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*"Nothing else comes close"*

With bracing botanical flavours and aromas, gin is a natural for chill(ed) summer cocktails. If you want cold and cool, order a gin martini. Please consult this survey before you take your next trip to Planet Juniper.

By Graham Duncan



👉 **Citadelle Gin** Rating: NNNNN

**WHERE:** Cognac, France

**BEST:** Citadelle is a blast of 44 per cent alcohol, piney juniper, bright spiciness and bold citrus. Vivid, long and complex, this pot-still beaut needs only a pretty glass and maybe one big ice cube. In-gin-eous.

**If you like this consider:** Nothing else comes close.

**PRICE:** 750 ml/\$34.40

**AVAILABILITY:** At most liquor stores (product #275248)



➔ **Beefeater London Dry Gin** Rating: NNNN

**WHERE:** London, England

**DEFINITIVE:** Lemon and orange take the lead here along with juniper. Textbook. A little more hard-driving spice on the palate. This is why they invented martinis.

**If you like this consider:** Another bottle of Beefeater.

**PRICE:** 750 ml/\$24.95

**AVAILABILITY:** At most liquor stores (product #570)



**Tanqueray Dry Gin** Rating: NNN

**WHERE:** London, England

**CLASSIC:** If it's good enough for Amy and James, then it's good enough for us. Traditional juniper backed by licorice intrigue. Solid.

**If you like this consider:** Gordon's, a respectable made-in-Canada rail-rider.

**PRICE:** 750 ml/\$27.45

**AVAILABILITY:** At most liquor stores (product #2691)



**Hendrick's Gin Rating: NNN**

**WHERE:** Ayershire, Scotland

**ORIGINAL:** The mould-breaker in style, presentation and price. Some may find the 44-per-cent-alcohol-borne floral note too dominant, but it's great for creative cocktails and those eschewing the juniper mindset.

**If you like this consider:** Bruichladdich The Botanist, Scotland's other premium high-test gin in a swanky bottle.

**PRICE:** 750 ml/\$47.95

**AVAILABILITY:** At most liquor stores (product #637504)



**Victoria Gin Rating: NNN**

**WHERE:** Victoria, BC

**HANDMADE:** Carbon-neutral, pot stills, family-owned, 46 per cent alcohol, West Coast Canadian-made: this ain't your grandma's G&T. Distinct in style, too, with way more emphasis on the brown spice side of the equation.

**If you like this consider:** Broker's, more of a traditionalist but with cinnamon/cola aromas.

**PRICE:** 750 ml/\$46.95 (on sale until May 26)

**AVAILABILITY:** At select liquor stores (product #118737)

[drinks@nowtoronto.com](http://drinks@nowtoronto.com)

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