liters at a time, in order to have maximum control over the quality

Distillery: Det Norske Brenneri Distillery ABV: 46% Region: Norway
Known Botanicals: Made with a number of interesting botanicals from the area, including Nordmarka blueberries, juniper, Grimstad rhubarb, Oppdal angelica, bladderwrack, and Sunndal wild marjoram.

Broker's Gin

A 200-year-old recipe crafted in a 200-year-old England-based distillery, Broker's Gin begins with tradition. It begins with a recipe the original founders spent hundreds of years perfecting. A quadruple-distilled pure grain spirit made from English wheat is redistilled in a traditional copper pot still with ten traditional botanicals, creating a gin of outstanding flavor and smoothness.

Distillery: Langley Distillery ABV: 47% Region: United Kingdom
Known Botanicals: Angelica, Cassia, Cinnamon, Coriander, Juniper, Lemon, Nutmeg, Orange & Orris Root.