

BUYING GUIDE

POMMEAU-STYLE

A cider-based aperitif of two-thirds apple juice and one-third apple brandy, aged in oak. Exclusive to France, with North American versions made in its style.

POMMEAUX

► **AppelTreow Winery & Distillery**
► **Burlington, WI**

Gold Del, Jonathan, Russets and Snow apples are minimally fermented and fortified with brandy from the house distillery at this farm-based maker. Unctuous, toasty and vanilla cognac aromas fill with lush apple and herbal undertones. A pairing contender for dark chocolate torte. **19% ABV** ► **375ml** ► **\$22**

POMMEAU

► **Mt. Defiance Cidery & Distillery**
► **Middleburg, VA**

Another full circle bond, the house brandy is distilled from the house hard cider, the pommeau a coalescence of both. Caramelized golden apple and heady raisin fill the bouquet, with nutty tinges in the back. Same goes for the palate, which seems to beckon for some almond biscotti. **18% ABV** ► **375ml** ► **\$26**

NEIGE NOIR AMBRE DU QUÉBEC

► **Domaine Neige** ► **Hemmingford, QB**

This annual release is made from the 2011 harvest, freezing the juice from McIntosh and Spartan apples in the following January and collecting that must be blended with the house eau de vie then aged in oak barrels for three years. Just as complex as the process, the nectar touts brown sugar, almond and raisin with smoke and citrus. **20% ABV** ► **375ml** ► **\$60 CAD**

2014 POMMEAU

► **Snowdrift Cider Co.**
► **East Wenatchee, WA**

Powerful yet elegant, this classically produced fortified cider balances bold flavors of dried stone fruit, leather, tobacco and vanilla with refined acid, texture and undeniable body. A vintage-dated nod to Normandy, estate-grown European cider varieties are featured in this luxurious tippie. **19.7% ABV** ► **375ml** ► **\$20**

POMMEAU

► **2 Towns Ciderhouse** ► **Corvallis, OR**

Oregon-grown bittersweets are hand-harvested, pressed, fermented, blended with apple eau de vie and aged in French oak for a full calendar year. Aromas and resulting flavors evoke images of cider mills in the fall, with orange peel, white blossom, toasted oak and dried herbs. **19% ABV** ► **375ml** ► **\$25**

POMMEAU

► **Westcott Bay Cider** ► **San Juan Island, WA**

From the isles of San Juan, this cidery and orchard sit high above a harbor in its eponymous bay, stuffed with European cider fruit and conveniently located next door to its sister distillery. A delicious nip of robust apple, candied pecans, apricot and brioche, to be consumed chilled and with apple bread pudding. **16% ABV** ► **375ml** ► **\$32**

