

# The Robb Report COLLECTION™

SPORTS, LUXURY AND CLASSIC CARS

December 2008  
Impressions: 343,949

## FIRST DRIVE

Mercedes-Benz  
SL65 AMG  
Black Series

# 50

of the L

Automobiles • Bikes



ACCESSORIES: Omas for  
Maserati Limited Edition



DESIGN: Becker JetVa  
by Philippe Starck

DECEMBER 2008  
RobbReportCollection.com  
A CURTIS MEDIA PUBLICATION

## SPIRITS

# Around the World

Sipping spirits from Japan,  
Mexico, and Scotland.

The **Bowmore 1992 Wine Cask Matured 16 Year Old** (\$120) is a full-bodied scotch that has all the peat character present in the standard Bowmore Islay, but with far more maturity and finesse. Six years of aging in American bourbon barrels, followed by a generous 10 years in Bordeaux claret casks of Limousin oak, give this copper-hued spirit a nose of smoke and vanilla, along with cherry and toasted almond flavors, and a butterscotch finish. Out of the 4,500 bottles produced, only 1,800 will be available in the United States. —OLIVER SLOSSER

Bowmore, [www.bowmore.com](http://www.bowmore.com)



The famed Cuervo family is sharing the contents of their personal spirits coffer with the release of their first premium silver tequila, **Jose Cuervo Platino** (\$60). Platino is produced from estate-grown blue agave using a proprietary method of distillation Cuervo has honed for more than 200 years. The result is a spirit with a pure, yet not overpowering nose of agave, a bite of pepper and spice, and a gentle, clean finish. Each bottle is sealed in wax; presented in a blue wooden gift box; and hand-numbered, signed, and dated for authenticity. —O.S.

Jose Cuervo, [www.josecuervoplatino.com](http://www.josecuervoplatino.com)

Suntory founder Shinjiro Torii established Japan's first whisky distillery just outside the historic city of Kyoto, set amid the dense, bamboo-forested hills of Yamazaki. Torii chose this spot because Yamazaki is home to arguably the purest water in Japan and, due to the varied temperatures of the nearby Katsura, Kizu, and Uji rivers—which create nearly a year-around layer of fog—its mountainous terrain yields a moist climate that is optimal for producing fine whisky. Some 85 years later, Suntory arduously maintains this tradition, and there is no better evidence than its **Yamazaki 18-year-old Single Malt Whisky**, whose 2006 platinum medal from the Beverage Tasting Institute (BTI) justifies its \$100 retail price. Pleasing the eye with a rich, copper hue and the nose with hints of butterscotch, vanilla, and strawberry, the Yamazaki 18-year-old treats the palate to dashes of citrus, cherry, and honey butter, finishing with long, dry tangs of smoke, pepper, and fruit. —RON KIINO

Suntory, [www.suntory.com](http://www.suntory.com)

