

GREAT LAKES DISTILLERY

Hand-crafted excellence.

In 2004, founder Guy Rehorst started Milwaukee's first distillery since prohibition. Production came on line in 2006. Guy and distiller Doug MacKenzie have released an impressive stream of first-class distilled spirits. Here's Guy on the GLD website:

“Everything is mass-produced these days. Large corporations are filled with cubicle dwellers counting beans. Mom and pop stores have been replaced by megaboxes selling sweat socks made in sweatshops in some country whose name I can't even pronounce. Even your favorite hooch is being made by robots in huge industrial plants. You deserve better than this.

Well, we're not going to take it lying down! Great Lakes Distillery is doing it the old-fashioned way: small-batch spirits made with old-world methods. Result? Products with great taste and real personality.”



Great Lakes uses premium ingredients, German potstills, and rigorously clean production methods. Their website at www.greatlakesdistillery.com has tons of unusually straightforward info. Check out their great video section (under “more” on the home page).

KINNICKINNIC WHISKEY. Good bourbon sourced at a Kentucky distillery, is blended with Great lakes' own twice-distilled barley-based malt (using 4 specialty toasts). They do not filter. This beauty enhances older oak-enriched bourbon flavors with the immediate & flowery appeal of lightly-aged malt. WHISKY MAGAZINE's American Whisky of the Year (2013).



ROARING DAN'S RUM. Twice-distilled molasses; maple syrup is added before the second distillation. Aged in a mix of new white-oak and used bourbon barrels. Soft, rich, and buttery, with a long dry finish.

REHORST PREMIUM MILWAUKEE GIN. Nine carefully selected botanicals, including two innovations: sweet basil and local ginseng. Tons of good press: 92 from Anthony Dias Blue; double gold at the SF spirits Competition!!! Nicely balanced spirit.

