

MODERN LUXURY

DC

*LORD OF
THE MANOR*
Men's Fashion Gets Regal

*WINTER
BREAK*

Luxurious and Local:
Suite DC Staycations,
Virginia's Epicurean
Expeditions
& Beyond!

Kyle Chandler
GENTLEMAN... CHARMER... STAR NEXT DOOR

ON THE RUM

With the opening of his new distillery, bar and retail complex at The Wharf, celebrated barman Todd Thrasher shakes up his most ambitious project yet.

By Kelly Magyarics // Photography by Greg Powers

Listen to the ice: That's the mantra at PX, the 25-seat lounge in Old Town where Todd Thrasher first introduced the modern speak-easy to DMV imbibers. But when he decided to make the switch from mixing to making, he didn't listen to his friends, who tried to stir the nonwhiskey drinker into opening a bourbon distillery. No, sugar cane is the name of his game, as evident at his multipronged **Potomac Distilling Company**. "There's a growing interest in rum across the country... and [here], I'm planning to elevate it," he says. What trickles off the still becomes four core expressions: Thrasher's White Rum, Gold Rum, Spiced Rum and Green Spiced Rum. (The latter is meant to convert G&T devotees to the R&T when teamed with his bespoke tonic.) In the private tasting room, Thrasher shatters the misconception that rum is a sweet, simple spirit by using barrels to show how it can evolve. The three bars of the Polynesian-style Tiki TNT (plus its grassy rooftop) tout its versatility with drinks like Mister Fancy Pants, with white rum, Cocchi Americano, Lustau Pedro Ximenez and clarified pineapple juice. Tours, classes and barrel parties add up to more than a typical experience. But that's what Thrasher wants: "I'm confident we will change [how guests] think about rum."

1130 Maine Ave. SW, wharfdc.com