

Kingston Single Malt Society

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A social club for the appreciation of Single Malt Whisky since 1998
JULY 22nd, 2019 VOLUME 13; NUMBER 1



Beam SUNTORY



COST OF THE MALTS

TOKI LCBO 465484 | 750 mL bottle Made in: Region Not Specified, **Japan** By: Beam Global Spirits And Wines **Price:** \$59.95 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, International Whiskey 43.0% Alcohol/Vol.

HIBIKI HARMONY LCBO 481226 | 750 mL bottle Made in: Region Not Specified, **Japan** By: Jim Beam Brands Co. **Price:** \$119.95 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, International Whiskey 43.0% Alcohol/Vol.

TYRCONNELL 15 YEAR OLD MADEIRA LCBO 645671 | 750 mL bottle **Price:** \$124.95 Made in: Region Not Specified, **Ireland** By: Cooley Distillery Plc Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey 46.0% Alcohol/Vol.

LITTLE BOOK II LCBO 639054 | 750 mL bottle Made in: **Kentucky, USA** By: Beam Global Spirits And Wines **Price:** \$139.90 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey 59.4% Alcohol/Vol.

AUCHENTOSHAN THREE WOOD LOWLAND SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY LCBO 720532 | 750 mL bottle **Price:** \$80.00 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 43.0% Alcohol/Vol.

BOWMORE VAULT EDITION ISLAY SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY 1ST RELEASE LCBO 489146 | 750 mL bottle **Price:** \$196.05 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 51.5% Alcohol/Vol.

LAPHROAIG LORE ISLAY SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY LCBO 455436 | 750 mL bottle **Price:** \$195.75 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 48.0% Alcohol/Vol.

World Whisk(e)y Night

MENU

1st course: Gumbo, Andouille Sausage, Chicken, Okra, Wild rice, Shellfish

2nd course: Corn and Crabmeat Fritters, Smoked Paprika Aioli

3rd course - Entree: Barbecued Pork Back Ribs, Guajillo, Pasilla Peppers, Chocolate Beans, Braised Long Beans, Chipotle BBQ Sauce

4th course - Dessert: Sweet Potato Pie, Marshmallow Topping and Chocolate (Jim Beam White Label) Bourbon Garnish

Upcoming Dinner Dates

Friday August 23rd 2019 - 12th Annual Premium Night
September 23rd, 2019 - Distell Tasting -
Tobermory / Ledaig / Bunnhabhain - Mike Brisebois
October 28th, 2019 - Glenrothes / Highland Park - Cameron Millar
November 18th, 2019 - Islands / Islay
December 9th 2019 - Christmas Dinner -
Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside /
Highlands / Islands / Islay
January 20th, 2020 - Robbie Burns Dinner
February 17th, 2020 - Islay
March 16th, 2020 - Irish / Speyside / Highlands
April 20th, 2020 - Speyside
May 25th, 2020 - Campbeltown / Islands / Islay
June 22nd, 2020 - BBQ (Final Exam)
July 20th, 2020 - Bourbon & American Whiskey
Friday August 28th 2020 - 13th Annual Premium Night
September 21st, 2020 - Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside /
Highlands / Islands / Islay
October 20th, 2020 - Speyside / Highlands

November 16th, 2020 - Speyside
December 14th 2020 - Christmas Dinner

45,000 barrels destroyed in Jim Beam warehouse fire

4th July, 2019 by Nicola Carruthers

A fire broke out at a Jim Beam warehouse in Kentucky on Tuesday (2 July), damaging 45,000 barrels of whiskey.



The incident, which occurred overnight, took place at Jim Beam's facility in Versailles, Kentucky. No injuries were reported in the incident.

The fire, the cause of which is not yet known, destroyed all 45,000 barrels in the warehouse that contained "relatively young whiskey from the Jim Beam mash bill", a Beam Suntory spokesperson confirmed.

"Given the age of the lost whiskey, this fire will not impact the availability of Jim Beam for consumers," the statement read.

"We are grateful to the courageous firefighters from multiple jurisdictions who brought the fire under control and prevented it from spreading.

"Initial reports suggest the fire resulted from a lightning strike, and we will work with local authorities to confirm the cause and to remediate the impacts.

"We have a comprehensive warehouse safety programme that includes regular inspections and rigorous protocols to promote safety and the security of our ageing inventory. We operate 126 barrel warehouses in Kentucky that hold approximately 3.3 million barrels for our brands.

"We appreciate the support of our neighbours and the Kentucky Bourbon community as we manage through this incident." The last 12 months has seen a number of American whiskey producers involved in a series of incidents.

Last month, a warehouse [containing thousands of whiskey barrels](#) at the O.Z. Tyler Distillery in Owensboro, Kentucky, caved in. In July last year, a warehouse holding thousands of whiskey barrels at the Sazerac-owned Barton 1792 Distillery [completely collapsed](#) just weeks after part of the building came crashing down.

This was followed by a [fermented mash spill](#) at the Barton 1792 site in March 2019, which injured two people.

BOURBON VS SCOTCH: WHAT MAKES THEM SO DIFFERENT?

by [Matt Strickland](#) - July 18, 2019

If you're reading this, there's likely a chance that you enjoy the occasional whiskey. It makes sense. Whiskey is (and has been) the darling of the drinks world for a while now. Folks are learning everything they can about their favorite barrel-aged, cereal-based tippie—and there are so many types to choose from! There are a lot of differences between the various whiskey types around the world, but most folks tend to pit bourbon vs scotch when claiming a favorite style.

An aversion or [adoration of peat](#), a love affair with big charred oak, or a distaste for bourbon's fattened sweetness are a few of the explanations for one's particular predilections. Bourbon and scotch are figuratively (and literally) oceans apart. The flavor differences between these two whiskeys are huge. But the reasons for these differences go well beyond bourbon's use of at least [51% corn in the](#)

[mash](#). In fact, some Scotch whisky blends arguably have more corn in them than some bourbons do, but that's another story.

BOURBON VS SCOTCH

Bourbon is characterized as having a so-called "fatter" and sweeter flavor profile, relying on new, heavily charred oak barrels for much of its character. The corn base does provide a grainy sweetness which is amplified by the fact that the mash is fermented and distilled with all the grain solids still in the liquid.



Old Forester's column still / Photo Credit: Old Forester

These whiskeys are typically produced using a column still in conjunction with a *doubler*. A doubler is a technological relative to the *thumpers* used in moonshine production. It provides a simple second distillation for the bourbon. Folks studying the provenance of their favorite drams sometimes hear "column still" and think of neutral vodka. But when we're talking about bourbon, the result is nothing but flavorful. The neutrality of column stills is very much a myth. Just like any other tool or instrument in the workspace, the results depend on how you use it.

Bourbon is most often distilled to a relatively low 130-135 proof (65-67.5% ABV). This type of distillation leaves a lot of flavor congeners in the distillate. The distillate is usually reduced to 125 proof or lower (125 proof is the legal maximum for barrel aging bourbon). Coupled with large charred new American oak barrels, which age in the hot and humid Southern climes of Kentucky and Tennessee, you get a big, chewy, caramel and vanilla-laden whiskey. It helps that the climate and lower barrel proof tend to age whiskey a bit faster than cooler climates with spirits of higher barrel proof. Speaking of which: segue!

BARLEY AND SOMETIMES PEAT

Scotch whisky behaves differently, even if some of its DNA has historically found its way into bourbon production. When thinking of differences between bourbon vs scotch, consider the barley. In the case of single malts, that's all you can use. Maybe the barley has been smoked with peat moss (hello, Islay) or maybe it hasn't, which is common in Speyside. Then there's the fact that the barley is mashed and subsequently separated from the sweet liquid prior to adding yeast. This removes some of the more intense cereal notes that bourbon can take on.

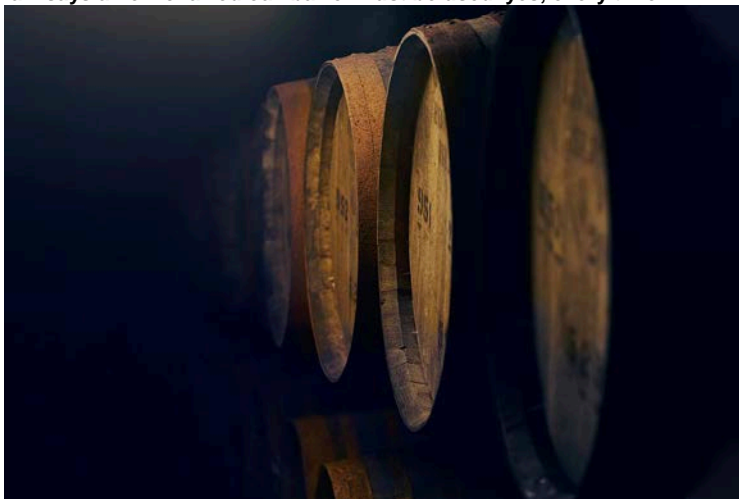


The malting floor at Highland Park Distillery / Photo Credit: Highland Park

Scotch mashes are typically [fermented a bit cooler](#) than many bourbons which produces different types of aromatics. It's a complicated subject so let's just leave it at that. Next the fermented distiller's beer is distilled in pot stills at least twice. The spirit comes out of the still averaging around 70% ABV, which is a smidge higher than that of bourbon. The higher ABV off the still as well as a higher barreling ABV (63-65% is typical) favors the maturation of a more subtle and delicate spirit (there are exceptions of course).

USED VS NEW BARRELS

Scotch barrels are usually, but not always, sourced from distilleries or wineries that previously used them for something else such as bourbon or sherry. Even then, they are often re-charred on the inside, so they aren't as neutral in character as many folks assume. And finally, due to the different types of casks at the distillery's disposal, there are a lot of options for blending an array of flavors together. This is not commonly done in bourbon land because the law says a new charred oak barrel must be used—yes, every time.



Barrels at Bowmore Distillery / Photo Credit: Bowmore Distillery
The previous paragraphs have really just scratched the surface here, but you can see that the differences of bourbon vs scotch are the result of much more than mere ingredient selection. Hopefully this gives a bit more insight into the inner workings of whiskey. Maybe it has made you curiously thirsty to revisit something outside of your



preferred dram for some "research". Of course, consumers have the luxury of choice and in the case of both bourbon and scotch, flavor and enjoyment are never in short supply.

SCALLYWAG RELEASES SECOND CHOCOLATE DAY MALT

05 July 2019 by Matt Evans

Douglas Laing & Co. is set to release Scallywag The Chocolate Edition #2, its second annual limited edition whisky commemorating World Chocolate Day (7 July).

Melting pot: Scallywag's Chocolate Edition is 'a great example of why blending single malts is really special'
The Chocolate Edition #2 is a 10-year-old Speyside blended malt said to be comprised of whisky 'predominantly' matured in Sherry butts, bottled at 48% abv.

Chris Leggat, CEO of [Douglas Laing & Co.](#) said: 'The Chocolate Edition #2 features a marriage of heavily Sherried single malts specially selected for their indulgently cocoa-rich qualities.

'The result is a great example of why blending single malts is really special.'

Said to contain notes of 'melted milk chocolate, dark treacle and rich stewed fruits' on the palate, only 500 bottles of the limited edition whisky have been produced.

The packaging is also chocolate-themed, featuring the [Scallywag](#) label's trademark fox terrier against a backdrop of melted chocolate, presented in a black drawstring gift bag emblazoned with the Scallywag logo.

The whisky will be available to purchase exclusively on [douglaslaing.com](#) from 11am on 7 July.

The price of the limited edition whisky has not yet been announced, although Scallywag's [2018 Chocolate Edition expression](#) was priced at £50 per 70cl bottle.



WHISKEY UPGRADE: GRADUATING YOUR WHISKEY PICKS TO THE NEXT LEVEL

by [Jake Emen](#) - June 19, 2019

There's a nice feeling that comes from bypassing the bottom shelf for a whiskey that's a bit more upscale. Naturally, as time passes and your knowledge grows, you may find that your taste evolves. In these situations, it's helpful to have a guide for kicking up your whiskey selections a few more notches. That doesn't mean you have to spend a fortune either. You can find a sweet whiskey upgrade in

an intermediate price range of under \$100. Here, the quality you enjoy in your daily dram improves substantially while the hit to the wallet will be moderate.

IRISH: [TYRCONNELL 16 YEAR OLOROSO & MOSCATEL CASK FINISH](#)

The Tyrconnell unveiled this limited single malt expression in June. Already unique in the world of Irish whiskey as a double pot-distilled single malt, this release further stands apart thanks to its unique finishing. First, the whiskey matures for a full 16 years in ex-bourbon barrels before being moved to Spanish casks. These finishing



casks were first seasoned with oloroso sherry and then filled with Moscatel wine. The result is an Irish whiskey upgrade which wields a range of floral, fruity and mineral notes alongside more traditional vanillins and oak.

Tyrconnell 16 Year Oloroso & Moscatel Cask Finish / Photo Credit: Tyrconnell

SCOTCH: [THE BALVENIE THE WEEK OF PEAT 14 YEAR](#)

The Balvenie isn't known for peat, however, its delicate distillate actually works quite nicely with such a smoky influence. This successful balance of flavors was handled by the deft hand of Malt Master David Stewart. Beginning in 2002, The Balvenie has spent one week each year distilling peated malted barley. The Week of Peat is aged for 14 years. On the palate it showcases a nice but not overpowering oomph from the smoke. It's also balanced out by the honeyed fruits you know and love from The Balvenie.

The Balvenie The Week of Peat 14 Year / Photo Credit: The Balvenie
WORLD WHISKY: [STARWARD NOVA SINGLE MALT](#)

Starward was founded in Melbourne, Australia in 2007, and is newly available in the U.S. The first release we can get our hands on is Starward Nova. This single malt matured exclusively in Australian red wine barrels, very much making it a product of its place. However, this makes the whisky stand apart from other red wine barrel finishes. Not only do the casks lend a lovely red tint to the whisky, they also deliver a range of fruity notes, from berries to cherries, alongside spicy oak and vanillins.



Starward Nova Single Malt / Photo Credit: Starward

How the amended Scotch rules impact the industry

4th July, 2019 by Nicola Carruthers

Having come under pressure from producers, the Scotch Whisky Association has expanded the types of casks the liquid can be matured in. *The Spirits Business* discovers how the industry has reacted to the change.



The debate over Scotch whisky's ability to innovate in a heavily regulated environment is a perennial one. While purists have expressed concern over any changes to the rules, which they claim could damage its heritage and integrity, progressives believe the strict laws prevent distillers from competing against other world whisk(e)y sectors, which are tempting away capricious consumers. Last month, [the category made a breakthrough](#) when the Scotch Whisky Technical File, which is used by HMRC to ensure compliance, was amended to expand the cask types that can be used in Scotch production. The proposal has been lodged with the European Commission by the UK's Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). Specifically, the change allows Scotch to be matured in oak casks that have previously been used to age wine, beer, ale and spirits, vastly broadening the variety of casks available to distillers.

However, the rule excludes casks that have been used to mature wine, beer, ale, or spirits produced from stone fruits, or those in which fruit, flavouring or sweetening have been added after fermentation or distillation. As such, Tequila barrels are permitted, but cherry brandy barrels are not.

The regulation also states that the end product "must have the traditional colour, taste and aroma characteristics of Scotch

whisky". This means a Scotch whisky cannot be aged in a cask long enough for the primary seasoning agent to heavily affect the whisky's traditional profile.

Alan Park, the Scotch Whisky Association's (SWA) director of legal affairs, said at the time of the announcement: "The amendment is consistent with the continued use of all those categories of casks where there is evidence of long-standing traditional use in the industry. But it will also create more flexibility, particularly in the range of spirits casks which can be used, subject to a number of safeguards which protect the reputation of Scotch whisky."

The move has been broadly welcomed by industry members who have long called for more flexibility in Scotch whisky production. The issue hit the headlines last year when a story broke in *The Wall Street Journal* claiming Diageo, the world's largest distiller and maker of Johnnie Walker, had [assembled a "secret task force"](#) to assess potential changes to the law. The proposal included the creation of a new sub-category for lower-abv blended whiskies and the ability to finish Scotch in Tequila barrels.

The SWA called CHALLENGING THE SWA

During a roundtable discussion in 2018, French firm Pernod Ricard said it held a similar view to Diageo. "We are constantly challenging the SWA because we want to innovate the industry," Glen Brasington, marketing director – strategy, business development and services at Chivas Brothers, said at the time.

"It's our job to innovate; our job to push the category and, certainly, we have had success. We have innovated and created products like Ballantine's Brasil, which is a flavoured spirit drink."

Islay distillery Bruichladdich, meanwhile, said it was "delighted to be able to experiment further". Christy McFarlane, its communications manager, says: "The move shows a willingness to embrace change and evolve current legislation in a practical, non-disruptive manner, while opening avenues for innovation. We can only hope that this most recent development is a sign of progress which will influence other, more restricted areas of Scotch whisky regulation, particularly those we believe are not in the best interests of the consumer."

"Since our renaissance, we've experimented with the weird and the wonderful, and regardless of whether we can legally label these 'single malt Scotch', we'll continue to be driven by intrigue rather than law."

Cask experimentation is just one area of Scotch whisky that some producers have wanted to see open up. Bruichladdich and Compass Box are two of the voices that have called for greater transparency in the category, namely, the ability to publish the age and proportions of a whisky's component parts. But with a spirit as rooted in history as Scotch, and one with so many stakeholders, any further potential changes will most likely not come into effect for some time.

Some companies have therefore opted to free themselves of regulatory bondage by producing innovative Scotch-based beverages labelled as 'spirit drinks'. Leading players Diageo and Pernod Ricard have explored the trend, and brewer-turned-distiller BrewDog has similarly expressed the virtues of innovating outside of the Scotch GI. "The SWA regulations were well meant, but I don't think they have helped the industry stay as relevant as they might have done," David Gates, managing director of the BrewDog Distilling Company, told *SB* earlier this year. He added: "I'd rather ask for forgiveness than permission and do the right thing for the consumer, and be transparent. As long as you're honest about what you're doing, who can complain? The regulations are clear, but we are not members of the SWA."

POSITIVE STEP

Now, Gates sees the legal amendment as a positive step, but says the move won't affect his team. "It's great that the SWA are beginning to relax some of their regulations. We embrace anything that encourages modernisation and innovation in the pursuit of amazing flavour. [But] we weren't paying too much attention to the SWA regulations anyway, so these changes make little impact."

"The amended rule was clearly driven by the big corporate paymasters of the SWA so we would imagine that they have some cask-finishing ideas up their sleeves."

Whether that's true or not, distillers of all sizes now have the opportunity to push ahead with potentially game-changing products to rival other spirits sectors. And, for the consumer, a host of new taste experiences lie ahead.

New Johnnie Walker Line Up Focuses Upon Regions Of Scotland
By [Nino Marchetti](#) / July 15, 2019

If there's ever been an ongoing brand of whisk(e)y that's sliced and diced in as many possible ways as one can, it has to be Johnnie Walker from Diageo. You likely know most of the mainstream variants under the Walker family, so we will spare you rehashing all of them here. What is interesting to know though is yet another mini range is set to be released, this time under Black Label, that explores the four corners of Scotland and its flavor profiles. The new Johnnie Walker Black Label Origin Series, according to those behind it, is a series of 12 year old blended Scotch whiskies that are said to celebrate each of the "distinct flavor profiles of the four corners of Scotland." To that end these limited editions are crafted only using whiskies from a particular region to capture the flavor characteristics of that area.

More specifically, based upon information put out by Diageo:

- *Johnnie Walker Black Label Speyside Origin* is a light and fruity whisky with hints of cut green apples and orchard fruit. It is made exclusively from quality single malts from the Speyside region of Scotland, with whisky from the distilleries of Cardhu and Glendullan at its heart
- *Johnnie Walker Black Label Highlands Origin* has a rich and dark fruitiness, with red berry and stone fruit notes. It is crafted exclusively from single malts from the Highlands, with whisky from Clynelish and Teaninich at its core
- *Johnnie Walker Black Label Islay Origin* has a slight spice and is for people want to explore whiskies with a warming maritime smokiness. It is made exclusively from exceptional Islay single malts, including Lagavulin and Caol Ila
- *Johnnie Walker Black Label Lowlands Origin* has a sweet, creamy vanilla character and notes of toffee. It is made exclusively from a variety of single malt and grain whiskies from the Lowlands including Glenkinchie and Cameronbridge

"I've always been fascinated by the distinct flavour profiles that distilleries from each of the four corners of Scotland offer, and what they individually add to our whiskies," said George Harper, Johnnie Walker whisky specialist, [in a prepared statement](#). "The Johnnie Walker Black Label Origin Series gives us the opportunity to take people on a guided tour of the whisky producing regions, with each edition delving deeper into the four signature notes of Johnnie Walker Black Label – sweet vanilla, orchard fruit, rich fruit and smoke."



The Johnnie Walker Black Label Origin Series (image via Diageo)
As it stands now plans call for this series to be available globally at travel retail in 1 liter bottles for around \$46. The series packaging doubles as an accompanying guide to the whisky, and the region it comes from. Every limited-edition pack is adorned with a map of Scotland. The region that the whisky within originates from (Speyside, Highlands, Islay, or Lowlands) is highlighted, along with interesting facts and trivia relating to that part of the country.

Industry condemns Scotch and Irish whisk(e)y tariffs

3rd July, 2019 by Melita Kiely

Trade bodies have hit out at proposed US tariffs on Scotch and Irish whisk(e)y that would "adversely impact" the industry, and have urged the US, UK and EU to resolve the situation.

The US has proposed tariffs on Scotch, Irish and other EU whiskies
On 1 July, the US government threatened to [impose tariffs on Scotch and Irish whisk\(e\)y](#) over a long-standing dispute with the EU regarding civil aircraft subsidies. This was part of supplementary tariffs on US\$4bn worth of EU goods, including whiskies that fall outside of the Scotch and Irish contingents.

It followed the initial list of EU products targeted for potential US tariffs in April this year, worth approximately US\$21 billion.

The Scotch Whisky Association said it was disappointed to see Scotch as part of the proposed tariffs, particularly as the sector has been trading with the US tariff-free for 20 years.

A spokesperson for the SWA said: "Exports of Scotch whisky to the US have been zero tariff for 20 years, so it is disappointing that Scotch whisky has been drawn into this dispute."

"The Scotch whisky industry has consistently opposed the imposition of tariffs, which harms economies on both sides of the Atlantic, which depend on trade for their continued prosperity."

"There is a close relationship between the US whiskies and Scotch whisky, not least due to the use of Bourbon casks for maturation which generates around £70m for the US economy each year. We continue to urge the UK government, the EU and the US government to resolve this situation."

The Irish Whiskey Association (IWA) has also voiced concerns over the matter and the harm it could cause the industry, "both in Ireland and in the US".

A statement from the IWA said: "Any tariffs imposed on Irish whiskey entering the US market will negatively impact investment and employment in both jurisdictions."

"We urge both sides to continue to strive to achieve a mutually acceptable solution to this issue and to avoid imposing barriers to trade, which will ultimately adversely impact businesses and consumers on both sides of the Atlantic."

Brexit

Trade union GMB Scotland said the proposed tariffs on Scotch whisky gave a "troubling look" into future trade negotiations with the US when the UK leaves the EU, currently scheduled for 31 October 2019.

Gary Smith, GMB Scotland secretary, said: "If anyone thinks the UK economy isn't a sitting duck then they are deluded – there will be no special relationships out there."

"It also exposes the fragility of the Scottish economy, where food and drink, and within it whisky and spirits, is the second biggest export sector."

"It reinforces our previous view that for Scotland there is no Brexit deal better than our current deal as members of the European Union."

TOP BARREL PROOF AMERICAN WHISKEY PICKS

Barrel proof whiskeys offer a full flavor and more bang for your buck. You can adjust (or not) the proof by adding ice or water as you see fit. Batches can vary, but tend to have similar profiles and proofs. Here are our favorite American picks under \$100.

JUL 02, 2019

12 - KNOB CREEK CASK STRENGTH STRAIGHT RYE

85 4.0 4 out of 5 stars (125)

RICH & SPICY

This is the third rye expression under the Knob Creek brand following the straight rye release in 2012 and the Single Barrel Select release in early 2018. This bottling is aged for 9 years and was sourced from their Warehouse A, the oldest standing warehouse at their distillery. Bottled at cask strength of 119.6 proof, it is unfiltered. Available beginning June 2018.

11 - KO DISTILLING BARE KNUCKLE CASK STRENGTH WHEAT WHISKEY

86 2.8 2 out of 5 stars (4)

VANILLA & FULL BODIED

KO Distilling launched a cask strength edition of its Bare Knuckle straight wheat whiskey at the end of 2018. With a minimum of two years maturation in full-size barrels, the whiskey is comprised of a 60% wheat, 30% rye and 10% malted barley mash bill, made entirely from Virginia-grown grains. The label features Irish-American prizefighter Jimmy Gardner, circa 1910.

10 - NEW RIFF SINGLE BARREL BARREL PROOF BOURBON

87 4.0 4 out of 5 stars (133)

SPICY & VANILLA

New Riff Single Barrel Bourbon is made with the same mash bill as the brand's standard bourbon release: 65% corn, 30% rye, and 5% malted barley. These single barrel releases are selected by retailers or on-premise locations. Each single barrel bottling is aged for 4 years in 53-gallon new, charred American oak barrels. Additionally, they are bottled at barrel proof without chill-filtration so expect to see variances in both flavor and proof with each barrel.

9 - EZRA BROOKS "OLD EZRA" BARREL STRENGTH BOURBON 7 YEAR

87 4.0 4 out of 5 stars (228)

VANILLA & FULL BODIED

Luxco, the company behind brands such as Rebel Yell, Ezra Brooks, and Blood Oath among others, has released this Kentucky straight bourbon. Aged 7 years, it is bottled at a barrel proof of 117 proof. Old Ezra Barrel Strength Bourbon 7 Year is available beginning fall 2018.

8 - 1792 FULL PROOF STRAIGHT BOURBON

87 3.9 3 out of 5 stars (428)

FULL BODIED & RICH

In 2007, 125-proof bourbon was placed in new, charred oak barrels and stored in warehouses E, N and I for 8 1/2 years at Barton 1792 Distillery. The warehouses in which it was stored are exposed to direct sunlight through 7 story-high windows, with metal frames and concrete bottom floors. The aged distillate was filtered once through a plate and frame filter (no chill filtering) in order to maintain its proof.

7 - BOOKER'S BOURBON BATCH 2019-01 "TERESA'S BATCH"

89 4.1 4 out of 5 stars (40)

FULL BODIED & SPICY

Teresa's Batch is the first Booker's Bourbon Batch release for 2019. This batch is named after longtime Beam Distillery employee of over 30 years, Teresa Wittemer. She has worked in the lab and in the Quality Control department where she gained her expertise in blending bourbon batches to Booker Noe's high standards. She continues to help select batches of bourbon for the Booker's son, current master distiller, Fred Noe. This batch aged for 6 years, 3 months, and 1 day. Bottled at 125.9 proof.

6 - STAGG JR. BARREL PROOF BOURBON

90 4.1 4 out of 5 stars (1701)

FRUITY & RICH

First introduced in August 2013, Stagg Jr. Barrel Proof Bourbon is uncut (no water added) and unfiltered like its bourbon "father" George T. Stagg. Distilled at Buffalo Trace, each batch will vary in both proof and age, but expect the bourbon to be around 8-9 years old with proofs ranging in the 130+ area. Stagg Jr. will be considerably more affordable and easier to find than its predecessor.

5 - MAKER'S MARK CASK STRENGTH

90 3.9 3 out of 5 stars (816)

VANILLA & SPICY

Maker's Mark Cask Strength is a new release that is bottled exclusively in 375ml bottles. This isn't a single cask bottling, but rather a blend of up to 19 different barrels with varying proofs and ages. This was Batch No. 14-01 which was put into the bottle at 56.6%. It is made from the traditional Maker's Mark corn, red winter wheat and barley mash bill.

4 - ROSSVILLE UNION MASTER CRAFTED BARREL PROOF STRAIGHT RYE

91 4.2 4 out of 5 stars (33)

RICH & FULL BODIED

As the name suggests, this is the cask strength version of Rossville Union, the first proprietary rye brand released by MGP Ingredients. It is made from a batch of 83 barrels, noted on the front of the bottle, aged in new, charred American oak. Barrel Proof is bottled at 112.6 proof and is available beginning June 2018 in select markets in the Midwest and Southwest US.

3 - JACK DANIEL'S SINGLE BARREL BARREL PROOF

92 4.1 4 out of 5 stars (472)

RICH & VANILLA

Jack Daniel's already offers a single barrel whiskey watered down to 94 proof. The barrel proof, as the name suggests, is bottled at what ever proof the whiskey comes out in the barrel. As each barrel has a different alcohol content due to evaporation during the aging process, there is no standard proof for this bottling. The bottle reviewed was 66% abv.

2 - WILD TURKEY RARE BREED 116.8

93 4.1 4 out of 5 stars (454)

VANILLA & FULL BODIED

This batch released in spring 2017 is the latest in the Rare Breed lineup. As is always the case, the Kentucky straight bourbon is bottled at cask-strength which varies from batch to batch. This one is offered at 116.8 proof. This batch release also comes with a cosmetic change with new labels and different bottle shape than their previous releases.

1 - ELIJAH CRAIG BARREL PROOF BOURBON

93 4.4 4 out of 5 stars (1401)

RICH & FULL BODIED

Released for the first time in the March 2013, each batch is an uncut, unfiltered selection of Elijah Craig 12 Year. Each batch will vary both in flavor and in proof as is the nature of such releases. The "code" for the batches is as follows: The first letter of each batch indicates the order of the release for that year beginning with the letter "A" for the first batch, "B" for the second, and so on. Next is a number which reflects the month of the release, so "1" for January for example. The third and fourth digits reflect the year of the release. This batch number is printed on the front of each bottle along with the proof.

US THREATENS SCOTCH IN NEW EU DISPUTE

02 July 2019 by [Becky Paskin](#)

The US has threatened to impose sanctions on Scotch and Irish whisky as tensions build in a long-running trade dispute with the EU over aircraft subsidies.

The Office of the US Trade Representative (USTR) has proposed to increase tariffs on an additional US\$4 billion worth of products, including all whisky made in the EU.

The 89 additional goods categories, including olives, pasta and cheese, were added to the original list of products worth \$21bn, announced in April 2019.

The proposed tariffs are a result of increasing tensions in the 15-year trade dispute at the World Trade Organisation (WTO), which centres on aircraft subsidies given to US plane manufacturer Boeing Co. and Europe-based rival Airbus.

The WTO found the world's two largest plane makers received billions of dollars of 'harmful' subsidies.

The US hopes that by enforcing sanctions it will 'enforce its rights' in the WTO dispute.

In 2018 the US became the first country to import over £1bn of Scotch whisky, an increase of 7.7% on the previous year, according to the Scotch Whisky Association.

If imposed, the tariffs could make the cost of buying Scotch and Irish whisky more expensive for US consumers.

The Distilled Spirits Council of the United States (DISCUS) criticised the move and claimed increased tariffs would harm US businesses.

'We strongly oppose the inclusion of distilled products in the proposed retaliation list,' said spokeswoman Lisa Hawkins.

'US companies – from farmers to suppliers to retailers – are already being negatively impacted by the imposition of retaliatory tariffs by key trading partners on certain US distilled spirits... and these additional tariffs will only inflict further harm.'

The Scotch Whisky Association (SWA) said the proposed tariffs were 'disappointing'.

A spokesperson for the SWA said: 'Exports of Scotch whisky to the US have been zero tariff for 20 years, so it is disappointing that Scotch whisky has been drawn into this dispute.'

'The Scotch whisky industry has consistently opposed the imposition of tariffs, which harms economies on both sides of the Atlantic which depend on trade for their continued prosperity.'

'There is a close relationship between the US whiskeys and Scotch whisky, not least due to the use of Bourbon casks for maturation which generates around £70m for the US economy each year.'

'We continue to urge the UK government, the EU and the US government to resolve this situation.'

The WTO is expected to rule on the US' sanctions proposal in the

BOURBON FUNDAMENTALS: BREAKING DOWN BOURBON STYLES AND TERMS

by [Jake Emen](#) - July 4, 2019

When you think about the type of bourbon that you enjoy the most, specific flavor profiles may come to mind—perhaps spicy and bold, or sweet with loads of vanilla or caramel. Why do certain bourbons have either of those characteristics, though? It's all about how the spirit is made. Once you understand those differences, you can more readily pinpoint what you actually enjoy. You'll also be able to easily pick up a bottle and make a failsafe purchase.

Is there such a thing as a "standard" bourbon then? Well, not technically, as it long as it meets the category-wide essentials. Made in the USA, all bourbon is made from a minimum of 51% corn and ages in charred, new oak barrels.

Still, we can come up with a bourbon baseline to see how other categories compare. For the sake of this discussion, a standard bourbon is one made with a three-grain mash bill including corn, rye

and malted barley. The ratio generally falls somewhere in the ballpark of 65-75% corn, 10-20% rye, and 5-15% malted barley. With that in mind, we can discuss further additional bourbon categories. **WHEATED BOURBON:**

A [wheated bourbon](#) swaps out the rye in favor of wheat, while typically maintaining the same ballpark of mash bill ratios. The result is a smooth, sweet sipper. Popular choices include [Maker's Mark](#), as well as the entire [Pappy Van Winkle](#) and [Weller](#) lineup from Buffalo Trace.



Ears of wheat, rye, barley and oats

HIGH-RYE BOURBON:

[High-rye bourbons](#) maintain the standard three grains—corn, rye, and barley—while amplifying the rye content, anywhere from 20% to nearly 40%. For these, you'll end up with a spicier and sometimes richer bourbon, think [Four Roses](#), [Bulleit](#), and [Old Forester](#) for a start.

FOUR GRAIN & ALTERNATIVE GRAIN BOURBON:

Why choose between wheat or rye when you can use both? It's uncommon for the major players to do so, but a number of craft distilleries use both grains as part of a [four-grain mash bill](#). There also numerous alternative grains being deployed in bourbon these days, including triticale, [millet](#), [oats](#) and a range of others.

100% CORN BOURBON:

Bourbon doesn't need to have any other grain in it besides corn, and there are several 100% corn bourbons on the market. But wait, isn't that a corn whiskey though? Not so fast. [As we've recently discussed](#), corn whiskeys must be unaged, or if aged, the barrels must be used or un-charred. Alternatively, bourbon must *always* be aged in charred, new oak barrels.

The two categories are mutually exclusive, even if a particular whiskey's mash bill would qualify for either on its own. Consider the case of [Balcones Texas Blue Corn Bourbon](#). It begins life as the same whiskey which goes onto become [Baby Blue](#), a corn whiskey. It is only differentiated by the aforementioned maturation styles.

Another prominent example of 100% corn bourbon is [Hudson Baby Bourbon](#) from Tuthilltown Spirits.



Corn field

OTHER TERMS TO KNOW:

While all the above dealt with mash bills, there are a few more categories you should know as well.

STRAIGHT BOURBON:

Straight bourbon has been aged for two or more years. Here's a bit of trivia: did you know that bourbon has no minimum age requirement? Yes, it must be aged in specific barrels, but there is

not a designated time frame for the bourbon to age. So technically, bourbon can be aged for a day. Food for thought.

BOTTLED-IN-BOND:

Bottled-in-bond—or bonded—whiskey ages for a minimum of four years. Additionally, it is bottled at 50% ABV, and abides by several other production specifics we've [gone into detail about elsewhere](#).



Bourbon barrels

BARREL PROOF

Also known as cask strength or barrel strength, this style of whiskey is bottled essentially straight from the cask, i.e., without being proofed down to a lower strength via the addition of water. Filtration is often minimal, mostly just removing any large chunks of charcoal for instance.

SINGLE CASK OR SINGLE BARREL

As the name states, this type of bourbon is bottled from an individual barrel, as opposed to a batch consisting of anything from a few casks, to a few dozen or a few hundred. Incidentally, "small batch" is a meaningless term defined only by the brand itself.

Flavor differences can be pronounced from one single cask to another, creating a weaving flavor profile from one release to the next. Choice barrels in prime locations of maturation warehouses are typically selected. In other words, instead of blending for consistency's sake, a specific mark of quality or notable attribute can be highlighted.

Single cask bourbons are often bottled at cask strength, but that's not always the case. Meanwhile, cask strength bourbons don't technically need to be from a single cask, either. A batch of barrels can be blended together and released at full proof, though a more accurate term may be batch strength as opposed to cask strength. Now that you know how bourbon can be broken down and categorized, hopefully you have a better idea of which ones you favor and why. Shop wisely!

CANADIAN: [GOODERHAM & WORTS FOUR GRAIN WHISKY](#)



[Dr. Don Livermore](#) is to thank for this wonderful whisky upgrade from Corby Distilleries. Making its stateside debut in April, this four-grain whisky is comprised of corn, wheat, barley and rye. In true Canadian fashion, each grain is distilled and aged separately, providing four pliable components that could then be combined in any configuration. It's the blending where Dr. Livermore earns his bones, and this release is a perfect case in point. At turns it reveals creamy vanilla, spice, oak and honeyed-floral. This is a balanced, nuanced expression that does the category proud.

Gooderham & Worts Four Grain Whisky

BOURBON: [BARDSTOWN BOURBON COMPANY FUSION SERIES #1](#)

[As we've mentioned before](#), Bardstown Bourbon Company (BBCo.) has set its aim at redefining contract distilling as collaborative distilling. But creativity and initiative are also on display with the brand's first Kentucky bourbon release. Fusion Series #1 combines two of BBCo.'s two-year-old bourbons, one featuring a high-rye mash bill and the other, a wheat. This is blended with a sourced 11 year-old bourbon made elsewhere in-state. Fusion Series #1 showcases some of the livelier components of the young self-distilled whiskeys, as well as the depth and gravitas of long-aged

whiskey. It makes for a solid whiskey upgrade and one that should keep you excited about what else is to come.



Eurostar bans travellers from taking spirits on board

24th June, 2019 by Melita Kiely

Passengers who wish to bring bottles of spirits on Eurostar trains may get a shock at the departure gate after the travel operator quietly changed its policy to prohibit high-strength alcohol on board. Eurostar rolled out its new policy last autumn, but seemingly without a public announcement. Travellers can now only take bottles of spirits by using the company's registered luggage service, Euro Despatch. In a statement, Eurostar said: "The change to our alcohol policy was made in autumn last year. Alcohol is limited to one bottle of wine or four bottles/cans of beer per person.

"This decision was made to maintain a pleasant environment on board for all our travellers.

"Those who wish to take more with them for consumption at home can do so using our registered luggage service, Euro Despatch."

Passengers recently took to Twitter to clarify what alcohol they could take on board, only to find the policy had changed.

One Twitter user, Mark Smith, travel writer and author of train travel website Seat61.com, wrote: "Eurostar has quietly changed its luggage policy, and now no-one is allowed on with even a small bottle of spirits given (or to be given) as a present for example. And no more than 1 bottle of wine. This is completely unnecessary. Eurostar is a train not a plane."

A subsequent Tweet of his said: "This is completely out of sync with all other connecting trains: LNER or Virgin Trains or Chiltern Railways this side, SNFC TGVs or DB ICEs or Thalys on the other side. Eurostar is part of a network. Leaving such nannying to the airlines, trains should be relaxed and easy-going."

Last September, [London Cocktail Club created a winter cocktail menu](#) for the cocktail bar in the business lounge at the London terminal of Eurostar.

In 2015, [Eurostar launched its own gin](#) in partnership with Silent Pool Distillers.

Beam Suntory names first president of brands

26th June, 2019 by Melita Kiely



Carlsberg executive vice president and chief commercial officer Jessica Spence is set to jump ship to Beam Suntory to become the firm's first president of brands.

Jessica Spence has been appointed as Beam Suntory's first president of brands

Spence will take up the post with Beam Suntory in October this year, reporting to Albert Baladi, president and CEO of Beam Suntory.

As president of brands, Spence will be charged with P&L (profit and loss) responsibility for Beam Suntory's biggest global brands and will work closely with the region presidents to spearhead the company's global premiumisation goals.

Furthermore, Spence will lead global innovation and product R&D (research and development), emerging marketing technologies, tools and platforms, and integrated marketing communications and design. Baladi said: "As we accelerate our path of premiumisation and pursue our long-term ambitions, we will focus on building global premium brands of scale that consumers love.

"Jessica is a true global enterprise leader with an impressive track record and the passion to match.

"With a powerful combination of brand-building leadership and commercial prowess, she is the perfect fit for this new role, for our strategic ambitions and for our culture."

Carlsberg hired Spence in 2012. Currently, she looks after the firm's global marketing, sales, insights, R&D and innovation functions.

Spence has previously worked as Carlsberg's senior vice president commercial, for which she was based in Copenhagen.

Before Carlsberg, Spence worked in marketing positions for SAB Miller in Russia, Slovakia and Poland, and business development in London.

She has also worked for global advertising agencies Leo Burnett and J Walter Thompson.

FIVE QUIRKY HIP FLASKS FOR FESTIVAL SEASON

24 June 2019 by Matt Evans

Lacklustre offerings at festival bars can often leave whisky lovers disappointed. With strict rules around bringing drinks, and glass, into festival grounds, Matt Evans has tracked down five quirky, campsite-friendly hip flasks.

Glastonbury, perhaps the UK's best-known music festival, is set to kick off on 26 June. However, the festival bars – catering to around 175,000 thirsty revellers – are often the least exciting part of the experience, full of long queues, overpriced beer and mixed drinks in flimsy plastic cups.

Unlike most festivals, Glastonbury allows you to bring along a 'reasonable' level of alcohol for personal use, provided it's not in glass. This means you can skip the queues for the bar and share some great whisky around the campsite, but you'll need to store it in a festival-acceptable fashion.

Enter this selection of unusual hip flasks, designed to surprise your friends as they discover your umbrella or book is actually a crafty container. Whether you're camping or glamping, dodge the queues and

drink better with quirky flasks for every occasion. **THE UMBRELLA**
Rain, rain, go away: This flask is one for outdoor festivals – provided there are no showers



The [BoozeBrella from SmuggleMug](#) is a fairly straightforward screw-top flask which boasts an outer cloth coating designed to look like a folded micro-umbrella, and comes with foam pressure-

sensitive safety seals to ensure no leaks.

The BoozeBrella may look very convincing once screwed shut and, when filled with 235ml of whisky, it 'will feel around the same weight as a standard umbrella', according to SmuggleMug founder Scott Gallacher. However, those hoping for a two-in-one solution for staying lubricated and dry during an outdoor festival will be disappointed by the absence of the BoozeBrella's brolly functionality.

THE BINOCULARS



Mix it up: The dual flask helps festival-goers bring multiple drams or cocktails to events

The [Binoculars Double Flask](#) holds 453ml of liquid and two different drams simultaneously, meaning enterprising drinkers can run impromptu comparison tastings at the campsite, or fill the flask with different cocktails.

Rubber grips and a hands-free neck strap ensure the binoculars look the part. However, anyone looking to actually see the stage from the back will be out of luck, as, just like the Boozebrella, the Binocktails flask doesn't double-up as the real deal.

THE BODY SPRAY

Discreet dram: The can's size makes it easy to carry for tent- and stage-hopping revellers



Another 235ml flask, the central part of the [Bev-Can Secret Body Spray Flask](#) is comprised of sturdy aluminium with a screw-top plastic lid. Great lengths have been taken to ensure the flask matches a real body spray can as closely as possible: the plastic casing on the lid mimics the nozzle, the label bears a close match to the Lynx logo (an inverted 'N' is the only change) while the metal bottle is only 35ml bigger than an actual can of Lynx body spray.

All this is designed to fool those giving the flask only a cursory glance (although you may turn a few heads as you take a sip from a can of 'deodorant'). The lid doesn't turn in the way a real spray would, but the flask's convincing look means it'll be a welcome surprise for your friends during the big reveal.

THE GOOD BOOK



Holy spirit: The bible-style book is a 'virtuous' flask for festival-goers

At a mere 115ml, the [Flask In A Book](#) contains a smaller volume than any other flask on this list. The simple stainless-steel flask looks quite ordinary on its own, but its secret lies in the packaging: a bible-style book with pages full of cut-outs designed to snugly store the flask. The book is hardback to provide a sturdier box for its valuable payload, complete with an elastic strap to ensure the box stays closed. The separate pages keep it looking realistic from the outside, but the cover design, however, is hardly the most convincing – a blank King James Bible might draw less attention than a garish design literally bearing the words 'The Good Book'. The aesthetic seems very much in line with the gag gift it's meant to be, so you can always fill the flask inside with the real gift – a drop of one of your truly special drams.

THE PADDLE BRUSH



Mid-festival maintenance: Keeping barnets tidy long after the whisky has gone

The [Bev-Brush Paddle Brush Flask](#) makes for a functional tool as well as a receptacle for your secret stash of whisky. Its 170.5ml capacity is concealed in a hollow inside a soft rubber-bristled hairbrush with a mirror on one side.

The advantage of the Paddle Brush Flask is that once the booze has run dry, it's still got its uses. The slightly smaller flask size means you're getting less bang for your buck than some of the other items on the list, but the idea of bringing one of your favourite drams to a festival is predicated on the idea that you're drinking less, but better.

GLENLIVET ENIGMA POSES PUZZLE FOR DRINKERS

26 June 2019 by [Becky Paskin](#)

The Glenlivet is launching a fourth edition in its mystery series of whiskies, released without any information aside from its abv.



Mystery malt: The contents of The Glenlivet Enigma are being kept secret, for now

The Glenlivet Enigma is a single malt Scotch whisky presented in a matte black bottle at 46% abv.

All other information is kept a secret, however buyers can 'unlock' tasting cues by solving a [digital crossword puzzle](#).

Completion of the puzzle will also reward buyers with discounted delivery on their next purchase from [reservebar.com](#).

The Glenlivet Enigma is the fourth expression in the Speyside distillery's mystery series.

The first, Alpha, was revealed in 2013, and followed by [Cipher](#) in 2016 and [Code](#) in 2018. The Glenlivet Enigma will be a US exclusive, available to purchase from 10 July for US\$149. 'The [Glenlivet](#) mystery series is an opportunity for the franchise to push the boundaries around product innovation, design and storytelling,' said Sona Bajaria, vice president of marketing, The Glenlivet, Pernod Ricard USA. 'By challenging consumers to guess the mystery liquid's taste, feel and finish – and then put that to the test with an interactive digital crossword puzzle – Enigma offers a vehicle for us to engage with a variety of consumers in a way that's reimagining Scotch whisky tropes.' More information about The Glenlivet Enigma's tasting notes, distilling and ageing processes will be revealed at the end of 2019.

SCOTCH WHISKY TOURISM AT ALL-TIME HIGH

21 June 2019 by [Becky Paskin](#)

Scotch whisky tourism has hit an all-time high as distilleries welcomed over two million visits from tourists for the first time.



Tourist magnets: Scotland's whisky distilleries have become major visitor attractions

'Growing curiosity' about Scotch whisky, combined with a general growth in Scottish tourism, led to 2.05m visits to distilleries in 2018 – an increase of 6.1% on the previous year.

An additional 115,000 visits were made to Scotch distilleries during the year, with tourists spending an extra £7.43m compared to 2017.

The majority of Scotch whisky tourists hailed from the US and Germany, with an increasing number of trips made by visitors from France, Spain, the Netherlands, India and China.

The annual survey, compiled by the Scotch Whisky Association (SWA), revealed that since 2010, distillery visits have increased by 56%.

Karen Betts, SWA chief executive, said: 'The growing number of visitors to distilleries reflects in part the growth in tourism in Scotland in general, and people coming to Scotland want to see our local crafts and sample our local food and drink.

'But it also reflects a growing curiosity about Scotch whisky. Today's consumers want to understand and experience how their favourite blends and malts are made, to meet the people who make them, and to see which part of Scotland's beautiful landscape they call home.'

'Distilleries offer something of an antidote to today's fast-paced world, where visitors can see the slow, careful craft, rooted in a distinct sense of place, that creates Scotch whisky.'

She added that the popularity of distillery visits has also had a knock-on beneficial effect for Scotland's rural businesses.

'The growth in whisky tourism is also playing a crucial role in Scotland's rural economy, with more stays at hotels, more bookings at restaurants, and more customers for local businesses, helping communities to grow and prosper,' she said.



Whisky attraction: The new Johnnie Walker Experience is expected to boost tourist spend in Edinburgh by around £135m

According to a survey by the Association of Leading Visitor Attractions, Scotch whisky distilleries are collectively the third most-visited attraction in Scotland behind the National Museum of Scotland and Edinburgh Castle.

From a UK-wide perspective, there were more visits to Scottish distilleries in 2018 than to St Paul's Cathedral, Stonehenge or Westminster Abbey.

Fiona Hyslop MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs, said the level of investment from the Scotch industry to grow whisky tourism is helping to boost the Scottish economy.

She said: 'Tourism is one of our key sectors and the spending and jobs associated with visitor centres and distilleries boost our economy, especially in more remote, rural areas.

'With investment across Scotland, from major firms such as Diageo in the [new Johnnie Walker experience](#) in Edinburgh, to [Rosebank](#) in Falkirk and [Brora](#) in the Highlands, it's a really exciting time for the whisky tourism sector.

'The Scottish Government is committed to working with partners like the Scotch Whisky Association to increase our tourism offer and encourage more people to visit our distilleries.'

Scotland is currently home to [over 130 operational malt and grain distilleries](#), many of which have a visitor centre and offer tours.

Many new distilleries are building visitor attractions [at the heart of their operation](#), while a growing number are now also collaborating to [create whisky trails](#), making it easier for tourists to visit a number of distilleries within a small region.

Jack Daniel's adds beer barrel-finished whiskey to Tasters' line

15th July, 2019 by Nicola Carruthers

Jack Daniel's has extended its Tennessee Tasters' Selection experimental whiskey range with the launch of two expressions: Barrel Proof Rye and Reunion Barrel #2.

Barrel Proof Rye has a 70% rye grain bill
Brown-Forman-owned Jack Daniel's [released the limited edition](#)

[range](#) in October last year, which debuted with three expressions. The latest additions to the range are Barrel

Proof Rye, which is available to buy now, and Reunion Barrel #2, which will be released this autumn.



Like the rest of the range, each release is expected to yield approximately 24,000 bottles followed by another limited release every few months.

Barrel Proof Rye is a 127.6 proof (63.8% abv) whiskey which is said to be "reflective of the taste and quality of Jack Daniel's Tennessee Rye". It has a 70% rye grain bill, along with "complex fruity flavours and toasted oak notes".

Meanwhile, Reunion Barrel #2 is described as "thick with vanilla and oak notes". It has been finished in oatmeal stout beer barrels that provide a "creamy texture with hints of oats, coffee and chocolate-covered cherries".

"Our master tasters continue to amaze us throughout this series, and both Barrel Proof Rye and Reunion Barrel #2 are outstanding examples of that," said master distiller Jeff Arnett.

"We're thrilled to release the first rye whiskey in this series through Barrel Proof Rye, which is sure to be a fan favourite for anyone who enjoys our Tennessee Rye.

"We can't wait for the fall release of Reunion Barrel #2, as the beer barrel finish is a new experiment that we can't wait to share as a limited release."

The new bottlings are exclusively available from the Jack Daniel's Distillery and select stores across Tennessee. Barrel Proof Rye and Reunion Barrel #2 are both priced at US\$39.99 per 375ml bottle. The 375ml format reflects sample bottles used daily by the distillery's master tasters and include a customised label, distillery name embossment on the front, and 'Taster Sampler Bottle' mark on the back.

Membership and Dinner prices for 2019-2020

Membership Fee:	\$50 (singles) \$75 (couples)
One Time Initiation Fee:	\$15
Standard Dinner Fee:	\$70 (member) \$80 (non-member)
Christmas Dinner Fee:	\$75 (member) \$75 (non-member)
Robbie Burns Dinner Fee:	\$75 (member) \$85 (non-member)
June BBQ Dinner Fee:	\$80 (member) \$80 (non-member)

Reservation policy

- The agreement with the Kitchen's requires that we provide seven (7) business days notice for them to guarantee accommodation for our requested numbers. To accommodate the Kitchen's needs and meet our contractual obligation with them; our members are requested to respond to the emailed invitation seven (7) business days prior to the respective dinner to guarantee a seat at the dinner. Following the RSVP date members will be placed on a waitlist.
- For these individuals the process will be as follows, using the Monday September 23rd, 2019 dinner date as an example:
- Dinner invitations will be sent out Friday August 23rd, 2019. Please respond to me (rdifazio04@gmail.com). I will then acknowledge that you have a seat. Please understand that if you do not receive a response you are not guaranteed a seat at the respective dinner. In such circumstances (e.g., computer glitches) please e-mail me again or call me (613-532-5285).
- Unless otherwise stated accommodation at the dinner will be guaranteed for all members who respond by Friday September 6th, 2019 @ 6pm.
- Once the RSVP date has been achieved I will e-mail a spreadsheet informing everyone of their status and amount due.

Cancellation policy

- Using the same example as above, anyone who cancels anytime prior to Friday September 6th, 2019 @ 6pm will be removed from the list.
- Anyone canceling between Friday September 6th, 2019 @ 6pm and Monday September 23rd, 2019 will be expected to pay for the cost of the dinner and scotch (\$70). It is the responsibility of the member who cancels their (or their guest's) reservation to find a replacement. If I am

asked to find a substitute and one is found, then the member will be asked to pay for 50% of their dinner cost.

- Anyone who fails to attend the Monday September 23rd, 2019 dinner without having cancelled and been successfully replaced will be expected to pay the full cost (\$70). A member will be responsible for their guest's cancellation (\$80).

- If a member asks to be included at the dinner between Friday September 6th, 2019 @ 6pm and Monday September 23rd, 2019, their name will be placed on a wait-list and be accommodated on a first-come first-serve basis.

Reserved Seating

- Reserved Seating will only be considered if it is a group consisting of a single member plus 3+ guests or a couple member plus 2+ guests.

Perfume / Cologne and Whisky

- Our enjoyment of fine whisky at KSMS starts with a nosing - for many a definitive and delicate moment in their relationship with a new dram. The power of aroma is unquestionable. From defining life experiences to the recall of special memories, the sense of smell is as individual as a fingerprint and has the ability to evoke some of the most precious, rewarding and distinctive moments. Unfortunately strong perfumes can mask and distort other aromas and smells and interfere with the ability to register and recognize subtler fragrances.
- To be fair to all we ask all our members to please refrain from wearing scented products and perfumes to our KSMS evenings.

Dinner Payments

- Please consider sending your payment by e-transfer prior to the dinner. The password will be "KSMS", to whatever your security question is. Receiving payment in advance will allow everyone the opportunity to socialize before the dinner as well as reduce the accounting work required after.
- For e-transfers, Members are responsible for collecting from their guests, and then forwarding one payment in total by e-transfer.

Just a note because we care.

Please understand that for the purpose of each event you are advised to drink responsibly and refrain from excessive consumption. The dinners hosted by the Kingston Single Malt Society are sampling events. By agreeing to pay and thereby attend the dinner you agree to release from legal responsibility and hold harmless Kingston Single Malt Society, its President Roberto Di Fazio, and any other volunteers from liability or claims arising from these events.



Kingston Single Malt Society

Roberto Di Fazio, President

827 Old Colony Road

Kingston, Ontario, K7P 1S1, Canada

613-532-5285

rdifazio04@gmail.com

<http://www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.com>

