History Center and Wigle Whiskey to Release “Prohibition Rye”
-Wigle’s limited-edition whiskey is inspired by the History Center’s new exhibit, American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition-

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 20, 2018 – The Senator John Heinz History Center, the “Smithsonian’s home in Pittsburgh,” has partnered with Wigle Whiskey to release a special, limited-edition Prohibition Rye whiskey, inspired by the museum’s roaring new exhibition, American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition.

Wigle Whiskey, Pittsburgh’s first whiskey distillery since Prohibition, developed the new Prohibition Rye as a nod to the rich history of alcoholic spirits in Western Pa. The single barrel rye whiskey, bottled at 84 proof, contains notes of citrus and honey on the nose and finishes with notes of black pepper.

Wigle has produced a limited-edition run of 250 bottles of Prohibition Rye, which can be purchased beginning Friday, Feb. 23 for $34 at their Strip District location (2401 Smallman St.). A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the History Center to support the museum’s exhibitions and educational programs.

The History Center’s new American Spirits exhibit, created in partnership with the National Constitution Center, brings the story of Prohibition vividly to life – from the dawn of the temperance movement, through the Roaring ’20s, and up to the unprecedented repeal of a constitutional amendment. Visitors can learn to dance the Charleston in a recreated speakeasy, track down rumrunners in a custom-built video game, and pose for a mugshot in a lineup of some of the era’s most notorious gangsters in the exhibit’s immersive and interactive displays.

Prohibition Rye to Be Released on Friday at “A Cozy Bar Crawl”

Wigle Whiskey and the History Center will officially launch Prohibition Rye this Friday, Feb. 23, as part of A Cozy Bar Crawl event in partnership with the Omni William Penn Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh. The five-stop bar crawl includes the hotel’s Speakeasy, Palm Court, and Tap Room. History Center curators will be on hand to share boozy historical tidbits from the American Spirits exhibit. Tickets include drinks, snacks, an admission pass to the History Center, $5 off bottles of Prohibition Rye, and much more! Visit www.wiglewhiskey.com/cozy-bar-crawl to purchase tickets.

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21+ Speakeasy Socials – March 29, April 19, and May 31

Visitors can step into the History Center’s swingin’ speakeasy on select Thursdays this spring. Guests 21 and over can learn how to concoct the perfect Prohibition-inspired cocktail with Wigle Whiskey, sample scintillating spirits and speakeasy-era snacks, and test their ’20s knowledge during boozy trivia in a recreated speakeasy. The new **American Spirits** exhibit will be open to explore after-hours at these monthly 21+ happy hour events.

For more information on the **American Spirits** exhibit, including tickets, public programs, photos, and more, please visit [www.heinzhistorycenter.org](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org).

**The Senator John Heinz History Center**, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and the largest history museum in Pennsylvania, presents American history with a Western Pennsylvania connection. The Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum is a museum within a museum, comprehensively presenting the region’s remarkable sports story through hundreds of artifacts and interactive experiences for visitors of all ages. The History Center and Sports Museum are located at 1212 Smallman Street in the city’s Strip District, and are open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The History Center’s museum system includes the Sports Museum; the Fort Pitt Museum in historic Point State Park; and Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, a National Historic Landmark located in Avella, Pa. in Washington County. More information is available at [www.heinzhistorycenter.org](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org).
In celebration of the Heinz History Center’s American Spirits exhibit, the History Center and Wigle Whiskey teamed up to create a special, limited-edition Prohibition Rye whiskey, available at Wigle’s Strip District location. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the History Center.

Visitors to the new American Spirits exhibit at the History Center can pose for a mugshot in a lineup of some of the era’s most notorious gangsters. The exhibit will be on display through June 10. (photo courtesy of National Constitution Center)