

SUNSET INTERNATIONAL SPIRIT COMPETITION 2026

Award	Company / Brand	Name	Category	Pts	Judge Comment	Website
Best of the Best Best Gin	Griffo Distillery	Scott Street Gin	Gin, London Dry	97	Best of Class, Double Gold. Great botanicals, stylish, upper tier, balanced! Complete citrus, tangerine and sweet lemon notes.	griffodistillery.com
Best Aperitif	Branca USA	Carpano Rosso	Vermouth - Sweet	94	Best of Class, Gold. Plum, hoisin, white flower, white pepper.	brancausa.com
Best Straight Rye Best Special Barrel Finished	Angel's Envy	Angel's Envy, Cellar Collection Vol. 5 Straight Rye Whiskey Finished in French Oak Extra Añejo Tequila Barrels	Special Barrel Finished Rye, Luxury	99	Best of Class, Double Gold. Creamy mousse, silky, clean, citrus, floral, warm spice and long finish.	angelsenvy.com
Best Brandy	Korbel	Classic Brandy	American Grape Brandy	96	Best of Class, Double Gold. Complex, clean, balanced, vanilla, citrus notes and marzipan.	korbel.com
Best Mezcal	Los Perdidos De La Noche	Mezcal - Reposado Artesanal	Mezcal, Sotol, Bacanora, Comiteca	94	Best of Class, Gold. Charred banana leaf, elegant, balanced and earthy.	lospendidismo.com
Best Mixer	Bundaberg Brewed Drinks	Bundaberg Ginger Beer	Ginger Beer	96	Best of Class, Double Gold. Fresh, clean, crisp, good aromas.	bundaberg.com
Best Ready to Drink	Griffo Distillery	Espresso Martini	Pre-mixed Cocktails of a minimum of 15% abv	95	Best of Class, Double Gold. Rich, complex, cacao notes.	griffodistillery.com
Best Ready to Drink - Cider based	2 Towns Ciderhouse	Craftwell Guava Crush	Ready to Drink Cider - Cocktail	94	Best of Class, Double Gold. True Guava, delicate, delicious light cider notes.	2townsciderhouse.com
Best Rum	Rhum Barbancourt Estate	Rhum Barbancourt Estate Reserve 15 year old	Extra-Aged Rum (More than 5 Years)	95	Best of Class, Double Gold. Well made, rich, bold, elegant edges, well-integrated and caramel.	barbancourt.com
Best Single Barrel American Whiskey	Uncle Nearest	Uncle Nearest Single Barrel Whiskey - Batch 3633	Single Barrel American Whiskey 10 Years, Luxury	94	Best of Class, Gold. Exceptional, luxurious, dense, layered and balanced.	unclenearest.com

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Best Specialty Spirit	Bacan Liquors, LLC	Bacan Guaro 29%, Aguardiente	Guaro	97	Best of Class, Double Gold. Licorice, fennel, clean, smooth, aromatics of sea breeze.	bacanguaro.com
Best Whiskey Best Tennessee Whiskey	Uncle Nearest	Uncle Nearest 1884 Small Batch Whiskey	Tennessee Whiskey, Ultra Premium	98	Best of Class, Double Gold. Impressive, well made, caramel, and lemon grass.	unclenearest.com
Best Tequila	Pantalones Organic Tequila	Pantalones Organic Tequila Reposado	Reposado Tequila	98	Best of Class, Double Gold. Crème brûlée, delectable, chocolate mouthfeel. Well made.	pantalonesteguila.com
Best Vodka	Griffo Distillery	Vodka	Vodka, Corn	94	Best of Class, Gold. Elegant, balanced, floral, smooth, rich mouth feel.	griffodistillery.com
Double Gold	Uncle Nearest	Uncle Nearest Toasted Single Barrel	Tennessee Whiskey, Luxury	98	Smoky rich, easy sipping, warm spice, browned butter and creamy.	unclenearest.com
Double Gold	Uncle Nearest	Uncle Nearest Master Blend Edition BLEND NO: 072	Tennessee Whiskey, Luxury	98	Rich caramel, coconut, well-integrated oak, refined spice, dehydrated orange peel.	unclenearest.com
Double Gold	Pantalones Organic Tequila	Pantalones Organic Tequila Blanco	Cristalino Blanco	97	Easy, warm, light floral, spicy, vanilla, clean and bright.	pantalonesteguila.com
Gold	Uncle Nearest	Uncle Nearest Cognac Cask-Batch 002	Tennessee Whiskey, Luxury	93	Powerful, sweet edges and delectable.	unclenearest.com
Gold	Copal Tree Distillery / Copalli Rum	Copalli Organic Five-Year Aged Rum, limited release	Extra-Aged Rum (More than 5 Years)	92	Exceptional. Caramel, rich, roasted, salt, caramel apple and elegant.	copallirum.com
Gold	Uncle Nearest	Uncle Nearest 1856 Premium Aged Whiskey	Tennessee Whiskey, Ultra Premium	94	Marshmallow, nutty, spice barrel comes through.	unclenearest.com
Gold	Uncle Nearest	Nearest Green Tennessee Whiskey	Tennessee Whiskey, Premium	94	Easy to sip. Citrus, caramel, and citrus oil.	unclenearest.com

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Gold	Angel's Envy	2026 Cask Strength Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey Finished in Port Wine Barrels	Special Barrel Finished Bourbon, Luxury	93	Sweet and savory, port-kissed richness with a warm, lingering finish.	angelsenvy.com
Gold	2 Towns Ciderhouse	Craftwell Mango Lemon Smash	Ready to Drink Cider - Cocktail	94	Lovely combo of flowers and tropical fruits.	2townsciderhouse.com
Gold	Goldenrod Vodka	Goldenrod Vodka	Vodka, Corn	93	Creamy mouthfeel, fresh aromas. Floral.	goldenrodvodka.com
Gold	Branca USA	Carpano Bianco	Vermouth - Sweet	93	Poached pear, balanced, kiwi and guava.	brancausa.com
Gold	Summit Distillers / Proverbial Spirits	Lead a Mule to Water	Ready to Drink Vodka Base	92	Nicely spiced, clean and refreshing with a crisp finish.	proverbialspirits.com
Gold	Angel's Envy	2026 Angel's Envy 10 Cask Strength Rye Finished in Caribbean Rum Casks	Cask Strength Rye, Luxury	94	Brown butter, luxurious mouthfeel, and hint of orange peel.	angelsenvy.com
Gold	Iosophe	The New Mojito	Organic RTD	93	Minty, muddled lime and spearmint.	iosophe.com
Gold	Copal Tree Distillery / Copalli Rum	Copalli Organic Barrel Rested Rum	Rum Dark/Gold	91	Fresh cane sugar, rhubarb, great finish. Round.	copallirum.com
Gold	2 Towns Ciderhouse	Craftwell Pineapple Margarita	Ready to Drink Cider - Cocktail	94	Bright pineapple, zesty lime, crisp cider finish with a refreshing margarita kick.	2townsciderhouse.com
Gold	Pantalones Organic Tequila	Pantalones Organic Tequila Extra Añejo	Extra-Aged Añejo	94	Round, rich, orange peel, elegant, sipping tequila.	pantalonestequila.com
Gold	Angel's Envy	Angel's Envy Triple Oak Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey	Special Barrel Finished Bourbon, Ultra Premium	94	Clean, bright, well-made and floral.	angelsenvy.com
Gold	Naked Life Non-Alcoholic Cocktails	Naked Life Margarita	Non-alc* Margarita	93	Refreshing citrus mocktail, tangy, zesty flavor of the classic.	drinknakedlife.com