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LIQUEURS -INTERNATIONAL

Editor's note: The dramatic, perhaps even seismic, resurgence in cocktails over the last decade has put the spotlight once again on high-end and super-premium hand-crafted liqueurs, the sweet, fruity, spicy or pungent distillates that in some cases have been around for centuries. Liqueurs appear in thousands of cocktail recipes, old and new and are considered indispensable ingredients to bartenders.



Bitter Truth Elderflower Liqueur (Germany; Vision Wine & Spirits LLC, Secaucus, NJ) 22% abv, \$32.

Sauvignon blanc-like straw yellow color; superb purity. I really like the floral/fruity opening aroma which is rich, minerally, ripe, without being cloying or overblown; secondary inhalations detect deeper layers of spring garden-like freshness and almost lychee-like fragrance - an excellent bouquet. Gently sweet, tangy entry flavors greet the taste buds in soft waves of floral, quince-like flavors; midpalate highlights a fruit peellike zestiness that nicely complements the elderflower pinyness. Finish is seriously tart, fresh, cleansing, finely proportioned. A keeper.

Spirit Journal September 2014: ★★★★/Highly Recommended

