

Distilled by the winner of **WHISKEY ADVOCATE'S 2012 Artisan Whiskey of the Year**

AMERICAN CRAFT WHISKEY DISTILLERY

LOW GAP

CLEAR RYE WHISKEY



PAUL PACULT 3.13.2013

Low Gap Rye Whiskey
(USA; Low Gap, Ukiah, CA)
42.7% abv, \$45.

Pot still. Clear and clean as rainwater. Upfront after the pour, it smells, quite exotically, of chalk, raw cotton fabric, burlap, beeswax, and cereal grain; the off-dry aroma remains focused, snack cracker- and cereal-like after another six minutes of air contact; remarkably ripe and fruity in the final inhalation, which is stunning. Entry is floral, fruity (tangerine, pomegranate), and composed; midpalate turns deeply cereal-like and mildly spicy (peppery), but the overall impression is of elegance and substance; texturally there is plenty of grip. Finishes medium-long, drier than the entry, and clean as a whistle. If not the finest white whiskey I've tasted, damn near the best. A clinic on fresh, unadulterated spirit.



Spirit Journal March 2013:

★★★★★/Highest Recommendation



Double distillation by hand on an antique 16HL cognac still. On-site fermentation of distilling beer from malted rye. Descent to proof is with filtered rainwater.

AMERICAN CRAFT WHISKEY DISTILLERY

OPERATING IN THE GERMAIN-ROBIN FACILITIES
IN MENDOCINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Who are you guys?



CRISPIN CAIN apprenticed for seven years with Hubert Germain-Robin, then founded Greenway Distillery in 2005. Crispin Cain's Rose Liqueur, made on the whiskey still, was selected world's "Best Liqueur" by ROBB REPORT in 2008. Paul Pacult's SPIRIT JOURNAL gave his recent Germain-Robin Absinthe a ★★★★★ rating: "unblemished clarity...stands alone". Crispin has been experimenting with whiskey for a *lot* of years.



DEVIN CAIN, who has apprenticed with his father Crispin, has taken over major responsibility for fermentation of distilling beer and for operating the still used for Low Gap. He has a gift for blending: he elaborated the recipes for the Fluid Dynamics 1850, the Saratoga, and the forthcoming (2013) Rye Manhattan and Dry Martini.



ANSLEY COALE, President of Craft Distillers, co-founded Germain-Robin brandy in 1982, Hangar One vodka in 2002, Mezcalero mezcal in 2009, and more recently Fluid Dynamics barrel-aged cocktails. In 2003, he founded Craft Distillers to market craft-method spirits: Germain-Robin, Los Nahuales, Maison Surrene, Mezcalero, and now Low Gap and Fluid Dynamics.

How good are your stills?

Distillates made on these antiques are rich, deep-flavored, and complex, while remaining subtle and elegant. They uniformly display a remarkably long finish. In 1996, the Germain-Robin Select Barrel XO was named "Best Liquor" in the world by ROBB REPORT MAGAZINE.

Are you making extremely good whiskey?

yes. Here's Lew Bryson of the Whiskey Advocate:

"Of all the white whiskeys that came across my table, Low Gap was the solid winner. Low Gap is a round fruity spirit that drinks like brandy – aromatic and vaporous – with a real grain-laced finish, not just an alcohol wick-up. That's hardly a surprise coming from Craft Distillers, who are involved in Germain-Robin: they know their way around a still, particularly the 16-hectoliter still used to make Low Gap. This is exceptional in its niche, and I can't wait to see what it's like when it has a chance to age."