

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

Courvoisier teams with Japan's Suntory for special blend

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Courvoisier Mizunara combines Cognac and Japanese whisky traditions. Image courtesy of Courvoisier

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

French Cognac house Courvoisier is showing its cultural appreciation with a new collaborative release.

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Courvoisier Mizunara was jointly created by Patrice Pinet, sixth chief blender at **Courvoisier**, and Shinji Fukuyo, fifth-generation chief blender of Japanese whisky house **Suntory**. Special edition spirit blends can introduce a label to new audiences while exemplifying house codes.

Art of blending

The new release blends together French and Japanese cultures, relying on how both Cognac and whisky production relies on oak selection and aging.

It began with Grand Champagne, the most prestigious cru from the Cognac region, aged in French oak barrels. Then, it was transferred to casks made of Japanese Mizunara wood for additional aging.



Only 500 bottles of Courvoisier Mizunara are available. Image courtesy of Courvoisier

"I have always been intrigued by the scarcity and uniqueness of Japanese Mizunara oak and honored by the

opportunity to work with the legendary wood and the incredibly talented Shinji Fukuyo of House of Suntory," Mr. Pinet said in a statement.

"We are living in two different countries with two different cultures, but deeply connected in our values and respect for our artistry," he said. "I knew the Mizunara cask was an unconventional choice for Courvoisier and together with Shinji, we saw the potential for the notoriously temperamental wood to enhance the unique characteristics of the exceptional cognac and complement the maison's signature floral house style."

The Courvoisier Mizunara release is limited to 500 bottles, priced at \$2,000. Each bottle is numbered and adorned with a gold etching of a Japanese Mizunara oak tree.

"It has been an exciting journey working alongside Patrice to discover a new, unique taste profile of Courvoisier using Japanese Mizunara oak," Mr. Fukuyo said in a statement. "I have always been fascinated by experimenting with flavors through innovation, and I'm very excited to have taken part in the development of Courvoisier Mizunara and to help create something never before tasted."

Last year, another unique collaboration brought together Scotch whisky maker Glenfiddich and menswear retailer Mr Porter.

A collaborative first for both brands brought consumers a unique expression of whisky through a creative lens, with Glenfiddich presented by Mr Porter being limited to only 1,500 bottles worldwide. The whisky is a symbol of the brands' shared elegance and dedication to excellence and launched in November 2021 ([see story](#)).

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