

F. PAUL PACULT'S

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RUM – INTERNATIONAL

**Don Q 2005 Signature Release
Single Barrel Rum
(Puerto Rico; Destileria Serralles,
Ponce, PR)
40% abv, \$40.**

Pale amber color; impeccable purity. First nosing passes pick up delicate aromas of dried tropical fruits (banana and guava, especially), brown sugar, and cinnamon bun; later inhalations following more aeration encounter deeper scents of newly tanned leather, marshmallow, and cotton candy. Entry is smooth as silk, yet there's a barrage of toasted flavors that resemble pastry shop treats that are spiced with cinnamon, vanilla bean, and caramelized sugar; midpalate echoes the entry as the baking spice elements remain in the ascendancy. Aftertaste is medium long, with a delightful taste of lightly toasted marshmallow. Belongs in the echelon occupied by the wonderful, four-star Don Q Gran Añejo. Puerto Rican rum at its elegant, highly sophisticated best.

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★★★★/Highly Recommended