

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

Louis XIII teams with Baccarat for one-of-a-kind creation

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Louis XIII tapped Baccarat to create its decanter. Image credit: Louis XIII

By STAFF REPORTS

Cognac maker Louis XIII de Rmy Martin is celebrating craftsmanship through the production of a 9-liter crystal decanter.

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Louis XIII Le Salmanazar was realized by 20 artisans from Baccarat. According to Louis XIII, to its knowledge, this is the largest cognac decanter ever created, making it a rare collector's item likely to attract attention from enthusiasts.

Cognac meets crystal

Baccarat transformed about 33 pounds of crystal into the sculptural decanter. Included in the team that worked on the project was one of the brand's Chevaliers de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, a distinction given by the French government to citizens who have contributed to culture.

Others on the team have been awarded the title Meilleurs Ouvriers de France in honor of their craftsmanship.

"Innovation is written in the legacy of Louis XIII, renowned for rising to the greatest challenges and utmost heights," said Ludovic du Plessis, global executive director at Louis XIII.

"Today Louis XIII creates Louis XIII Le Salmanazar, a decanter so rare, there is only one in the world," he said. "A collector's masterpiece, this exquisitely unique decanter stands as the ultimate symbol of Louis XIII's history, tradition and passion for rare craftsmanship."



Louis XIII Le Salmanazar. Image courtesy of Louis XIII

The decanter comes in a display chest with eight glasses, a serving platter and a specially created spear. This tool is used by Louis XIII's cellar masters to take samples of cognac from its casks, allowing the owner to recreate the tasting ritual in their own home.

The decanter, priced at 350,000 euros, or \$430,000, will be on view exclusively at Louis XIII's boutique at Beijing SKP.

Spirits makers often team up with brands in other categories to raise their premium price points through collector items.

Louis XIII's previous collaboration with three fellow French heritage brands fetched a record price of \$558,000 at a Sotheby's auction.

Louis XIII's "L'Odysee d'un Roi," or "An Ode to Adventure" in English, brought together leather goods maker Herms, silversmith Puiforcat and crystal brand Saint-Louis to create the "ultimate masterpiece," a travel cognac case. The concept was inspired by Louis XIII's presence at travel milestones such as the bar car of the Orient-Express, the cabin of the Concorde jet and global shipment beginning in the late 1870s ([see story](#)).

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