

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

ADI 2025 INTERNATIONAL SPIRITS COMPETITION

ADI accepts entries in all classes and categories of distilled spirits, RTDs, cocktail bitters, No/Low ABV Spirits and Mixers, as well as aperitif & fortified wines.

Deadlines

Deadline to apply for COLA Waiver for International Spirits: February 21, 2025

Deadline for Spirits Registration: March 7, 2025

Deadline for Receiving Entries: March 14, 2025

Entry Fees:

Early Bird Registration Up through February 7, 2025	Standard Registration Begins February 8, 2025
ADI Members \$275 per spirit for US entries \$325 per spirit for international entries	ADI Members \$325 per spirit for US entries \$375 per spirit for international entries
Non-Members \$375 per spirit for US entries \$425 per spirit for international entries	Non-Members \$425 per spirit for US entries \$475 per spirit for international entries

Other Important Dates

Last Day of Competition: April 2, 2025

Embargoed Results Email: April 28, 2025

Public Awards Announcement: May 14, 2025

Discount for Affiliate Associations

Members of the following Affiliate Associations may enter their spirits at the ADI Member price even if they are not current members of ADI:

The Gin Guild
Australian Distillers Association
Japan External Trade Organization

SUBMISSION TERMS & CONDITIONS

Please review the terms & conditions as some have changed.

For All Spirits Entered:

- Samples must be received within our shipping window between January 6, 2025 and March 14, 2025.
- All spirits must have received a COLA or a COLA waiver by March 31, 2025, or they will be disqualified from receiving any awards and will be ineligible for a refund.
- You agree to follow all the applicable shipping instructions.
- Products not properly packed or arriving with broken content will be charged a \$25 repacking fee per case.
- Boxes without the required ADI shipping label attached to the outside of the box will need to be opened and charged a \$20 repacking fee per case.
- All samples submitted to the competition will be considered property of ADI. ADI Reserves the right to photograph and publish photographs of all entries.
- **DO NOT USE ANY PACKING PEANUTS OR SHREDDED MATERIAL WHEN PACKAGING YOUR BOTTLES. EACH BOX CONTAINING BANNED PACKING MATERIALS WILL BE ASSESSED A \$25 DISPOSAL & CLEAN UP FEE.**

Additional Terms & Conditions for International Spirits:

- International spirits without a COLA must complete COLA Waiver Application
- COLA waivers must be received before the spirits are shipped.
- International entrants complete the FDA Prior Notice before any spirits are sent by international mail.
- International entrants are responsible for all shipping and custom fees. Any shipping or custom fees not paid by the entrant will be billed back.
- **BE SURE TO CHECK THE BOX ON THE SHIPPING FORM THAT SPECIFIES ALL CUSTOMS FEES PAID BY SHIPPER.**

Cancellation and Refund Policy:

All registrations are final. Refunds are only available if bottles do not arrive due to circumstances outside of the entrant's control such as carrier refusal, return, complete breakage etc. Refunds are not available for failure to ship or if bottles arrive after the competition. In these circumstances bottles and fees will be held and carried over to the next competition.

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

Required Number of Bottles/Cans/Pouches:

- Send two (2) 750/700ml bottles (or the equivalent) for all spirits entered.
- Send two (2) 750/700ml bottles (or equivalent) for each non-carbonated bottled RTD entered.
- Send three (3) 750/700ml bottles (or equivalent) for each sparkling bottled RTD entered.
- Send eight (8) cans of each canned RTD entered.
- Send four (4) pouches for each frozen RTD entered.
- Send a minimum of 100ml for each Non-potable bitters or tincture entered.

For All Spirits Entered:

- All boxes must have the ADI Shipping Label taped securely to the outside of the box.
- Samples must be received during the required shipping window between: **Monday, January 6, 2025, and Friday, March 14, 2025.**
- Do not send entries by the Postal Service! We recommend FedEx, UPS, or GLS.
- Email tracking numbers and sender name to eric@distilling.com

Packaging Instructions

- ADI highly recommends shipping bottles in foam, pulp, or corrugated bottle shippers, or using inflatable bottle bags. See [Uline](#), [Polar Tech](#), [Spirited Shipper](#), and [Inflatable Packaging](#) for examples.
- Boxes must not exceed 40lbs (18kg)
- Box dimensions not to exceed 36" L x 24" W x 24" H (91.44cm x 60.96cm x 60.96cm)
- All bottles must be packaged in such a way that they will absolutely not break.
- All boxes must have the ADI Shipping Label taped securely to the outside of the box with the following information:
 - Name of the Distillery
 - Class of spirits in the box by TTB Class/ID# (Whiskey 100s, Gin 200s, Vodka 300s, Rum/Cachaça 400s, Brandy 500s, Liqueurs/Specialty 600s, 700s Cocktails/RTDs, 900s Agave/Other, 000s No/Low ABV/Packaging Only.)
 - Contact Name, email and phone number
 - Number of the box out of the total number shipped (1 of 3, 4 of 6 etc.)
- **DO NOT USE ANY PACKING PEANUTS OR SHREDDED MATERIAL WHEN PACKAGING YOUR BOTTLES. EACH BOX CONTAINING BANNED PACKING MATERIALS WILL BE ASSESSED A \$25 DISPOSAL & CLEAN UP FEE.**

Clearing US Customs for Spirits without US Importation

The following must be completed before shipping and **submitted digitally** to your carrier of choice to expedite clearance by US Customs and included in an exterior shipping pouch on the box. Failure to do so may result in holding fees. Be sure your entries arrive at the port of entry before your documents expire. *We do not recommend DHL if you have other shipping options.*

- [FDA prior notice](#) (valid for 10 days after submission, click here for [step-by-step instructions](#))
- COLA Waiver (valid for 30 days after approval, click here to [complete application](#))
- Pro forma invoice that lists the cost of the shipped spirits, NOT their retail value ([example invoice](#))