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## Mou Tai baijiu being featured on Singapore Newspapers, The Straits Times Urban -17 November 2005

茅台酒的产品介绍刊登在新加坡报章, 'The Straits Times Urban' - 2005年11月17日

# URBAN

NOVEMBER 17 2005

DRINKS

THE STRAITS TIMES URBAN 21

LIQUIDDIET / Teo Pau Lin

## KINDLED SPIRIT

The Maotai is volatile stuff – over half of its contents is alcohol. Here are 10 things you should know about China's national wine

- 1 Maotai is a type of Chinese wine made exclusively in Maotai city in the northern province of Guizhou.
- 2 It has a mind-blowing 53 per cent alcohol content, compared to vodka's 40 per cent. It has been portrayed in Chinese movies as the drink to take to prove your manly valour and as a sabotage tool on grooms on their wedding night.
- 3 First made around 135BC in the Han dynasty, it was adopted by Emperor Hanwu as the imperial wine. Today, it is served to visiting dignitaries in Beijing, and carried in Chinese embassies around the world.
- 4 Unlike Western wines, which are made from fruits, Chinese wines are made from grains. Chinese wines from southern China are mostly made of rice, while those from northern China are mostly made of wheat and sorghum.
- 5 At least five years go into the making of Maotai, with one year in production and four in fermentation. There are also special 15-, 30-, 50- and 80-year vintages.



6 Maotai is now made by Kweichow Moutai Distillery Group, one of the largest state-owned enterprises in China. It produces 10,000 tonnes a year, of which more than 95 per cent is consumed in China.

7 It cannot be made anywhere outside of Maotai city as it requires very specific environmental and climatic conditions. Its company chairman, Yuan Renguo, says it's easier to make an atomic bomb than Maotai. "You can make Maotai in Maotai," he says.

8 Priced at 367 yuan (\$577) a bottle in China, it remains the drink of choice among the wealthy elite, the business set and politicians.

9 It is known to be good for health, particularly for the liver and stomach. The late Premier Zhou Enlai reportedly never took conventional medicine. He just tossed back a shot of Maotai when needed.

10 Since 2000, the distillery has introduced red and white wines, made from grapes. It is the first company in China to make Western grape wines.

To buy the Maotai wine here, call Silkplus on tel: 6423-9445. A 500ml bottle costs \$90.

For information: [www.mtpasia.com](http://www.mtpasia.com) 详情请到 <http://chinese.mtpasia.com>

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