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# 'Ron del Barrilito' wins double gold at San Francisco World Spirits Competition

Puerto Rico’s oldest rum brand honored for exceptional quality and craftsmanship, highlighting the island’s legacy in global spirits industry

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Ron del Barrilito, the oldest rum brand in Puerto Rico, has received a Double Gold Medal at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition. The event took place recently in San Francisco, California, and is recognized as one of the most prestigious competitions in the global spirits industry. Founded in 1880, Ron del Barrilito has a history that spans 145 years. The award was given to the brand for its high quality, unique artisanal production methods, and its distinct character among spirits worldwide.

The San Francisco World Spirits Competition brings together expert judges from around the world to evaluate entries based on taste, aroma, and craftsmanship. Winning a Double Gold Medal means that all members of the judging panel awarded Ron del Barrilito a gold rating during the blind tasting process. This level of recognition is reserved for products that demonstrate exceptional quality and set themselves apart from competitors.

Ron del Barrilito’s production takes place in Bayamón, Puerto Rico, where traditional methods have been preserved for generations. The rum is known for its complex flavor profile, which comes from aging in oak barrels and blending techniques passed down through the Fernández family since the late 19th century. The distillery continues to use original recipes and processes established by its founder, Pedro Fernández.

The Double Gold Medal places Ron del Barrilito among an elite group of spirits that have achieved this honor. In the spirits industry, such recognition often leads to increased demand and greater visibility in international markets. For Puerto Rico, this award highlights the island’s long-standing tradition of rum production and its role as a leader in the global market.

Industry experts note that awards like these can influence consumer choices and help brands expand their reach beyond their home markets. For Ron del Barrilito, the recognition serves as validation of its commitment to quality and heritage. The company has stated that it will continue to focus on maintaining its artisanal approach while exploring new opportunities for growth.

The San Francisco World Spirits Competition has been held annually since 2000 and is considered a benchmark for excellence in the industry. Each year, thousands of entries are submitted from around the world, making competition fierce and recognition highly sought after.

Ron del Barrilito’s achievement comes at a time when consumers are showing increased interest in premium and craft spirits. The brand’s success at this year’s competition is expected to further strengthen its reputation among connoisseurs and casual drinkers alike. As Ron del Barrilito celebrates this milestone, it continues to represent Puerto Rican tradition on an international stage.