



Sazerac Straight Rye

In New Orleans, the Sazerac is not a cocktail but an institution – and the Sazerac Company, which bears its name, now owns Buffalo Trace. This Rye is its house brand: an original bottling without an age statement, fondly called “Baby Saz” by collectors because the big brother Sazerac 18 from the Antique Collection is practically impossible to get. The question remains, one that arises with every affordable Rye: neat in the glass or rather in the mixing glass? For Sascha and Florian, it is their first joint review.

TYPE	COUNTRY	DISTILLERY	AGE
Rye	USA	Buffalo Trace	NAS
ABV	PRICE/LITER		
45% Vol.	57.00 €/l		

TASTING NOTES

NOSE

On the nose, the whiskey starts with light fruits that immediately create a friendly, open aromatic profile. Oak and vanilla join in, giving the opening structure and a gentle sweetness. Herbal notes, especially menthol, add a fresh, slightly distinctive accent and lend the overall impression character.

PALATE

On the palate, the rye spice is clearly at the center and distinctly shapes the character. Vanilla accompanies this spice with a soft, sweet side, while the overall impression feels juicy. Caramel rounds out the profile and ties sweetness and spice together into a harmonious, uncomplicated overall impression.

FINISH

The finish is medium-long and begins with a noticeable oak note. It then develops a distinct caramel character and is reminiscent of cherry candies. A warming aftertaste remains and gives the finale a pleasant presence.

THOUGHTS

SASCHA

Fundamentally solid – which, for a Rye in this price range, is more praise than it sounds. Sweetness and spiciness are nicely balanced, neither side pushes itself forward, and the rye still remains clearly recognizable. It is precisely this balance that makes it a grateful candidate for cocktails: it does not get lost in them, but it does not resist either.

FLORIAN

For me, this is a whiskey for late at night around the campfire in good company – for the hour when no one feels like picking apart every nuance anymore. It is not particularly complex, but a lovely interplay of sweetness and spiciness carries it from the nose through to the warming aftertaste. Not a dram you discuss all evening long, but one that fits exactly when the conversation is focused elsewhere.

RATINGS

SASCHA
77/100
Very good

FLORIAN
75/100
Very good

VALUE FOR MONEY
4/5
Good