



Chicago Rabbinical Council
2701 W Howard, Chicago IL 60645
773-465-3900

cRc Kosher Liquor List

Latest updated July 2, 2008



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WE DO NOT HAVE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ON ANY DRINK OR LIQUOR NOT LISTED ON THIS WEBSITE.

Approved products are not kosher for Passover unless noted as such on the individual label.

PLEASE NOTE: Not all energy drinks and alcoholic beverages such as certain lemonades are certified kosher.

Note: Consumer should be careful to purchase all liquor from a store that either sold their chometz or is owned by a non-Jew.

Beers

Unflavored Beers

All unflavored beers, domestic and imported, with no additives listed on the ingredient label are acceptable, even without a Kosher certification. This applies to both USA and imported beers, including non-alcoholic and dark beers.

Note: Many breweries are coming out with specialty brews that have additives; don't assume that all varieties are acceptable - check the label.

Miller flavored beers (such as Lime) are NOT certified kosher.

Mackeson Triple Stout Beer is not recommended due to the additives and its dairy ingredients!

Flavored Beers

The following flavored beers are currently certified Kosher (under the Vaad of Greater Detroit - even without a hechsher on the product).



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Saranac	all products
Brooklyn Brewery	all are under Vaad with the exception of "local 1" Brand
Pete's Brewing	all products
Matt Brewing	all products

Beers

The following beers from Samuel Adams, The Boston Beer Company, are Star-K Kosher/Pareve, even without the Star-K on the label.

Black Lager	Boston Ale	Boston Lager	Brown Ale
Cherry Wheat	Cranberry Lambic	Cream Stout	Holiday Porter
Light	Octoberfest	Old Fezziwig	Pale Ale
Spring Ale	Summer Ale	White Ale	Winter Lager

The following beers are under the supervision of the Kosher Australia Party, even without any kosher marking on the label:

Coopers Sparkling Ale	Coopers Best Extra Stout
Coopers Special Old Stout	Coopers Premium Lager
Coopers Extra Strong Vintage Ale	All varieties of Homebrew Kits

Bourbon

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Straight Bourbon (Sour Mash is a variety of Bourbon) is acceptable.

Some examples of Bourbons are:

Bookers	Maker's Mark
Basil Hayden	Old Crow
Bakers	Old Granddad
Knob Creek	Old Weller
Jack Daniel's	Wild Turkey
Jim Beam	



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Brandy & Cognac

All brandy and cognac require certification since both are made from wine.

Some Kosher Brandies:

Boukha Fig (OU)

Carmel (OU)

Herzog (OU)

Spirit of Solomon (Hisachdus-
CRC)

Tishbi (OU)

Gin

Gin with no flavors added is acceptable.

(Note: **Sloe Gin** is a liqueur and requires certification.)

Gordon's Flavored Gin (all flavors) produced in the USA, is Kosher certified by the cRc.



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Liqueurs

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Liqueurs generally have lower alcohol content and are, by definition, flavored drinks. Sometimes a liqueur is referred to as an aperitif or cordial.

All liqueurs require certification.

Brands that bear certification on the label and may be used:

Check the labels of each bottle and each flavor for the indicated certification. Some flavors from the sources listed below may be Dairy and will have a D next to the kosher symbol.

Amaretto Disaronno (OU)	Kedem (OU)
Bartenura (OU)	Leroux (OU)
Carmel (OU)	Kahlua Liquor only with OU
Honkes (MK - Montreal)	Monfort (OU)
Frangelico (OU)	Peter Cherry Heering (OU)
Starbucks OU even without designation on the bottle. White Chocolate is Dairy	Cointreau
Godiva (OU) - White Chocolate, Milk Chocolate & Caramel are Dairy	Sabra (OU)

Not Recommended Liqueurs:

Bailey's Irish Cream	Ouzo
B&B Liqueur	Sambuca
Benedictine	Southern Comfort
Gold Schlager	Kirschwasser
Grand Marnier	Llord's (without hashgacha)
	Tia Maria
	Yukon Jack



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Rum

Rum generally requires certification.

Bacardi (unflavored varieties) is acceptable without a kosher symbol on the label.

Don Q Rum (including flavored) **only with OU**

Rye

No certification required.

Sake

Only recommended when bearing a reliable Kosher symbol.

Sensei brand sake is kosher when bearing an OU on the label.

Scotch

The Scotch list is currently under review. Please watch our website for updates.

Soju (Korean liquor)

Only recommended when bearing a reliable kosher symbol.



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Tequila

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Tequila is made from the agave cactus in Mexico.

According to Mexican law any tequila may be labeled 100% agave even though it contains no more than 51% actual agave alcohol!

However, based on research, the cRc has identified one type of tequila which is recommended even without a hechsher (Regular-White).

There are three types of tequila on the market:

- 1) **Regular-White** (also known as **Silver**) tequila **is recommended**. This clear tequila contains either 100% agave or a mixture of agave and sugar cane.
- 2) **Gold-Brown** tequila **is not recommended**. This darker tequila is aged for 3 months and may have color and flavoring added.
- 3) **Reposado ("rested")** (also known as **Special**) tequila **is not recommended**. It is aged for 6 months and in addition to concerns of color and flavoring, glycerin may be added for density.

Some acceptable Tequila brands:

Don Bernardo G (OU)

Casavores

Herrudura

Salusa

Sol Dios Anejo (OU)

Sol Dios Platinum / Blanco (OU)

Vermouth

Vermouth requires certification since it is made from wine.

Kedem is the only brand readily available with a kosher symbol.



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Vodka

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All Domestic (USA only) non-flavored vodka is acceptable.

Important: This applies only to grain or potato vodka. Some vodkas are made with grapes, and would need a reliable hashgacha.

Imported vodka requires certification.

The following **unflavored** imported vodkas are acceptable imports even without certification on the label:

Absolut	Kettle One
Belvedere	Provda (now has OU)
Chopin	Stolichnaya - (see below for flavored)
Finlandia	Vox
Iceberg (now has OU)	
Grey Goose	Three Olives (from England)
Yevreyskaya	

Absolut Flavored Vodka is now acceptable **only with OU**

Putinka Vodka both Pepper flavor and Limited Edition are kosher even without certification on the label.

Gordon Vodkas

The following varieties are **cRc certified** even without certification on the label:

Citrus Flavored	Wild Berry
Orange	

Stolichnaya Vodkas:

The following varieties are **acceptable**, with OU on the label:

Cinnamon Flavored	Orange Flavored
Coffee Flavored	Peach Flavored
Gold Premium Imported Russian	Raspberry Flavored
Imported Russian	Strawberry Flavored
Lemon Flavored	Vanilla Flavored



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Smirnoff

The following varieties are **acceptable**, with KSA on the label:

Vodkas:

Blue Label
Red Label
Silver label

Vodka Twists/Ice Flavors

Black cherry
Blueberry
Citrus
Cranberry
Green Apple
Lime
Orange
Raspberry

Smirnoff Ice:

Arctic Berry
Green Apple
Pomegranate Fusion
Raspberry Burst
Watermelon
Wild Grape

These flavored products, with the exception of Strawberry Acai are certified kosher.

Non flavored Smirnoff Ice including the Smirnoff Ice and Smirnoff Ice Triple Black contain grape and are not certified Kosher.

Whiskey (including Canadian, Irish, Ryes)

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Any whiskey that is aged in wine casks, such as Sherry or Port, should be avoided as it is uncertain if they are kosher.

Blended Whiskeys are acceptable only with certification, unless appearing on the list below:

Canadian – Canadian Club (regular only - not Classic, Premium or Special Reserve)

Canadian Mist

Crown Royal (Original Only- the new Sherry cask version is being researched at this time.)

Gibsons (MK on label)

Seagram's (VO and 7 Canadian Blend only, **not American Blend**)

Wiser's



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Wines

All wines served at a cRc event, regardless of the location, host or caterer must bear acceptable certification and must be *mevushal*.

Check bottles for an acceptable certification and a statement that the wine is *mevushal*. Many Israeli and French wines are not *mevushal*, so care must be exercised.

Carmel Wines from Israel must bear the OU on the label; some wines produced during the *shmita* year will not have the OU on the label.

Alfasi wine, from Chile, is under the OK certification but not all are *mevushal*. Each label should be checked.

Bar Stock Items

Any bar equipment (strainers, shot measures, blenders, stir rods, shakers, etc.) used with non-kosher products should be properly kashered prior to use for a kosher affair.

Olives - green olives require certification

Pearl Onions - are pickled and require certification

Lemon and Lime - fresh lemon and limes used for slices, wedges and twists must be prepared using a kosher knife and on a kosher cutting board.

All **Tabasco brand hot pepper sauce** is acceptable as long as it bears a "K".

Other Pepper Sauces - Durkee or French's with OU on label.

Maraschino Cherries - only with acceptable certification



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Drink Mixes

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Drink Mixes requires certification.

Some brands available that are acceptable:

- Coco Lopez (only when bearing OU)
- Goya brand Cream of Coconut - when labeled "Product of Dominican Republic"
- Goya brand Coconut Milk – (when labeled "Product of Dominican Republic")
- Holland House (only when bearing OU)
- Jamaica John (only when bearing OU)
- Jero (only when bearing OK)
- Mr & Mrs T's (only when bearing OU)
- Rose's – grenadine and lime (only when bearing OU)



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Juices

Require certification.

Ready-to-drink juices are made in factories that produce a wide range of products, mostly with hot production. There are issues of dairy and non-kosher utensils.

Some acceptable brands that are locally available are listed below, along with the certification that must appear on the container:

Apple Juice - Dole (K), Kedem (OU), Langers (OU) Indian Summer (K), IFP (cRc)

Cranberry Juice - Kedem (OU), IFP (cRc), Langers (OU) Jewel (OU),

Grapefruit Juice - Tropicana (OK), Jewel (cRc)

Lemonade - Jewel (cRc)

Orange Juice - Tropicana (OK), Jewel (cRc), Dole (K), Dominick's-half gallon (cRc), Minute Maid **These all only apply to Orange juice and not necessarily to other varieties.**

Pineapple Citrus - Dole (K)

Tomato Juice - Heinz (OU), Red Gold (OU), Hunts (OK), Sysco "Citrus Valley" (OU), Sacramento (OU)
