

Yastun Rare Reserve Armagnac 1=¥988 3+=¥888 Each



Armagnac is the older (and more sophisticated) brother to Cognac. Although less well known on the international markets, the reason for this is not about quality, but simply because the Cognac region in France historically had much better transport routes than Armagnac. Cognac is in the north of France near to some huge river based highways, while Armagnac is in the south of France, near to the mountains of Spain.

The most important difference between Cognac and Armagnac (and something that is responsible for the massive taste and complexity differences is down to one single thing) —blending. All Cognac is blended. It's the distilled spirit of sometimes hundreds of small distillers, transported to a big brand blender such as Hennessy, Remy Martin or Martel, where it's mixed together to create something that has broad and general appeal — but nothing unique.

Armagnac has always been a much more artisanal spirit, with lots of small producers crafting their own style, their own flavours and bottling their product as a unique addition to the world of Armagnac. Quite simply, it's the same as blended whisky versus single malt whisky. Cognac is the blended whisky while Armagnac is the single malt whisky.

You will notice with this Yastun Rare Reserve that it has a rich amber colour and looks similar to cognac. That's where the similarity ends. On the nose you will detect sweet dry fruits, oak and vanilla. It shares a lot of characteristics with a fine, Highlands Region Single Malt.

On the palate the experience continues with more dried fruits, sultanas, figs, soft almond and a delicate hint of sour cherry on the finish.

Unlike single malt, we would not add water when enjoying Armagnac. We would not add ice. We would drink it at room temperature, and use the warmth of our hand to release the flavours over 5 or 10 minutes before taking the first sip.

If you're new to the world of Armagnac, this is undoubtedly the premier bottle to start your journey into Armagnac with.

