

Kingston Single Malt Society

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A social club for the appreciation of Single Malt Whisky since 1998

November 15th, 2021 VOLUME 15; NUMBER 5a; No. 184



GLENDRONACH 2009 CASK #2039; AGED 11 YEARS BATCH 18; PEDRO XIMÉNEZ PUNCHEON LCBO 102230 | 700 mL bottle Price: \$231.95 Spirits, Scotch Whisky 59.3% Alcohol/Vol.

BENRIACH THE SMOKY TEN 10 YEARS OLD VINTAGES 839933 | 750 mL bottle Price: \$129.95 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Single Malt Scotch 46.0% Alcohol/Vol.

BENRIACH 12 YEARS OLD VINTAGES 839932 | 750 mL bottle Price: \$139.95 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Single Malt Scotch 46.0% Alcohol/Vol.

GLENGLASSAUGH 11 YEAR OLD MADEIRA RARE CASK-COASTAL SERIES RELEASE; 11 YEARS OLD; CASK TYPE: MADEIRA PUNCHEON; SPIRIT TYPE: Classic Unpeated; CASK No.: R11-008-1; BOTTLE# 14/382; DISTILLED 19/05/2009; BOTTLED 2020 VINTAGES 290627 | 700 mL bottle Price: \$225.95 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Single Malt Scotch 54.7% Alcohol/Vol.

GLENGLASSAUGH OCTAVES PEATED VINTAGES 290627 | 700 mL bottle Price: \$139.95 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Single Malt Scotch 44.0% Alcohol/Vol.

ESTABLISHED 1898
THE BenRiach
HEART OF SPEYSIDE
SINGLE MALT
SCOTCH WHISKY



GLENGLASSAUGH
HIGHLAND SINGLE MALT
SCOTCH WHISKY

The
GLENDRONACH DISTILLERY
C^o LIMITED
SINCE 1826 SINCE



Upcoming Dinner Dates

Monday December 6th 2021 - Christmas Dinner
Monday December 13th 2021 - Christmas Dinner
Monday January 24th 2022 - Robbie Burns Dinner
Monday January 31st 2022 - Robbie Burns Dinner
Monday February 28th 2022 - Islands / Islay
Monday March 14th 2022 - Irish / Lowland / Highland
Monday April 11th 2022 - Bunnahabhain Dinner
Monday May 30th 2022 - Campbeltown / Highlands
Monday June 20th 2022 - June BBQ - Cigar Malts & Sherry
Monday July 25th 2022 - Speyside / Highlands
Friday August 26th, 2022 - 15th Annual Premium Night
Monday September 19th, 2022 - Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside / Highlands / Islands / Islay
Monday October 17th, 2022 -
Monday November 14th, 2022 -
Monday December 12th 2022 - Christmas Dinner

MENU

First course: Baby Kale with Sweet Potato, Dried Cranberries, Chèvre and a Maple Dijon Dressing

1st Nosing: GLENDRONACH 2008

2nd Nosing: GLENDRONACH 2009

Second Course: Moroccan Chickpea Soup

3rd Nosing: BENRIACH 12 YEARS OLD

4th Nosing: BENRIACH THE SMOKEY TEN 10 YEARS OLD

Third course: Bison Bourguignon with Jasmine Rice Pilaf

5th Nosing: GLENGLASSAUGH 11 YO MADEIRA RARE CASK

Fourth course: Cashew marshmallow pie

6th Nosing: GLENGLASSAUGH OCTAVES PEATED

COST OF THE MALTS

GLENDRONACH 2008 CASK #8558; AGED 12 YEARS BATCH 18; PEDRO XIMÉNEZ PUNCHEON LCBO 102230 | 700 mL bottle Price: \$259.95 Spirits, Scotch Whisky 59.4% Alcohol/Vol.

OCTOBER - KSMS Financial Statement

(Money from 46 September attendees @ \$90)	= \$4140.00
September dinner 44 persons	= \$2683.03
Money remaining for buying Single Malt)	= \$1456.97
Cost of Single Malts	= \$1067.70
Cost of Pours per Person = \$26.69	
Money for Heels	= \$100.00
KSMS Monthly operational balance	= \$489.27
Cost per person (All inclusive)	= \$81.54

The Macallan's 'A Night On Earth In Scotland' Whisky Celebrates Hogmanay

By [Gary Carter](#) / October 15, 2021

[The Macallan](#) recently unveiled "A Night On Earth In Scotland," a single malt whisky that tells the tale of Scotland's Hogmanay festivities and looks to capture the joy of celebrating the change of year. The first in a new limited edition gifting series, [A Night On Earth In Scotland](#) is a collaboration with Japanese-French illustrator Erica Dorn, who previously created designs for some of the world's leading luxury brands and whose artwork has been featured in director Wes Anderson's films.

Presented as part of multi-layered packaging, Dorn's abstract illustrations are said to be inspired by the historic fire rituals dominant in New Year celebrations around the world.



The Macallan A Night On Earth In Scotland (image via The Macallan)
The artwork on the packaging also reveals some of the distinctive customs of Scotland's Hogmanay, including the tradition of first footing, when it's considered good luck for a dark-haired visitor to be the first person to enter a home after midnight, bearing symbolic gifts – whisky, coal and Scottish shortbread – that aim to bring comfort and happiness in the year ahead.
“Fire plays a significant role in New Year celebrations around the world. Around its warmth we gather our families, friends, and loved ones to share past memories and future hopes,” Dorn said in a prepared statement. “Through its purifying qualities we release the past to clear the way for the future. In its dancing light we find solace from cold winter nights, as we have done since the dawn of time.”
Though the fire rituals may differ from culture to culture, Dorn said fire is universal in its ability to unite and bring people home.

“The colors for this presentation box were selected with a particular journey in mind: first, red for merriment, vitality, good fortune and joy; blue to remind us of a winter evening in Scotland, in all its peace and stillness; and finally, amber – in tribute to the sweet aroma of soft butter and freshly baked shortbread, which were an inspiration for Sarah Burgess in the creation of this whisky,” she explained. Other design elements focus on the flavors found within the whisky crafted by The Macallan Lead Whisky Maker Sarah Burgess, who drew on family memories of Hogmanay to create a this expression.
“Crafting A Night On Earth In Scotland has been an extremely personal experience for me, which took me back to growing up in our family home in Speyside, just across the river from The Macallan Estate,” Burgess said. “The whisky’s vanilla sweetness references the rich Scottish shortbread traditionally gifted and eaten at Hogmanay, while notes of dried orange and spice recall the flavors and aromas that filled our house through the festive season. Encapsulating the hopes and dreams of Hogmanay celebrations past, present and future, it also conveys the unwavering human desire to spend special times with loved ones.”

This single malt was created from a selection of The Macallan's sherry-seasoned American and European oak casks, along with American ex-bourbon barrels. A Night On Earth In Scotland is available globally for a suggested retail price of \$90.

Official tasting notes are below.

- **Aroma:** Vanilla, butter rich, baked apple, baking biscuits, plum and almond.

- **Taste:** Soft, velvety sweetness reminiscent of shortbread with that rich mouth coating, vanilla sweetness, with lightly toasted marshmallow, dried oranges, fig and cinnamon.
- **Finish:** Medium finish with sweet butterscotch and freshly baked biscuits.
- **ABV:** 40%

The GlenAllachie Distillery Launches Three Wood Finish Whiskies

By [Allyson Nichols](#) / October 17, 2021

[The GlenAllachie Distillery](#) in Scotland recently launched three new single malt bottlings to add to its [Wood Finish range](#). The new limited release Speyside Scotch whiskies include an [11-year-old Pedro Ximénez Wood Finish](#) (48% ABV), a [12-year-old Ruby Port Wood Finish](#) (48% ABV) and a [13-year-old Madeira Wood Finish](#) (48% ABV). Each is presented at natural color and non chill filtered. The 11-year-old Pedro Ximénez Wood Finish (£59.99, \$81.26) was initially matured in American oak barrels for over nine years. The additional period of maturation in richly seasoned dessert sherry puncheons results in a sweeter, fruitier flavor experience, according to official tasting notes.



The GlenAllachie Wood Finishes Batch 3 (image via The GlenAllachie)
The 12-year-old Ruby Port Wood Finish (£62.99, \$85.32) spent over ten years in American oak casks, before spending secondary maturation in pipe casks which were previously used to age fortified wine from Portugal. The wood has added a depth of spicy ginger, damson jam and grape must.

The 13-year-old Madeira Wood Finish (£67.99, \$92.09 USD) was re-racked from American oak barrels into casks that previously held wine made from Malvasia grapes and contains tons of juicy pineapple, sugared almonds and stone fruits.

Each whisky was curated by Master Distiller Billy Walker, renowned for [his approach to wood management](#) and seeking out the world's finest casks, carefully monitoring the spirit development within each cask housed at the distillery's 16 on-site warehouses.

“From the very outset of my days at GlenAllachie, I aimed to build a deep-rooted understanding of the spirit and how it interfaces with different wood types. This knowledge has allowed for increasing levels of innovation as the months and years have passed,” Walker said in a prepared statement. “The third batch of Wood Finishes are a fantastic representation of this innovation. We are delighted with the three very special single malts we have created, each bringing its own unique flavor experience.”

Batch 3 of The GlenAllachie Wood Finish range is available from global specialist retailers.

Glen Moray Unwraps 1998 Barolo Finish As Second 'Warehouse 1' Whisky For 2021

By [Gary Carter](#) / October 18, 2021

The Scotch whisky distillery [Glen Moray](#) recently revealed another gem for whisky lovers ... the 1998 Barolo Finish, the second of three whiskies from the Warehouse 1 Collection scheduled for 2021. Distilled in 1998, this dram was tucked away in the Elgin distillery's famed warehouse to mature in ex-bourbon casks, before being transferred to three ex-Barolo casks for a final finish.

The distillers note that this expression marries Glen Moray's traditional sweet toffee and blackcurrant notes with hints of wood, leather, chocolate caramels and dark autumnal fruits, followed by a warming honey finish.



Glen Moray Warehouse 1 1998 Barolo Finish (image via Glen Moray)

Exactly 863 bottles are being released exclusively to the UK market, as part of Glen Moray's experimental approach to small batch whiskies bottled under the Warehouse 1 banner.

Barolo Finish is the oldest release from the collection to date and is the second of three launches scheduled this year ... following this summer's Tokaji Finish release. This year's Warehouse 1 whiskies all share a common theme, celebrating what's described as Glen Moray's Speyside spirit matured in casks sourced from some of Europe's oldest and most distinct flavored wine varieties.

Barolo, a prominent Italian red wine, is produced in the Piedmont region from Nebbiolo grapes, which are high in tannin and acid. Rich and full bodied, wine will have spent at least 18 months in the barrels used for final maturation of the Barolo Finish whisky expression.

Glen Moray Distillery Manager Iain Allan said [in a prepared statement](#),

"Once again, our distillery team has bottled an absolute gem from Warehouse 1, their special place for experimentation, innovation and patience – time, as always, being one of the most important ingredients in creating our whiskies."

He said their team searches the world for interesting and unusual casks, and they're not afraid to use them to push the boundaries of flavor.

Launched in late 2020 with the inaugural Sauternes Cask Matured expression, Glen Moray's Warehouse 1 Collection features small batch, limited release whiskies that are non-chill filtered and bottled at cask strength with natural color.

Crafted since 1897 in the Scottish town of Elgin, the capital of the Speyside whisky region, Glen Moray distillers are said to have been curious about the varied flavors of whisky throughout their history. Surviving ledgers show that a wide variety of casks were used to mature new-make spirit back in those early days, which was an unusual practice for the time.

Glen Moray Warehouse 1 1998 Barolo Finish is bottled at cask strength, 105.9 proof. It's a UK exclusive, available in 70cl packs in specialist whisky shops for the suggested retail price of £139.95.

Official tasting notes for the Glen Moray Warehouse 1 1998 Barolo Finish are below.

- **Nose:** a combination of sweet toffee and floral rose fading to a decadent aroma of caramel chocolates.
- **Taste:** after an initial hit of tannic intensity, leather and wood combine to create a whisky of stature. Then, the sweeter elements begin to shine, with toffee-drizzled figs, dark plums and blackberries drizzled with cream.
- **Finish:** pure runny honey: gentle, sweet and lingering.

Bowmore unveils mythical whisky series

19 OCTOBER 2021 By [Alice Brooker](#)

Islay Scotch whisky Bowmore has partnered with graphic artist Frank Quitely to kick-off its whisky series, launching with a 23- and 32-year-old expression.



Both bottlings are available in select global travel retail outlets. The new series, named Bowmore No Corners to Hide, is limited edition range that takes inspiration from an ancient Islay myth.

Graphic artist Frank Quitely, who has illustrated for Marvel and DC comics, has worked with Bowmore's master blender Ron Welsh to bottle the first two bespoke whiskies in the range: a 23-year-old and a 32-year-old single malt.

Frank Quitely, acclaimed contemporary illustrator, said: "To get the call from Bowmore, a legendary icon in the world of whisky, offering me the opportunity of retelling the Islay Legend No Corners to Hide was hugely exciting.

"And to do this in a single image would prove massively challenging, but taking inspiration in the devil himself – it's all in the detail."

Bowmore distillery has been based in Islay for 240 years. The ancient myth, which inspired the whiskies, tells of a church with no corners, built by the people on the island in 1767, as rounded walls were believed to keep the devil out. As the devil revealed itself in the walls of the church anyway, the people of Islay chased the devil out into Bowmore distillery. It is then presumed the devil hid inside a whisky cask.

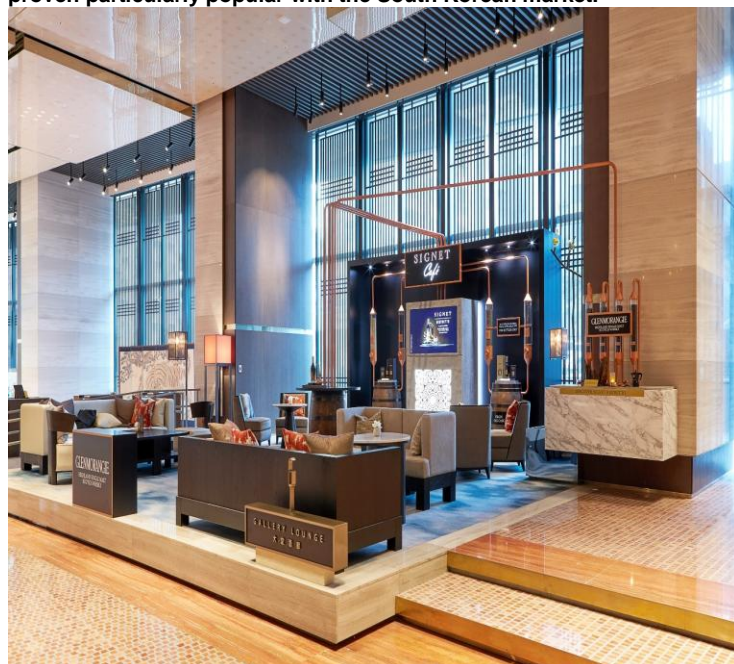
The collection has been created to celebrate Islay and the heritage of its people.

Manuel González, marketing director global travel retail for Beam Suntory, said: "Bowmore has a rich history filled with myths and

legends, and we're delighted to partner with the award winning Frank Quitely to bring these tales to life. "Possessing a proven track record of producing collectible artwork with both Marvel and DC, the Frank Quitely Collection is our latest exciting collaboration to offer luxury limited editions to our customers." The 23-year-old was matured in ex-Bourbon American oak hogsheads, followed by two years spent in Essencia barriques. The resulting liquid presents floral and spicy notes on the nose, along with the fragrance of sweet peas. The palate contains sweet flavours of golden syrup, acacia honey and marzipan, while the finish is described as creamy yet lightly salty. Bottled at 51.5% ABV, the Scotch retails for RRP US\$400. Meanwhile, the 32-year-old saw a similar crafting process, but spent a lengthy 30 years in ex-Bourbon American oak hogsheads, with two years of further maturation in Essencia barriques. On the nose, the 32-year-old presents aromas of orange peel, Manuka honey and salted caramel. On the palate, the liquid boasts a touch of liquorice and fresh tobacco, followed by a subtle smoke finish. The bottle can be purchased for RRP US\$2,995. Ron Welsh, master blender, said: "Much like the devil, both aged spirits took their own particularly unusual defining journey in Essencia barriques, a peculiarly rare 'rose oak' dating back to the 1830s. "The tasting notes reflect the notes from the story and in each sip transports you to that cold winter's night." The brand has released a video documenting the myth, referencing the two inspired whiskies produced as a result of the tale. The spot ends with the tagline 'no corners to hide', reminding the viewers of both the Islay myth and reinforcing the brand's new single malt collection launch. The bottles are available in select global travel retail outlets including Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Vienna, Dubai, Singapore and Taiwan. The 23-year-old and 32-year-old are the first releases in the Bowmore and Frank Quitely collaboration, which will see a number of launches inspired by stories from Bowmore's historic past.



A rare travel retail exclusive: Only 1,500 bottles of Glenmorangie Signet Ristretto have been made. Single malt Scotch whisky brand Glenmorangie this month released its new chocolate and coffee-inspired Glenmorangie Signet Ristretto expression exclusively to South Korean travel retail. The travel retail exclusive expression is limited to 1,500 bottles. It is available in downtown duty free and airport stores, including dedicated Signet flagship boutiques with Shinsegae Duty Free and Lotte Duty Free at Incheon International Airport and the JDC duty free shop in Jeju International Airport. The Glenmorangie Signet Ristretto (RRPUS\$399) is a reinterpretation of the brand's 175-year whisky-making heritage and combines spiralling coffee and dark chocolate flavours. It was developed by Director of Whisky Creation Dr. Bill Lumsden who wanted to double-down on the intensity of the mocha flavours from his award-winning Glenmorangie Signet (US\$177), a whisky that has proven particularly popular with the South Korean market.



The Signet Café pop-up features a paired cocktail and dessert menu and online game. It also features a dedicated [website](#) where guests can pre-order their Glenmorangie Signet or Signet Ristretto bottles pre-flight.

Glenmorangie launches limited edition Signet Ristretto exclusively to Korean travel retail

by [Hannah Tan-Gillieshannah@moodiedavittreport.com](mailto:Hannah.Tan-Gillieshannah@moodiedavittreport.com)

Source: ©The Moodie Davitt Report 5 August 2021



The Signet Café transports visitors from Jeju island to the Glenmorangie distillery in the Scottish Highlands, immersing guests in the world of Glenmorangie Signet Ristretto

To celebrate the launch, the brand is hosting a special Signet Café pop-up at the Gallery Lounge in the Grand Hyatt Jeju from 1 to 31 August. The pop-up immerses guests into the world of Glenmorangie and invites them to experience the Signet and Signet Ristretto expressions. The activation's design takes inspiration from Glenmorangie's whisky distillery in the Scottish Highlands and features oak casks, copper piping, and a coffee roastery complete with coffee bean silos. Here, guests can learn more about the story of Signet, discover its high roasted chocolate malt and taste the expression through a paired cocktails and dessert menu. The special menu comprises two signature cocktails developed by Grand Hyatt Jeju gastro-mixologists Larry Kang and David You and Executive Pastry Chef Philippe Daue. In addition, hotel guests staying in the Grand Hyatt Jeju's suites can exclusively enjoy a complimentary tasting of Glenmorangie Signet Ristretto.



The menu balances the rich coffee and chocolate flavours of the expression with a selection of pastries and cakes. As an added digital element, Glenmorangie has launched 'The Master Distiller' online game which visitors can access at the Signet Café dedicated [website](#). The game will run from 18 August to 30 September. Players who share the game with their friends will receive extra bonus points and the participant with the highest score wins a bottle of Glenmorangie Signet. Customers can also pre-order the Glenmorangie Signet or Signet Ristretto expressions on the website and collect their purchases at the airport. From 1 August to 30 September, visitors are encouraged to share their favourite way to enjoy Glenmorangie Signet on social media with the hashtag #글렌모렌지시그넷 or #glenmorangiesignet. Ten winners will be selected through a lucky draw and each winner will receive a bottle of Glenmorangie Signet.



Double down on flavour: Signet Ristretto is made with a single chocolate malt and offers more intense and dark chocolate notes compared to the original Glenmorangie Signet. The Glenmorangie Signet Ristretto is described as a full-bodied whisky that offers deep undercurrents of coffee and waves of extra dark chocolate. It was developed using a small batch of chocolate malt spirit, which is made just once a year at the Glenmorangie distillery and aged in virgin toasted oak casks. The liquid offers simmering coffee notes and hints of leather. "With powerful espresso notes colliding with waves of dark chocolate and teasing hints of leather, Glenmorangie Signet Ristretto deliciously doubles down on our original Signet's spiralling mocha tastes," commented Lumsden. "The award-winning whisky is a favourite in Asia — particularly in South Korea. I'm thrilled to share this wonderful exclusive release with travellers in South Korea."



The original Signet blend was developed by marrying different casks while Glenmorangie Signet Ristretto was made from only one chocolate malt

Macallan 1989 cask goes on sale

20 OCTOBER 2021 By Alice Brooker

A cask containing a 32-year-old Macallan whisky is expected to fetch up to £225,000 (US\$309,576) during an online auction this month.



The Macallan cask was sold as part of Bonhams Hong Kong's Fine and Rare Whisky auction

Auction Your Cask, described as the only live, online auction site dedicated to cask whisky, has kicked off a bidding battle with an 'ultra-rare' Macallan 1989.

The sale went live on 18 October, and will run until 27 October. Hosted by Cask Trade, The Macallan is the headline lot for the auction.

The whisky was distilled in December 1989, and is a 32-year-old cask resting at 46.7% ABV.

The barrel contains approximately 128 bottles, and is expected to fetch £175,000-£225,000 (US\$240,764-US\$309,576).

The managing director of Cask Trade, Simon Aron, said: "This is an exceptional auction and we are proud to have some extraordinary casks including The Macallan 1989 alongside a rare Springbank.

Also featured at the auction will be a 26-year-old Springbank cask, which was distilled in 1995. A 12-year-old GlenAllachie Sherry Hogshead will also be available, as well as a 2009 Macduff Hogshead whisky.

On 20 August this year, a [Macallan 1991 cask was sold at Bonhams](#) in Hong Kong for a record HK\$4,464,000 (US\$574,126).

To sign up to bid in the live auction, consumers must register at www.auctionyourcask.com/members/login.

Octomore: Exploring Scotch Whisky's Ultra-Peated Star

OCTOBER 11, 2021 | [DAVID FLEMING](#)



Octomore 12, the latest edition in Bruichladdich Distillery's heavily peated whisky series, has three expressions. Unusually, this year all of them will be available in the U.S.

This month marks the annual arrival of Octomore, the super-peated scotch whisky from Islay distiller [Bruichladdich](#). Octomore's 12th edition has three different expressions—12.1, 12.2, and 12.3. Three iterations within each release is the norm for Octomore, although some years have seen a fourth expression added as well. What is unusual this year is that all three 12th edition whiskies are being sold in the U.S. Normally the .2 is available in Travel Retail only, but this year Octomore fans stateside stand a far better chance of acquiring the full set.

What makes Octomore so special? For the uninitiated, a quick primer: When Bruichladdich Distillery restarted production back in 2001 after being shuttered since the mid-'90s, the non-peated Bruichladdich label was the only product. But there was a desire to make a peated whisky too, in order to mark the newly reopened distillery's Islay identity.

Thus [Port Charlotte](#) was born. From there the inspiration flowed, and a plan emerged to create the world's most heavily peated whisky—Octomore, named for a lost distillery just down the road, and also sharing the name with nearby Octomore Farm.

Bruichladdich commissioned its malt supplier (Bairds Malt of Inverness) to deliver the most peated malt it could make. The results were astounding. Peat-fired barley contains phenols, which impart smoky flavors to a whisky and are [measured in parts per million](#) (ppm). The normal phenol level for most Islay whiskies is around 40 ppm—Port Charlotte's level, for example. The first Octomore, distilled in 2002, was made from peated malt measured at a whopping 131 ppm. Edition 1 of Octomore was released in 2008 to broad acclaim, and the cult of Octomore was born.

The early editions were issued somewhat sporadically, and it is only in recent years that Octomore has become an annual affair. But a key element of Octomore's allure is that each edition is different from the last. It is whisky's ultimate anti-brand—an expression that does not seek precision-calibrated sameness, but instead creates something slightly different each year. That is at least partly due to the nature of peated malt production itself. For normal peated whiskies, the first run in the peating process, which is the most potent, is blended with less peated malt to create a standard consistency. But Octomore uses only that first batch, which is never uniform.

"You can't really control things to get a specific ppm, because Octomore uses the uncut stuff," notes [Adam Hannett](#), Bruichladdich's head distiller. "It's always at least 80 ppm, but it could be 100 or 300, and then back to 100 the following year. While Port Charlotte is all about consistency—always at 40 ppm—Octomore is about pushing the boundaries."

With such imposing peat credentials, Octomore casts an alluring, yet almost intimidating figure across the whisky world. Even its name vaguely evokes some frightful persona from a [James Bond film](#). But Octomore is no bruising heavyweight—it possesses all the subtlety and refinement of Bruichladdich's other expressions. The smoke notes are also less charcoal-like than some other Islay single malts, leaning more toward mellow woodfire. Despite all the hype surrounding the peat and smoke, the purity of the spirit remains Octomore's signature.

THE OCTOMORE 12 RELEASES

Here is a brief snapshot of this year's Octomore expressions, which are releasing this month. These whiskies will be scored and reviewed in our Winter issue's Buying Guide.



Octomore 12.1
Age: 5 year old
Cask: Bourbon
Grain: 100% Scottish concerto barley
ABV: 59.9%
Peat level: 130.8 ppm
Price: \$199
Availability: Around 30,000 bottles

The .1 expressions of Octomore are always matured in bourbon casks, and play the role of the core expression within each edition, from which the others in the group branch outward. This one was aged 5 years in first-fill bourbon casks. While Bruichladdich probably experiments with more cask types than any other Islay distillery, its spirit is best suited for bourbon casks, which allow the spirit's refinement to emerge and bring forth notes of soft vanilla, caramel, toffee, lemon, honey, and spice.



Octomore 12.2
Age: 5 year old
Casks: 50-50 first and second-fill American whiskey casks, vatted together and finished in first-fill sauternes wine casks
Grain: 100% Scottish concerto barley
ABV: 57.3%
Peat level: 129.7 ppm
Price: \$234
Availability: Around 8,000 bottles

The .2 always focuses on cask exploration. For this one, half the liquid was aged in first-fill bourbon casks and half in second fill, and then in

2019 they were combined and refilled into sauternes casks to rest for 18 to 24 months. The sauternes casks leave a golden hue, provide subtle restraint to the smoke, and lend succulence to the whisky. Their influence coaxes out notes of melon, honey, and vanilla cookies, along with toasty hints of pain grillé. This is Octomore's first sauternes cask-finished expression since Edition 4, when Octomore 4.2 (also known as Comus) achieved major cult status. As noted, this year's .2 will be available in the U.S. for the first time since Octomore Edition 4.



Octomore 12.3
Age: 5 year old
Cask: 75% first-fill American whiskey casks, 25% first-fill PX sherry butts
Grain: 100% Octomore Farm concerto barley
ABV: 62.1%
Peat level: 118.1 ppm
Price: \$259
Availability: Around 18,000 bottles

The 12.3 is made 100% from barley grown on Octomore Farm, located less than two miles from the distillery, where farmer [James Brown](#) has been cultivating barley for Bruichladdich since 2007. This expression was always all about exploring barley types, with the cask maturation kept consistent. But that has changed under Hannett. The 500-liter PX butts are from Jerez-based producer Bodegas Rey Fernando de Castilla, while the American whiskey barrels are from Buffalo Trace, Jack Daniel's, and Clermont Springs. Since Octomore Farm is not far from the sea, some tasters find subtle maritime flavors in the distillate. That's less true with the peat-heavy Octomore than with non-peated Bruichladdich, but some briny, citrusy notes still linger on the nose and palate, while the sherry influence brings out toffee, chocolate, coffee cake, and raisins. The .3 is the highest-ABV expression in Edition 12.



Yamazaki crowned The World's Most Admired Whisky brand 2021

21 October, 2021 - By Shay Waterworth

Suntory's Yamazaki has topped the inaugural edition of *Drinks International's* The World's Most Admired Whiskies which launched on 21 October.

The announcement was made via social media and is the latest version of Drinks International's World's Most Admired series, which already includes Wine and Champagne editions.

The World's Most Admired Whiskies have been chosen by an Academy of independent global drinks buyers, journalists, bartenders and whisky experts from 25 countries.

While Japanese brand Yamazaki came out on top, leading premium Irish whiskey Redbreast took the runners-up spot and Islay Scotch brand Lagavulin completed the podium.

The final list of 50 Most Admired Whiskies are made up of brands from nine different countries and provides valuable insight into which producers are revered the most by the global whisky trade.



Among the list is a mixture of multinational brands owned by the industry's biggest companies as well as young, innovative whiskies which have gained international recognition in recent years.

"Congratulations must go to Yamazaki for being crowned our Most Admired Whisky brand for 2021. It goes to show just how well respected Japanese whisky is within the trade right now," said supplement editor Shay Waterworth.

"Having conducted a lot of background research with brands and independent experts, there was a big appetite from the trade for The World's Most Admired Whiskies and it is a huge achievement to all 50 brands which have made the list."

THE LIST

NO.	BRAND, COUNTRY	NO.	BRAND, COUNTRY
1	YAMAZAKI, JAPAN MOST ADMIRER WORLD WHISKY	26	GLEN SCOTIA, SCOTLAND
2	REDBREAST, IRELAND MOST ADMIRER IRISH WHISKY	27	BLANTON'S, US
3	LAGAVULIN, SCOTLAND MOST ADMIRER SCOTCH WHISKY	28	KYRÖ, FINLAND
4	MICHTER'S, US MOST ADMIRER AMERICAN WHISKY	29	CAOL ILA, SCOTLAND
5	THE BALVENIE, SCOTLAND	30	WATERFORD, IRELAND
6	ARDBEG, SCOTLAND	31	ABERLOUR, SCOTLAND
7	BRUICHLADDICH, SCOTLAND	32	HAKUSHU, JAPAN
8	SPRINGBANK, SCOTLAND	33	YOICHI, JAPAN
9	CHICHIBU, JAPAN	34	TALISKER, SCOTLAND
10	HIBIKI, JAPAN	35	GLENFIDDICH, SCOTLAND
11	BUNNAHABHAIN, SCOTLAND	36	KILCHOMAN, SCOTLAND
12	NIKKA, JAPAN	37	PAUL JOHN, INDIA
13	JOHNNIE WALKER, SCOTLAND	38	AMRUT, INDIA
14	BOWMORE, SCOTLAND	39	ABERFELDY, SCOTLAND
15	THE MACALLAN, SCOTLAND	40	ELIJAH CRAIG, US
16	WOODFORD RESERVE, US	41	GEORGE DICKEL, US
17	TEELING, IRELAND	42	MAKER'S MARK, US
18	FOUR ROSES, US	43	STARWARD, AUSTRALIA
19	LAPHROAIG, SCOTLAND	44	CRAIGELLACHIE, SCOTLAND
20	UNCLE NEAREST, US	45	GEORGE T STAGG, US
21	GLENDONACH, SCOTLAND	46	PENDERYN, WALES
22	COTSWOLDS, ENGLAND	47	COMPASS BOX, SCOTLAND
23	GLENFARCLAS, SCOTLAND	48	GLENROTHES, SCOTLAND
24	KAVAN, TAIWAN	49	AUCHENTOSHAN, SCOTLAND
25	GLENMORANGIE, SCOTLAND	50	JAMESON, IRELAND

Knight Frank Luxury Investment Index Q2 2020*

Price change	12-month	10-year
Furniture	-1%	-26%
Watches	3%	62%
Stamps	6%	64%
Jewellery	-5%	74%
Coloured diamonds	-1%	77%
Handbags	20%	115%
Wine	6%	125%
Art	4%	134%
KFLII	4%	138%
Coins	0%	157%
Cars	4%	212%
Rare whisky	12%	535%

*All data Q2 2020 except art (Q1 2020), coloured diamonds and c

Jack Daniel's named most valuable spirit brand

22 OCTOBER 2021 By Alice Brooker

Brown-Forman-owned Jack Daniel's is the most valuable spirit brand in the world, according to management consulting company Interbrand.



Last year, the whiskey brand ranked 82 in the top 100 *Global Brand* report. In Interbrand's 22nd annual report *Best Global Brand 2021*, Jack Daniel's has ranked 81 out of 100 leading global brands. The report determined ranking according to a brand's 'financial performance, role in purchase decisions, and competitive strength', along with other factors. It also analysed how leading brands navigated a 'rapidly changing business landscape'. Sophia Angelis, senior vice-president, managing director of Jack Daniel's brands, said: "From its humble beginnings back in the late 1800s, Jack Daniel's has steadfastly held to its mantle of craftsmanship, quality, authenticity and an uncompromising free spirit. "Now over 150 years later, our commitment is unchanged, and we'll continue to make every day count while pushing forward with Mr Jack's guiding words, 'every day we make it, we'll make it the best we can'." The whiskey is currently valued at US\$6.537 billion – a 4% year-on-year increase since 2020.

Owner [Brown-Forman grew net sales by 20% in the first quarter of fiscal 2022](#), it was revealed last month.

Interbrand's report saw technology companies Apple and Microsoft rank first and third respectively, while e-commerce company Amazon bagged the second spot this year.

Jack Daniel's also featured in the top 100 in last year's report, securing the position of 82.

The world's biggest Cognac brand, Hennessy, ranked 95 in the top 100 list. The LVMH-owned brand, which is currently valued at US\$5.299bn, dropped four places on the list from 2020.

Recently, LVMH saw [sales for its wine and spirits rise by 30%](#) during the first nine months of 2021, aided by the 'gradual recovery' of tourism.

Yamazaki 55 to debut in GTR

25 OCTOBER 2021 By Alice Brooker

House of Suntory is launching Yamazaki 55, its oldest release to date, in global travel retail (GTR).



Just 100 bottles of Yamazaki 55 will be released to the GTR market. Suntory first unveiled the 55-year-old whisky in June 2020, launching 100 bottles into the Japanese market.

In September this year, the limited edition Yamazaki 55 was [released in markets around the world](#).

Now, it will be sold in GTR in cities across the globe for RRP US\$60,000.

Manuel González, marketing director GTR for Beam Suntory, said: "We are extremely proud to have the opportunity to offer travellers something as unique and exclusive as Yamazaki 55, the oldest aged expression from the House of Suntory.

"This highly limited edition product will be showcased in some of our best House of Suntory locations, and it will be amplified by an integrated activation campaign."

Bottled in 2020 at 46% ABV, the expression was produced in tribute to the legacy of the founding family of Japanese whisky, and celebrates the 'Japanese Shōwa era' of the 1960s, corresponding to a time when emperor Shōwa reigned.

The bottling is a blend of single malts, featuring components distilled in 1960 under the supervision of Suntory's founder Shinjiro Torii. The liquid was then aged in mizunara casks, followed by further maturation in white oak casks in 1964.

Yamazaki 55 was crafted by Suntory's fifth-generation chief blender Shinji Fukuyo, and third-generation master blender Shingo Torii. Fukuyo said: "Throughout the process of blending Yamazaki 55, I used as inspiration the passage of time and 'Wabi-sabi' – the Japanese belief that imperfections can help to ultimately contribute to perfection.

"While I often view other extra aged whiskies as art, I consider Yamazaki 55 to be more like a Buddhist statue: calm and mysterious, requiring time to truly enjoy the inner beauty."

On the nose, the Yamazaki 55 boasts sweet aromas of fruit and sandalwood, while the palate presents both sweet and slightly bitter flavours followed by a woody note from the mizunara cask. The finish is rich and lingering, with a smoky, wood-infused fragrance.

The whisky will be available in GTR in London, UK; Paris, France; Hainan, China; Hong Kong; Taipei, Taiwan; Amsterdam, the Netherlands; Seoul, South Korea; Istanbul, Turkey; Delhi, India; Singapore; and Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Beam Suntory is pledging US\$5,000 to The White Oak Initiative for every bottle released in the 100-bottle collection, amounting to a US\$500,000 donation overall.

The White Oak Initiative is a group of organisations working to ensure the long-term sustainability of America's white oak forests.

In August of last year, a bottle of Yamazaki 55 [set a new record for the most expensive Japanese whisky](#) sold at auction, fetching HK\$6.2 million (US\$795,000) at Bonhams Hong Kong.

The whisky joins Yamazaki's portfolio of whiskies comprising Yamazaki 12, Yamazaki 18 and Yamazaki 25.

Earlier this year, the [recipe for Yamazaki 25 was reformulated](#).



Bunnahabhain aims for net zero with biomass energy centre
Bunnahabhain is on track to become the first whisky distillery on the island of Islay to have a net-zero distillation process with the construction of a new biomass energy centre. The £6.5 million facility, being built behind the existing Bunnahabhain distillery, is set to save 3,500 tonnes of carbon emissions per year. It will be powered by wood chippings from low-value timber felled on Islay and spent malt, supporting the local economy, while ash from the biomass boiler will be repurposed as natural fertiliser for the forests. Julian Patton, supply chain director at Distell International, the owner of Bunnahabhain, said: "This is an exciting new chapter for Bunnahabhain distillery and whisky production on Islay. The Scotch Whisky Association has set a net-zero target of 2040 and a lot of work is underway by our team in pursuit of achieving this goal long before this."

"We're extremely proud not only of the scale of the [biomass energy centre] project, but the entirely locally sourced fuelling system, which supports the island's forests and economy."

Luke Maga, managing director for global travel retail at Distell International, said: "Sustainability has risen rapidly up the global agenda and this is particularly true in travel retail, where consumers are increasingly looking to make informed environmentally friendly purchasing decisions. In a category where differentiation is key, the opportunity to promote Bunnahabhain on the back of such strong sustainability credentials is extremely exciting and gives us a powerful message to take to single malt enthusiasts."

Scheduled to be operational by spring 2022, the biomass energy centre has been funded by AMP Clean Energy, which will own, manage and operate the system.

Richard Burrell, CEO of AMP Clean Energy, said: "The biomass energy centre being developed at Bunnahabhain is a landmark low-carbon project which sets the bar for how manufacturers can reduce their 'scope one' carbon emissions, which will be key to achieving net zero."

26 October 2021 - Bethany Whymark



Suntory and Beam Suntory announced peat conservation plan
Suntory Holdings and Beam Suntory are jointly launching a new peatland water sanctuary initiative as part of a global sustainability commitment.

The Peatland Water Sanctuary scheme, encompassing large-scale peatland restoration and conservation and watershed conservation in Scotland, follows Suntory and Beam Suntory's establishment of natural water sanctuaries in the US and Japan.

Jointly, the companies plan to invest more than \$4 million in the restoration and conservation of 1,300 hectares of peatland by 2030 - enough to produce the same amount of peat that Beam Suntory harvests each year to make its Scotch whiskies (based on an estimated natural accumulation rate of 1mm per year across the restored area).

Suntory and Beam Suntory will also undertake new watershed conservation projects at various locations around Scotland, the first of which is due to begin at the Ardmore distillery in November 2021. At the same time, peatland restoration works are set to commence near the Ardmore distillery, with the initial phase seeing nearly 15 hectares of peatland in the Ardmore Knockandy Hill north slope restored. Initial assessments for new projects are already underway on Islay, where Beam Suntory's Bowmore and Laphroaig distilleries are located, while surveys for watershed activities near its Auchentoshan and Glen Garioch distilleries are also being planned.

This initial restoration project is being undertaken in partnership with the James Hutton Institute, which is assisting with research, planning and execution, and Forestry and Land Scotland, which owns the land. Tak Niinami, CEO of Suntory Holdings, said: "The Peatland Water Sanctuary initiative is inspired by Suntory's Mizu to Ikiru ('Living with Water') promise, which is underpinned by our mission to create harmony with people and nature. We believe that water flowing through the peatlands is suited for whisky production, and by restoring and conserving peatlands, we hope not only to contribute to preserving whisky production as an indispensable part of Scotland's culture, but also fulfil our responsibility as a company that relies on the blessings of nature."

The long-term aim of the Peatland Water Sanctuary initiative is that, by 2040, Suntory and Beam Suntory will have restored sufficient peatlands to equate to twice the volume of peat it harvests annually for its Scotch whiskies. The initiative aligns with the Suntory Group Sustainability Vision and Beam Suntory's Proof Positive sustainability strategy, as well as the Scotch Whisky Association's environmental commitments. David Hunter, chief supply chain officer at Beam Suntory, said: "As part of our Proof Positive sustainability strategy, we believe it's our responsibility to make a positive impact on the environment in which we operate, which is why we are committing to restoring and conserving as much peat as we harvest by 2030, as well as conserving watersheds across Scotland."

Prof Colin Campbell, CEO of the James Hutton Institute, said: "Healthy peatlands help build resilience into our water supplies and restoring them allows nature to recover from the impact of climate

change and promotes long-term carbon sequestration. These natural assets are essential for sustaining one of Scotland's most important industries, and it is truly a pleasure to work with partners who have such a well-developed philosophy around the protection of our natural environment."

Despite the Scotch whisky industry only accounting for 1 per cent of the country's peat use, distilleries and drinks conglomerates including Suntory and Beam Suntory have laid plans to restore the areas from which they harvest their peat as part of broader sustainability commitments.

25 October 2021 - Bethany Whymark

Climate change could 'drastically impact' Scotch production

26 OCTOBER 2021 By Nicola Carruthers

A drop in rain and rising temperatures could 'drastically impact' spring barley production in Scotland, and could cost the Scotch industry up to £27 million (US\$37.2m) annually, a new study has found.



The study said 800,000 tonnes of spring barley are required annually for Scotch production

Highland single malt brand Glengoyne commissioned climate researchers from University College London to pen a new report looking at the impact of global warming on the Scotch industry. The report was commissioned to highlight the need for individuals and companies to come together to combat climate change.

The study noted that 800,000 tonnes of spring barley are required annually for Scotch production, and a reduction in yield could cost the industry up to £27m every year.

With a decline in summer rainfall of up to 18% and a 2.0°C annual rise in temperature expected by 2080, the researchers predict that summer droughts would likely happen more often – every 20 years instead of every 40 years by 2050.

Summer droughts halted production at many distilleries across Islay, Perthshire and Speyside in 2018, the report noted.

Furthermore, the report said climate change in the next 50-100 years could also affect the flavour profile of Scotch whisky.

According to the report, warmer air and water temperatures could result in inefficient cooling in traditional distilleries. This could impact the upkeep of the character, consistency and quality of the liquid.

Barbara Turing, brand manager at Glengoyne, said: "The threat of climate change is very real, and we all have a role to play in combatting its effects. At Glengoyne, we still have so much more to do but we are committed to reducing our own impact on the environment and working with the Scotch Whisky Association to achieve their net zero emission target by 2040.

"We've been on an incredible journey over the last 10 years – finding ways to use water more efficiently, introducing renewable sources of energy and using a local anaerobic digester for 100% of our liquid waste."

New single malt



Glengoyne's Wetlands Single Cask Release

Glengoyne has revealed a new whisky, called The Wetlands Single Cask Release, as part of its collaboration with the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT), which began in 2011.

The single malt marks the 10th anniversary of Glengoyne's wetlands facility, with the distillery becoming the first to create a site for liquid waste in 2011.

A portion of proceeds from the sale of the whisky will be given to the WWT to back its climate emergency work.

Furthermore, Glengoyne will increase its support for the WWT over the next three years by helping to protect barnacle geese at Caerlaverock, as well as taking part in WWT's Blue Recovery, which aims to create 100,000 hectares of wetlands across Scotland.

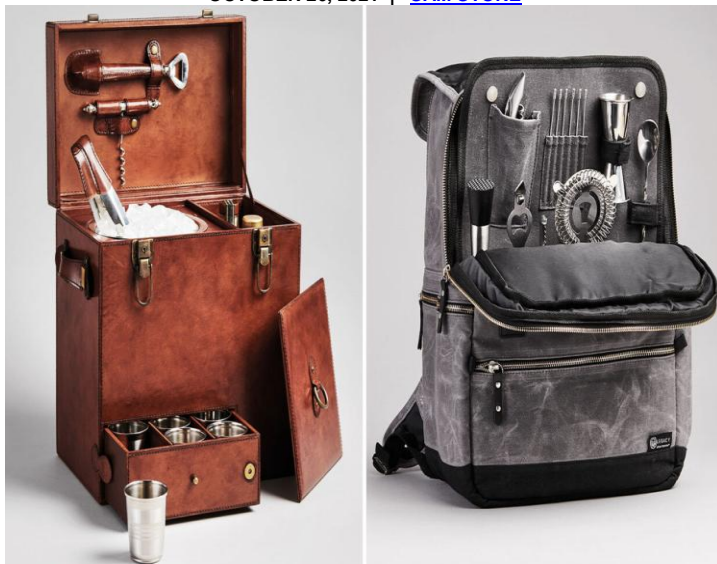
Turing added: "Our partnership with the WWT has been at the heart of our sustainability work and we want to continue to support the valuable work they do. So, when customers raise a dram of this special release, they'll know they are supporting the important and necessary work of the charity."

In November last year, Glengoyne released a [50-year-old expression](#), its oldest whisky to date.

Stylish Travel Bars to Keep Your Whisky and Cocktail

Tools Safe and Secure

OCTOBER 26, 2021 | [SAM STONE](#)



The Leather Travel Bar (left) and Bar Backpack make taking your whisky and cocktail equipment on the go easy and stylish.

While road trips and [vacations](#) offer a great escape, there may not always be a good bar around. Luckily, you never have to be without your favorite tipples, thanks to these travel bars. Whether you're going on a weekend camping trip or want to upgrade the minibar in your hotel

room, we've rounded up several travel bars that are fit for any getaway. There are both casual and sophisticated options—all you have to do is add whisky and your favorite cocktail's ingredients!

MOBILE MIXERS: MAKE YOUR COCKTAILS ON THE GO WITH THESE CARRYING CASES

[Portable Three-Bottle Travel Bar](#)—\$100

Secure up to three of your favorite bottles in this locking vinyl case. The suede interior houses basic tools, a serving platter, and two glasses. Add your favorite whiskies, and the cocktail boundaries are limitless.

[Bartender's Backpack](#)—\$110

Cocktails to go! This canvas backpack holds four bottles, includes a laptop case, and has straps to secure a bar tool roll-up (sold separately).

[Bar Backpack](#)—\$232

Perfect for happy hour by the lake! This insulated backpack carries three bottles, and comes equipped with 16 bar tools, including a cheese board and knife.



Protect your Manhattan essentials, including two glasses, in this vintage-looking suitcase.

[Manhattan Cocktail Case](#)—\$302

Create a classic cocktail from this seemingly vintage suitcase. The leatherette exterior encases a velveteen-lined interior that protects two bottles, and includes a shaker, bar tools, and two glasses. Available in black or mahogany.

[Leather Travel Bar](#)—\$500

Exclusive to Frontgate, this classy leather case serves up an ice bucket, room for two bottles, a drawer that includes nine cups, and basic tools to serve up your favorite whisky.

The Macallan's New Collaboration Brings Chocolate And Whisky To Life

By [Gary Carter](#) / October 28, 2021

[The Macallan](#) recently unveiled The Macallan Harmony Collection Rich Cacao, the first limited edition whisky in a new series of single malts. This innovation, among other things, will also see the brand progress its journey towards sustainable packaging.

In creating the first edition in this new, annual release series, The Macallan Whisky Maker Polly Logan embarked on a journey to Girona, Spain, where she immersed herself in the world of chocolate, exploring the chocolate-making process and uncovering the distinctive flavor profiles.



The Macallan Harmony Collection Rich Cacao (image via The Macallan)

"As I immersed myself in this world, I uncovered a great synergy between the whisky-making process and that of chocolate," Logan said in a prepared statement. "Both take time and exceptional attention to detail, with even the slightest changes to the process encouraging different aromas and flavors to emerge."

Logan collaborated with famed pastry chef Jordi Roca, the youngest of the acclaimed Roca brothers of El Celler de Can Roca, with whom The Macallan has a long-standing relationship.

As part of the exploration, she visited Jordi's chocolate factory, Casa Cacao in Girona and she also spent time with master chocolatier, Damian Allsop.

"Working in collaboration with Jordi Roca, acknowledged as one of the best and most creative pastry chefs in the world, and with exceptional chocolatier, Damian Allsop, I went on a journey of discovery, learning of the craftsmanship, passion and creativity which goes into making chocolate," Logan explained.

She said she drew inspiration from the duo's passion, knowledge and creativity to create [The Macallan Harmony Collection Rich Cacao](#), searching the sherry seasoned oak casks maturing at The Macallan Estate to identify rare, indulgent chocolate notes.

Jordi Roca said that the collaboration with The Macallan allows them to challenge their own creativity. "And in this project, we have been allowed to play with cacao, which is one of my passions. Being able to inspire a whisky and to create a unique tasting experience has been wonderful."

Crafted from a combination of European and American oak casks, the distiller's official tasting notes show the expression to be a rich, single malt whisky characterized by a deep, dark chocolate profile.

In homage to its chocolate inspiration, The Macallan Harmony Collection Rich Cacao is encased in a fully recyclable and biodegradable presentation box, made using natural by-products in the chocolate-making process. The box is crafted using discarded husks from cacao pods and offers what's said to be contemporary packaging techniques aimed at minimizing waste.

"For this expression, I sought out a specific chocolate note in The Macallan's traditional sherry seasoned European oak casks and combined this with a vanilla note imparted by sherry seasoned American oak casks to sweeten the slightly bitter chocolate note I had found," Logan said. "This exquisite single malt offers a delightful whisky and chocolate pairing experience and the chance to elevate The Macallan experience to a new dimension."

The Macallan Harmony Collection Rich Cacao is available globally for a suggested retail price of \$160. More detail tasting notes can be found below.

- **Color:** Toasted cacao beans.
 - **Aroma:** Chocolate fondant, honey, oak, zesty lime and ginger.
 - **Palate:** Dark chocolate, honey, dates, vanilla and cinnamon.
 - **Finish:** Long with rich chocolate.
 - **ABV:** 44%.
-

Scotch vs. Whiskey: All You Need To Know

By [Pat Evans](#) October 27, 2021 12:00PM

The first thing you need to understand when we talk about scotches versus whiskey, is that all Scotches are whiskeys, though not all whiskeys are scotches. If you are learning [how to drink whiskey](#), knowing the difference is fundamental. That's the easiest way to remember how that works. But why? Well, for starters Scotch is made in Scotland. Also for naming's sake, whiskeys are for American and Irish-made whiskeys. Whisky is for Canadian, Japanese, and Scottish whiskeys.

Scotch is hugely popular, even though in 2020 the Scotch Whisky Association said the industry "lost a decade of growth" as sales fell 20% due to high tariffs from the U.S. and Europe and the pandemic. Still, the industry exported £3.8 billion, which made up for approximately 75% of Scottish food and beverage exports. But what makes a Scotch, a Scotch?

Scotch Basics

Like many of the rest of the world's whiskeys, Scotch is a grain-based spirit made mainly from malted barley. Other grains are allowed, but the spirit is mostly distilled from a mash of malted barley.

A Scotch's distillation turns out a spirit of 94.8% alcohol-by-volume or less (usually less, of course) and matured in oak casks for at least three years. Scotch's with age declarations on their bottles must be the age of the youngest whisky in a blend.

0 seconds of 1 minute, 5 seconds Volume 0%

The 4 Porksmen at Poogan's Smokehouse

What is the Difference between Whiskey and Whisky?



There is a [difference between whiskey and whisky](#) beside the spelling. The barrel type is a key differentiator from bourbon, which must age on new oak barrels. Scotch can be aged on used barrels, many of which come from bourbon country. In Scotland, there are 22 million or more barrels maturing, according to the Scotch Whisky Association. The final product that goes into a bottle must be 40% ABV or higher. Many Scotch aficionados will highlight their favorite regions, which can produce unique whiskeys to their area of Scotland. Particularly popular regions include Islay and Speyside. With more than 100 Scotch distilleries in Scotland, there are five main types of whisky.

Types of Scotch Single Malt Scotch

Single malt whisky comes from one distillery, which makes the spirit with a single batch of malted barley. Those distilleries can also produce a single cask, which comes from a single barrel at that distillery.

Malt whisky is distilled in batches in pot stills.

Glenfiddich 12-Year



A great entry-level single malt Scotch. It comes from the Highlands, runs about \$50, and is great neat, on the rocks or in a cocktail. It's a little woody, but not overly smoky and has plenty of lighter notes that shine through.

Lagavulin



Those who are fans of Ron Swanson are probably familiar with the Islay distillery of Lagavulin. It's a big, smoky whisky that offers lots of heavy-on-the-tongue notes. Perfect for a winter sipper.

Single Grain Scotch

Single grain whisky is made with a recipe largely of malted barley, but distilleries can use other grains including wheat, corn, and rye. With the addition of other grains, it is not a single malt whisky. They also differ from single malt in that most distilleries use a column still during the process.

Haig Club



Backed by global soccer star David Beckham, Haig Club is one of the trendiest single grain Scotches. It's soft on the palate and has plenty of brown sugar.

Blended Malt Scotch

Blended malt Scotch is a whisky made by blending several single malt spirits from multiple distilleries into a bottle. The liquid is a blend of at least two but can be more, single malts from different distilleries.

Monkey Shoulder



Monkey Shoulder is inexpensive, extremely so for how tasty it is. It's a blend of multiple Speyside distilleries. Drinks very much like bourbon, with lots of vanilla.

Blended Grain Scotch

Blended grain whisky is a combination of two or more grain whiskies from different distilleries.

Blended Scotch

Probably unsurprisingly, blended Scotch is a mixture of at least one single malt whisky and at least one single grain whisky. About 90% of the whisky made in Scotland is blended.

Johnnie Walker Black



Carrying a 12-year aged statement, Johnnie Walker Black blends more than 30 types of whiskies from across Scotland together. The result is a Scotch nearly synonymous with the spirit. Black Label is complex with sweet, smoky and fruity notes from the many whiskies that go into it.

Scotch Whisky Regions

Islay

Perhaps the most revered region, Islay is an island off the western coast of Scotland and has nine distilleries. The island's distilleries are actually broken up into north and south regions, which produce different whisky notes. North is peaty and smoky, while the south is less so and often described as sweeter.

Whiskies include Ardbeg, Bowmore, Lagavulin, and Laphroaig.

The Highlands

The Highlands produces the most whisky in Scotland and includes nearly 50 distilleries including the distilleries in the unrecognized islands region. These whiskies are sweet and malty, according to the Scotch association.

Distilleries include Glenmorangie and Edradour, with Highland Park and Talisker calling The Islands home.

Speyside

Perhaps rivaling Islay in the revered region status is Speyside, which is on the northeast corner of Scotland. Many of the distilleries in the region end up using water from the river that gives the region its name, the River Spey. It's a recent regional designation, separating from the Highlands in 2014.

It's a region known for smoky and sweet Scotches. Big-name distilleries like The Macallan, Glenfiddich, Balvenie, and The Glenlivet call this region of more than 50 distilleries home.

Lowlands

Made up of distilleries in the southern part of Scotland, the Lowlands largely produces "soft and smooth" whiskies.

Campbeltown

Once a region with a plethora of distilleries, the small area on the western coast has lost a huge majority of those distilleries. The whisky produced in Campbeltown is often peaty and smoky.

Walsh Whiskey Releases An Ice Wine Cask Finished Whiskey

By [Hannah Kanik](#) / October 29, 2021

[Walsh Whiskey](#) out of Ireland recently unveiled what's described as a first-of-its-kind creation of an ice wine cask finished whiskey.

The brand, known best for Writers' Tears and The Irishman super-premium whiskeys, is calling its new offering Writers' Tears — Icewine Cask Finish, in collaboration with Inniskillin Winery in Niagara, Ontario. Inniskillin is a Canadian estate winery and leading producer of ice wine.

This limited edition release is said to be a unique, triple-distilled vatting of single pot still & single malt Irish whiskeys and has been finished for an additional 12 months in ice wine hogsheads before being bottled at 46% ABV.



Writers' Tears — Icewine Cask Finish (image via Walsh Whiskey)

This is the 23rd expression from Walsh Whiskey founders, Bernard & Rosemary Walsh. The Walshes worked with Inniskillin Winery and its then Head Winemaker, Bruce Nicholson, touring the vineyard and sampling fermenting wines before selecting 12 hogshead casks originally cooperated by the Berthomieu Cooperage in France.

The selected hogsheads were disgorged of Inniskillin Icewine in March 2020 and shipped to Ireland where they were filled with Writers' Tears — Copper Pot in May that year. It was checked at monthly intervals and was bottled 12 months later in May 2021.

"I first tasted icewine in 2011, so plans for this expression have been fermenting in my head for some time," Bernard Walsh, Walsh Whiskey Managing Director, said, [in a prepared statement](#). "With our core Writers' Tears – Copper Pot expression we have a unique combination of predominantly spicy Single Pot Still married with Single Malt Irish whiskey. This core expression gets a whole new dynamic complimented beautifully by the intense natural sweetness imparted by Inniskillin's show-stopping icewine."

The whiskey's aroma, according to official tasting notes, has peach and apricot over a unique pot still spice. On the palate, it has floral notes and nutty oak with a fruity finish.

Just 3,500 bottles of Writers' Tears — Icewine Cask Finish are being released to Canada, the US and Ireland for CAN\$99.95/US\$84.99/€70.

The whiskey is in market in Canada and Ireland and will be on shelves in the USA in early November.

Angel's Envy debuts 10th whiskey in Cask Strength series

01 NOVEMBER 2021 - By Kate Malczewski

Bacardi-owned distiller Angel's Envy has unveiled the 2021 release of its cask strength Bourbon finished in Port wine barrels.



Angel's Envy's Cask Strength programme kicked off in 2012. The whiskey is the 10th release in Angel Envy's annual Cask Strength programme, in which the producer finishes select barrels from its rickhouses in Port wine casks.

The series was created in 2012 by Angel's Envy co-founder and chief innovation officer Wes Henderson; his son Kyle; and his father, the late master distiller Lincoln Henderson.

"Putting together our annual Cask Strength release has become something of a tradition for our family. It's hard to believe that we've been doing it for 10 years," Wes said.

The liquid clocks in at 60.35% ABV. On the nose, it offers notes of peach and cherry along with brandy, tea and honey, while the palate features leather, toasted oak, vanilla, stone fruit, honey and marzipan, with a finish of black tea, apricot and smoke.

Just 14,760 bottles of the whiskey have been made this year. The expression will be available at select retailers across all 50 US states from 1 December.

"Back in 2012, our first Cask Strength release was a run of just 600 bottles available in only two states," Wes continued.

"So to see fans all over the country chasing down these bottles and sharing them with their friends and family as a special way to toast over the holidays or as a gift – it's very rewarding and a reflection of how much Angel's Envy has grown over the past decade."

Angel's Envy 2021 Cask Strength Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey Finished in Port Wine Barrels is priced at US\$229.99 per 750ml bottle.

Earlier this year, the whiskey maker revealed a US\$8.2 million expansion of its Louisville distillery, which is scheduled for completion in 2022.

Glen Grant 15YO debuts in Singapore

02 NOVEMBER 2021 By Alice Brooker

Speyside whisky The Glen Grant has released its 15-year-old single malt in Singapore.



Bottles can be purchased in Singapore for RRP S\$125 (US\$92). The Glen Grant 15 Years Old Single Malt Scotch was crafted by [master distiller Dennis Malcolm](#), who was recently celebrated by the brand with the [launch of a 60-year-old bottling](#). It was created to mark his 60 years in the whisky trade.

The 15-year-old non-chill-filtered bottling sits at 50% ABV, and was matured in hand-selected first-fill ex-Bourbon casks.

Malcolm said: "We take so much pride in creating our unique golden liquid, and we're proud to see that the consistent quality of these beautiful products continues to be recognised by industry competitions, particularly on the anniversary of our 181st year.

"We are thrilled to see this exquisite premium single malt Scotch shine like this."

On the nose, the whisky presents aromas of citrus fruit and toffee, while the palate boasts flavours of spiced pear, apricot and vanilla. The finish is nutty, with delicate notes of fruit.

The Glen Grant 15 Years Old is available to buy in Singapore at select venues including Dragon Chamber, Public House, One Place Bistro Bar and Sweetea Caffe. Individual bottles may also be purchased at Cellarbration, Redmart and Amazon for RRP S\$125 (US\$92).

Last month, bottle number 88 of Glen Grant's [oldest single malt to date](#) fetched CNY380,000 (US\$58,922) at an auction in Shanghai, China.

Johnnie Walker debuts high-rye whisky

02 NOVEMBER 2021 By Alice Brooker

Diageo-owned Johnnie Walker has added a high-rye profile blended Scotch whisky to its core range.



The new expression retails for US\$34.99

The brand's new High Rye Blended Scotch Whisky contains a mash bill of 60% rye, for a 'bold' profile, and was aged in American oak barrels.

It was crafted by the brand's master blender Jim Beveridge, who recently [announced his retirement](#) after four decades in the industry, and whisky specialist George Harper.

Beveridge commented: "Johnnie Walker High Rye Blended Scotch Whisky continues our tradition of pushing the boundaries for what a Scotch whisky can do.

"Our journey towards crafting something truly unique and fantastic was guided by Johnnie Walker Black Label and how flavours from rye whiskies present nicely in classic whisky cocktails."

The whisky presents layers of balanced flavours, comprising sweet orchard notes from Cardhu, rich berry fruit notes from Glenkinchie and subtle wisps of smoke from Caol Ila blended with rye and grain whiskies distilled at the Cameronbridge and Teaninich distilleries.

"The tasting experience features familiar Johnnie Walker notes that are expressed and emphasised like nothing we've crafted before, perfectly complementing our existing portfolio of products," Beveridge added.

The brand will soon launch a marketing campaign for the new expression that will include a social media push, digital advertising, sampling and more.

Sitting at 40% ABV, the new whisky is available to purchase in the US for RRP US\$34.99 per 750ml bottle.

Recently, Diageo created [a limited edition bottle design for Johnnie Walker Red Label](#) inspired by the Netflix series *Money Heist*.

Diageo to open Chinese single malt distillery

02 NOVEMBER 2021 By Kate Malczewski

Johnnie Walker owner Diageo has revealed plans to build a US\$75 million malt whisky distillery in China.



Construction is set to begin in early 2022

The Diageo Eryuan Malt Whisky Distillery will be located in Eryuan County in Yunnan Province, and will produce the spirits giant's first single malt whisky of Chinese origin.

The 66,000-square-metre distillery will also be home to an interactive visitor centre to boost tourism.

Diageo has made significant moves in the Chinese market over the past few years. In April 2019, the company [partnered with Chinese baijiu producer Jiangsu Yanghe Distillery](#) to create a whisky. More recently, in September this year, the Ketel One vodka owner laid out plans to [construct a research and development centre](#) in Shanghai.

"China is the world's largest beverage alcohol market, and the demand for whisky is growing rapidly among middle-class consumers who are keen to further discover and enjoy fine whiskies," commented Sam Fischer, president, Diageo Asia Pacific and global travel.

"Today we celebrate another significant step forward, and one which builds upon our local insights and combines those with Diageo's global whisky expertise in order to delight the next generation of Chinese whisky consumers."

The new facility will sit at 2,100 metres above sea level, on a site chosen for its mild climate, biodiversity and access to natural spring water.

"The natural surroundings and the Eryuan landscape will allow us to craft a world-class, China-origin, single malt whisky that will capture the imagination of premium whisky lovers in China," explained Fischer. In keeping with the sustainability targets outlined in its [Society 2030: Spirit of Progress action plan](#), the distillery will use 'renewable and clean technologies'. It intends to be carbon neutral and zero waste, and plans to recycle all the water it uses.

The firm broke ground on the site earlier today (2 November) at a ceremony attended by government officials, industry members and the local community.

Construction is scheduled to begin early next year.

In other whisky news from Diageo, Johnnie Walker [appointed Dr Emma Walker as its new master blender](#) following the retirement of Dr Jim Beveridge OBE.

Glenmorangie Launches Limited Edition 'A Tale Of Winter'

By [Gary Carter](#) / November 2, 2021

One day while snowed in at home, Glenmorangie's Dr. Bill Lumsden, their director of whisky creation, began dreaming of a whisky that captured the coziness of wrapping up in a winter sweater. And that's when he brought Glenmorangie's A Tale of Winter to life. Finished in Marsala wine casks from Sicily, this 13-year-old single malt Scotch whisky is described as being ripe with fruit and honey notes, along with hints of cocoa dust and warming spice.



Glenmorangie A Tale of Winter (image via Glenmorangie)

This whisky got its start years ago, when Dr. Bill pulled on his most colourful winter knit at home in Scotland after what's described as a spectacularly heavy snowfall. He pondered that 'what if', could he capture the joy of cozy moments indoors by the fire, while snow lay all around?

With this wintry whisky in mind, Dr. Bill took a bit of [Glenmorangie whisky](#) mellowed in bourbon casks and finished it in casks which once held Sicily's fortified Marsala wine, loved for its sweet and fruity flavors.

"We all know the delight of snuggling up in a winter jumper by the fire, when it's snowy outside. With flavors as bright and vivid as my favorite woollen sweater, Glenmorangie A Tale of Winter deliciously captures those magical, cozy moments," Dr. Bill said [in a prepared statement](#).

"The experience begins with light flurries of fruit and honey, building to torrents of cocoa dust, flakes of red pepper and chunks of Brazil-nut toffee. It culminates in a feels-like-forever finish that swirls with cinnamon, ginger and clove."

Glenmorangie A Tale of Winter will be available in the UK starting this month, with a suggested retail price of £75. Official tasting notes are below for this 46% ABV expression.

- Colour: Amber
- Nose: Curious and slightly sharp, with the classic Marsala top-note of slightly oxidised fruits. Hints of orange toffee intermingles with a fragrant top note of lavender honey and sweet rose. With water, some caramelised fruits (oranges & pears) emerge, along with a hint of sandalwood, brazil nut and hint of pine sap.
- Taste: A juicy viscous, but slightly peppery mouthfeel, leads to a burst of sweet, nutty flavours – cocoa powder, red pepper, Brazil nut toffee and sweet barley malt. Sweet demerara sugar and a long lingering spicy aftertaste of clove, ginger and cinnamon.

Berry Bros unveils Royal Brackla Christmas whisky

04 NOVEMBER 2021 By Alice Brooker

London-based Berry Bros & Rudd has released 539 bottles of a 14-year-old single cask Scotch from Royal Brackla Distillery.



The new expression was distilled in 2007

The Royal Brackla 2007 PX Finish Cask #03086 is a limited edition expression, launched as a Christmas bottling.

The single malt was matured for 12 years in refill hogsheads, followed by an additional two years in fresh ex-Pedro Ximenez Sherry butts. Berry Bros & Rudd spirit buyer Rob Whitehead said: "Tasting Royal Brackla is an infrequent but invariable pleasure.

"This particular whisky, after a period of additional maturation in an ex-PX Sherry cask, has a luscious helping of dried fruit richness and nicely supple tannins on the finish.

"Whisper it quietly, but this distillery seems to be on a real upswing – and it all starts with their impeccably distilled spirit that seems to marry so beautifully with Sherry cask influence."

On the nose, the liquid delivers spiced aromas of mix of fresh and dried fruits, as well as notes of apples, pears, melon, sticky figs and dates. Meanwhile, the palate presents a thick Sherry wood influence, with prunes, toffee and honeycomb.

Jonny Roberts, managing director for Berry Bros & Rudd, said: "Although not the most famous of distilleries, Royal Brackla has a small but fanatical following, there's even a dedicated Royal Brackla Appreciation Society operating out of Glasgow."

Bottled at 50.6% ABV, the 14-year-old expression retails for RRP £90 (US\$122.63).

Earlier this year, Berry Bros & Rudd debuted a [new collection of single cask whiskies](#) from four Nordic distilleries.

GlenAllachie releases single cask bottlings in UK

04 NOVEMBER 2021 By Alice Brooker

Speyside distillery GlenAllachie has rolled out a batch of six single malts on a limited basis to UK specialist retailers.



All bottles are hand-numbered and non-chill filtered Scotch whisky GlenAllachie has released six expressions in the UK, each drawn from a single cask hand selected by master distiller Billy Walker.

Walker recently produced the third batch of whiskies for the [GlenAllachie Wood Finish range](#).

He said: "We've curated these special single casks exclusively for our valued UK retail partners and consumers.

"Exploring the unique interaction between the GlenAllachie spirit and different types of oak cask, each expression has its own incredibly unique DNA."

The cask strength whiskies include the 32-year-old Pedro Ximénez puncheon (cask #6495), which contains notes of dark chocolate tart, ripe figs, treacle and eucalyptus, and was bottled at 55.8% ABV. It will be available to buy for RRP £625 (US\$853).

Also included is the 15-year-old Rioja barrique (cask #4465), which sits at 60.5% ABV. The whisky is described as 'brimming' with raspberry coulis, sugared almonds and nutmeg, and can be bought for RRP £115 (US\$157).

Meanwhile, the 15-year-old tawny Port pipe (cask #868) clocks in at 60.7% ABV. The full-bodied, fruity whisky can now be purchased from UK specialist retailers for RRP £115, too.

Presenting an indulgent mocha depth, alongside hints of sweet cinnamon and subtle ginger, the 14-year-old Pedro Ximénez hogshead (cask #6611) rests at 60.3% ABV, and is also included in the batch of six. It retails for RRP £110 (US\$150).

The 13-year-old chinquapin virgin oak barrel (cask #6896) is bottled at 58.3% ABV, and the cask used for maturation was sourced from Missouri and air-dried for nearly four years. Available for RRP £105 (US\$143), the expression boasts flavours of orchard fruits, stem ginger and lemon meringue pie.

Finally, the 12-year-old Marsala barrel (cask #5856) has an ABV of 58%, and includes notes of tropical fruits and salted caramel. It costs RRP £99 (US\$135).

All bottles are hand-numbered and non-chill filtered.

Walker added: "The journey from the depth and refinement of the vintage 1989 Pedro Ximénez puncheon, with its glazed fig and mocha elegance, to the rare 2009 Marsala barrel, which reveals ripe mango, demerara sugar and grapefruit peel is incredibly powerful. The wonder of wood never ceases to fascinate."

The brand has also produced a new single cask bottling for the [Spirit of Speyside festival](#), which runs from 3-8 November this year. The 15-year-old single malt whisky was initially matured in a fresh ex-Bourbon cask, before being re-racked into a first-fill Sherry hogshead. It was then filled into an American oak cask, which previously held peated whisky distilled at The GlenAllachie.

The GlenAllachie 2006 (Cask #806906) Peated Bourbon Barrel is limited to 233 bottles, and exclusively available to buy from the distillery's online shop.

GTR spirits volume to recover by 2022

04 NOVEMBER 2021 By Nicola Carruthers

Spirits volumes plunged by more than 70% in global travel retail (GTR) in 2020, with recovery expected for 2022, according to data from IWSR Drinks Market Analysis and M1nd-set.

The Asia Pacific travel retail market for spirits is forecast to return to 2019 volumes by 2025

Thorsen Hartmann, director of custom analytics for IWSR, and M1nd-Set's CEO Clara Susset, presented data on the GTR market at the [TFWA World Exhibition & Conference in Cannes](#) last month.

According to the presentation, the previously expected recovery in 2021 was impacted by new virus variants, further outbreak waves, a 'wide disparity in global rollout' and travel restrictions.

Whisky, the GTR channel's largest spirit segment, was more affected than other categories, the presentation noted. Furthermore, declines in Scotch sales in Asia Pacific GTR were distinct.

Brandy, predominantly Cognac, was less impacted in the channel, with a less-negative performance in the Americas (primarily US) and to a certain extent Hainan.

The data also noted that consumers were spending more overall in duty free in 2021, but there was a lower or similar average spend across most categories, as a result of more promotional spends.

For spirits, the average spend remained the same in 2021, compared to 2019, at US\$81, down from US\$82.

Furthermore, higher-value categories, which are highly pre-planned, performed better in 2021 than before the pandemic. Alcohol moved up to the second spot with 24% of buyers, after perfume. Alcohol previously took the fourth spot in 2019.

Market performance

In terms of areas, Asia Pacific suffered a higher impact in 2020, compared to other regions.

The Americas, mainly US/Mexico/Caribbean leisure travel, and functioning land border traffic in the US/Canada/Mexico and southern Brazil, is predicted to perform well in 2021.

However, Europe and Asia Pacific is forecast to remain 'somewhat muted' until early 2022.

The Asia Pacific travel retail market for spirits is forecast to return to 2019 volumes by 2025, with the market only just holding on to its second-place spot over the 'similarly-sized Americas'. Within the region, Cognac and Scotch are expected to remain the best prospect. In the Americas, agave-based spirits and gin and genever will be among the top performers.

Furthermore, Africa and the Middle East is expected to become more important for spirits.

In Hainan, alcohol is the second most-purchased category, up 31% to US\$466, driven by Cognac. The alcohol sector has the highest conversion rate of all categories.

The presented noted that consumers in Hainan are likely to pre-plan the specific alcohol product they want to purchase. In addition, consumers in Hainan duty free stores are less likely to buy for gifting, compared to Chinese shoppers at airports.

The data noted that GTR is likely to change forever, with regional travel becoming more vital, benefitting border shops and ferry travel.

Furthermore, Hainan will remain an important travel retail market for Chinese consumers taking long weekend breaks.

Business travel will reduce in the short-to-medium term, while the middle price tier will be 'squeezed'.

Alcohol sales in Asia Pacific are [predicted to rise by more than 2% in volume](#) by the end of this year, according to the IWSR.



What Does a \$38,950 60-Year-Old Single Malt Actually Taste Like?

[SCOTT PURCELL](#), 5 NOV 2021 | NEWS

Historic distillery The Glen Grant has been operating out of the heart of Rothes, Speyside from 1840 to this day. Known for their stellar range of aged single malts, they continue to use the tall slender stills and groundbreaking purifiers that they introduced over a century ago. The result is a supremely smooth and consistent whisky, hence the global following and legion of prestigious awards. Underscored by a proud heritage of distinct craftsmanship and steadfast innovation, each expression puts living history in a bottle.



Master Distiller Dennis Malcolm

Speaking of heritage, The Glen Grant's own Dennis Malcolm is a bona fide industry legend. The third in a line of whisky masters, he was literally born on the distillery's grounds in 1946. Thus began an auspicious career, which found him working as an apprentice cooper by the young age of 15 and then later a supervising manager. Now the Master Distiller with six decades of experience under his belt, Malcolm imparts an insane level of knowledge and passion into every aspect of the production process.

Suffice it to say, The Glen Grant Distillery would not be where it is today if not for Dennis Malcolm. Carrying the brand's iconic heritage into modern terrain, he continues to innovate whilst expanding upon their range of award-winning expressions. That includes the recent Arboralis line and its respective core statements of 10, 15, and 18 years. And so the legend continues.

Celebrating Malcolm's six-decades-long career in the best possible way, The Glen Grant has just released a limited edition 60-year-old single malt whisky in his honour. A gem amongst gems, it reaps maximum complexity out of the alchemy between spirit, wood, and time. Having been lucky enough to score a sample for ourselves during a virtual tasting, we were blown away by its impeccable smoothness,

despite all that time spent in the barrel. With a retail price of \$38,950, this one is for elite collectors only.



The Dennis Malcolm 60th Anniversary Edition Single Malt
Now available for purchase, The Glen Grant's new 60-year-old single malt is their oldest bottling to date. Only three decanters are being offered in Australia and each one was bottled from a single ex-Oloroso sherry oak cask, which was filled all the way back on 24 October 1960. We previously described the distillery as putting living history in a bottle and this luxurious release takes the concept to glorious extremes.

It was Malcolm himself who hosted our virtual tasting of this rare liquid, which spans all six decades of his illustrious career. As we swirled, sniffed, and sipped, he regaled us with brilliant insights about both the single malt and the distillery's unique history. Not only have The Glen Grant been using the same kind of stills and purifiers for over a century, but they still use wooden washbacks for fermentation (whereas most distilleries use steel).

Tradition remains vital to Malcolm's ongoing production process. However, the distillery's heritage-based approach also leads to a better-tasting and more consistent spirit. For instance, the use of wooden washbacks helps maintain both character and quality from one statement to the next. Then we have the historic stills, which are taller than most and equipped with historic purifiers. The liquid is double-distilled through those very purifiers and it leads to a lighter body with fruitier overtones.

Now, back to the star of the show (sorry Dennis, but we meant the whisky). Bottled at 52.8%, The Glen Grant Dennis Malcolm 60th Anniversary Edition Aged 60 Years is non-chill filtered so as to retain optimal flavour and aroma. Upon pouring ourselves a dram, we detected fresh mint on the nose along with notes of fruit, pecan, and light smoke. Given the epic age of this particular expression, we took its aromatic vibrancy as a welcomed surprise. The taste was similarly unexpected and not overbearing in any way. In lieu of heavy oak, layers of rich fruit, dark chocolate, and toffee rolled over our palate in silky waves. The finish was long and delightful, leaving notes of fig, dates, and a hint of smoke in its wake.

"Liquid fruit cake" is how the distillery describes this rare beast and we're inclined to agree. It's creamy, layered, sweet, and smooth. Yet nothing took us by surprise more than the spirit's blatant freshness and luscious texture, as if it jumped out of the cask with the vigour and vitality of something half its age. Of course, with more age comes even more nuance and complexity, making this a true best-of-all-worlds scenario.

Paolo Marinoni, Marketing Director for Campari Australia & New Zealand, said, "The launch of Dennis Malcolm 60th Anniversary Edition is an exciting time for The Glen Grant, as we celebrate and pay tribute to the career of a globally recognised Scotch Whisky craftsman and a true Scottish gentleman. Dennis has not only created some of the most-awarded single malts in the world, but also serves as a champion and legend for the industry. This refined, remarkable liquid is a luxurious homage to a life spent doing what he loves most."

Malcolm himself reflected upon his diamond anniversary with the following words: "It's never been a job to me, it's been a way of life. I don't like my actual birthday—that makes me a year older. But I like my milestones with The Glen Grant because it's a year longer that I'm here. I can keep doing what I was destined to do."



It was an incredible and genuine honour to be included in the virtual tasting with Dennis Malcolm, as only four samples went out to Australia. No less rewarding was the whisky itself, which features a deep chestnut colour, impeccable texture, and multi-layered taste. Thanks for the unforgettable experience!

The Glen Grant Dennis Malcolm 60th Anniversary Edition Aged 60 Years is supremely limited in supply and priced at \$38,950 RRP. Each decanter is made from hand-blown crystal glass, designed in the mould of the distillery's tall and slender pot stills, marked with a bespoke number, and presented in an elegant case of sustainable walnut, complete with Malcolm's engraved signature and a Certificate of Authenticity (signed by Malcolm). It's now available at Dan Murphy's stores in Mermaid Waters QLD, Double Bay NSW, and Prahran Cellar VIC.

Rare 1978 Talisker cask set for auction

08 NOVEMBER 2021 By Kate Malczewski

A 43-year-old cask of Talisker Scotch whisky is expected to fetch up to £500,000 (US\$675,667) at a charity auction next month.



Callum Innes with *Untitled Lamp Black/Quinacridone Gold* Diageo, the world's largest Scotch whisky producer, donated the cask of Talisker 1978 to The Distillers' Charity. The nonprofit will include the cask as the headline item in its [One of One auction](#), managed by Sotheby's and set to take place on 3 December at Barnbroule Castle, Edinburgh. The auction will [also feature bottlings from William Grant & Sons](#), Beam Suntory and more. "We are delighted to support the Distillers One of One auction with a rare cask of Talisker Scotch whisky," commented Javier Ferrán, Diageo chairman.

"We look forward to seeing our contribution to the auction generate significant funds for the Distillers' Charity and to help enhance the life-chances of young people in communities the length and breadth of Scotland."

The selected barrel is part of Diageo's Cask of Distinction ownership programme, which makes rare casks available to private clients. This will be the first time a Cask of Distinction will go under the hammer.

The lot is valued at £350,000-£500,000 (US\$404,703-\$675,667), and also includes a cask end that has been turned into a work of art called *Untitled Lamp Black/Quinacridone Gold*, created by Turner Prize nominee Callum Innes.

The successful bidder will also win a visit to the home of Casks of Distinction in Royal Deeside, where they can see their cask maturing. "Each Cask of Distinction is unique; with the collaboration of Callum Innes, this one is also a work of art that we are proud to put on the One of One stage for the benefit of Scotland," said James Mackay, head of rare and exceptional spirits at Diageo.

The collaboration with Innes is the first in a new initiative for Diageo's Casks of Distinction; clients who purchase a cask through the programme can now commission one of a roster of artists to turn their cask-end into a piece of art.

Bowmore and Aston Martin unveil latest whisky

08 NOVEMBER 2021 By Melita Kiely

Islay distillery Bowmore has released a 21-year-old single malt whisky in partnership with Aston Martin.



Bowmore and Aston Martin have bottled a 21-year-old single malt Bowmore Masters' Selection as a collaboration between Bowmore master whisky blender Ron Welsh and Aston Martin executive vice president and chief creative officer Marek Reichman. The 51.8% ABV Scotch whisky includes 21-year-old Bowmore whisky that was aged in first-fill Pedro Ximénez and oloroso Sherry casks. The 21-year-old component accounts for 61.8% of the final liquid.

The remaining portion includes Bowmore whisky that was matured for more than 35 years.

Welsh said: "For the first time with this whisky, we have adopted the 'golden ratio' to inspire each of the elements bringing their own unique flavours and selecting the optimal casks to forge the desired character, taking inspiration from Marek and his team.

"What seems totally contrasting is, in fact, perfectly balanced and proportionate. Working with Marek has given me a new lens from which to explore whisky making. This whisky serves as a celebration of our unified knowledge and experience; our shared passions, values and ideas."

Luxury car maker Aston Martin first partnered with [Bowmore in 2019](#). Since then, the companies have created [three travel retail-exclusive whiskies](#), and a £50,000 (US\$66,000) whisky, called [Black Bowmore DB5 1964](#).

Aston Martin's Reichman has often spoken about the 'golden ratio', the mathematical ratio found in nature that creates 'aesthetically pleasing compositions'.

Reichman added: "Proportionality defines every precise detail of designing an Aston Martin. We are constantly striving to achieve the golden ratio; the optimal of proportions. And it is this force which guides the creation of absolute beauty.

"To achieve this, we must combine our skill, passion and experience. Coming together with Ron just brings a whole new perspective on this and is hugely inspiring and enlightening.

"This whisky perfectly and harmoniously brings us together to create a beautiful, yet powerful equilibrium."

Bowmore Masters' Selection is available in global markets, including the UK, Germany, Canada, the US and China, priced at RRP US\$300 per bottle.

Tasting notes include aromas of Manuka honey, praline, grilled hazelnuts, leather, cigar tobacco and heather blossom. On the palate, the whisky delivers flavours of 'elegant' Sherry, Islay peat, bitter dark chocolate, vanilla, coffee beans and a touch of papaya. The finish is said to be sweet, spicy and mouth-warming, with oak spice, chestnut cream and coconut.

Green light for new grain distillery in Scotland

08 NOVEMBER 2021 By Alice Brooker

Planning for the construction of St Boswells Distillery, Scotland's first grain distillery in a decade, has been approved to start in 2022.



The project will create 200 construction jobs. Building plans have been permitted for Scotland's lowest-carbon grain distillery, according to Jackson Distillers, which will be located in Charlesfield Industrial Estate, Boswell, near Melrose. Trevor Jackson, founder and CEO of Jackson Distillers, said: "This is another significant step forward in the process to create the Scottish borders' first major grain distillery.

"We have had great support for our proposals from local stakeholders across the region and have worked closely with Scottish Borders Council to ensure we created plans that fit into the landscape, present climate change mitigation opportunities and support the local community."

The new development will boast the latest distilling technology, designed to reduce carbon emissions and maximise recycling with its zero waste landfill.

It will produce 20 million litres of pure alcohol a year to use in Scotch whisky blending, and as a neutral spirit for both gin and vodka.

The site will source local cereals from the surrounding area of Tweed Valley, and process them into a spirit with renewable energy.

Cereals, once spent, will be passed to the adjacent anaerobic digestion plant, where they will be converted into methane, with the remaining material being used as soil conditioner for the crops.

The approved planning application will facilitate a £46m (US\$62m) investment in the local economy, creating approximately 200 construction jobs, along with 20 permanent jobs, which will support the rural community.

Construction for St Boswells Distillery will start next year. It is expected to last 18 months, with the distillery producing spirits by 2024.

Jackson added: "We are grateful to everyone who has helped us to get to this stage and will continue to work with local stakeholders as we now progress with construction."

Johnnie Walker owner Diageo recently revealed its distillery in Quebec, Canada, is aiming to [convert to 100% electric power by 2025](#).

Plans to build distillery beside Dornoch Firth

09 NOVEMBER 2021 By Melita Kiely

A planning application has been submitted to build a new malt whisky distillery next to the Dornoch Firth in Scotland.



The Midfearn Distillery Company hopes to build a new distillery next to the Dornoch Firth

The Midfearn Distillery Company has submitted plans to Highland Council for permission to build its distillery on the Midfearn Estate at Easter Fearn. The site sits three miles southeast of Ardgay village. A public consultation phase will begin with a face-to-face consultation event at Edderton Village Hall on 1 December from 3pm to 7pm GMT. Supporting information will be available on the midfearn-distillery.co.uk website from Friday 19 November.

An additional virtual consultation will be held on 20 January 2022 from 3pm to 7pm GMT, and will include a live chat feature.

Charlie Brooke, custodian of the 1,300-acre Midfearn Estate, said: "The Scotch whisky industry has advanced significantly since the opening of the first Midfearn Distillery and we will not only set out to make a distinctive and high-quality whisky, but we will prioritise environmental sustainability and work towards carbon neutrality at every stage of the project.

"This is a family business that will build and grow this enterprise on a beautiful site within the Dornoch Firth National Scenic Area and we look forward to working with the local community to return whisky-making to Easter Fearn, with all the benefits that will bring to the economy of the area."

Midfearn Estate has been in the Brooke family since 1893. Charlie Brooke added that the distillery would be economically beneficial to the wider community.

The estate already provides electricity from existing wind and hydro-power projects, and the long-term sustainability of its energy source will form an important element of the distillery's development.

On Monday, plans to [build the first grain distillery](#) in Scotland in 10 years were approved.

Tasting The Dalmore's US\$1.1 million Decades Collection



Press Promotion

During the past 180 years, The Dalmore Distillery has been watched over by an unbroken chain of whisky makers, a selection of individuals tasked with the pursuit of whisky perfection. Founded by Sir Alexander Matheson in 1839, to the north of Inverness on the shores of the Cromarty Firth, the distillery was marked out as distinct from the very beginning as stocks were held back for long-term maturation in casks. At the time, most 'whisky' was sold as new spirit – or at least very young spirit – but Matheson saw the potential of laying down stocks in order to create superior whiskies in the decades ahead. His long-term view of whisky making set a precedent which has become core to the distillery's exceptional character.

Having had its sights set on the highest standards from the beginning, it was natural for this to be continued into the next period of the distillery's history. In what is known as the 'great Mackenzie era', beginning in 1867, Charles and Andrew Mackenzie were granted a lease for the distillery and later purchased it outright. Building on Matheson's work, the duo developed their own principles of cask curation, exploring long maturation times in casks sourced from sherry bodegas, a method still utilised and honoured by the team in the 21st century. Today, the distillery's cask partners include González Byass of Jerez, Spain; Henri Giraud of Aÿ-Champagne, France; and Graham's of the Douro Valley, Portugal.

Continuing the legacy of his spiritual ancestors, master distiller Richard Paterson's dedication to long maturation in the very best wood has been upheld for five decades. A creative force and pioneer of cask curation, his recent 'masterpiece of time' comes in the form of The Dalmore Decades Collections: a once-in-a-lifetime selection of rare single malt whiskies that tell the story of The Dalmore's pursuit of excellence throughout the past 70 years. The holy grail of the series is The Dalmore Decades No. 6 Collection, which was sold at global auction by Sotheby's Hong Kong in October 2021 for USD\$1.1 million (HKD\$8.75 million).

By staying true to its founding principles and core production values, The Dalmore has been integral to the recent shift in perception of single malt from just a drink to a valuable collector's item in its own right. As the new millennium dawned, The Dalmore stood out during the contemporary renaissance of single malt by producing a record-breaking selection of rare releases, all coveted by those collectors 'in the know', while continuing to refine the art of cask curation and liquid excellence for its core range of perfectly aged single malt Scotch whiskies.

The early 2000s brought a real moment of change for the brand: in 2006, Paterson presented the first Rare and Prestige Collection at a special event in Paris. Led by The Dalmore 40 Years Old, the Collection also included a 1973 vintage – a rare example of a small batch created by vatting only whiskies distilled in a single year.

Then, in November 2007, The King Alexander III was born, a now legendary expression that crowns the distillery's core range. This unique assemblage utilises a total of six fine cask types: small-batch ex-bourbon; Matusalem, a blend of old and rare oloroso and Pedro Ximénez sherries; Madeira; Marsala; port and Cabernet Sauvignon wine. Together, these casks add finesse and create an expression that's revered the world over.

The Dalmore's consistency in vision over the years, but particularly during the past 20, has enabled the growth of its reputation in the industry and among serious whisky collectors. By releasing one-of-a-kind whiskies, The Dalmore has attracted frenzied levels of attention when appearing at auction. Its expressions were even making waves when going under the hammer in the early 2000s, with The Kildermorie expression selling for £26,000 in 2002 – a record-breaking price at the time.

In curating iconic and limited expressions, The Dalmore has ensured a level of beautifully executed exclusivity is now associated with any whisky bearing its name. According to Jonny Fowle, spirits specialist at auction house Sotheby's, The Dalmore has positioned itself uniquely in the market by maximising three key brand elements.

"Firstly, cellar management at The Dalmore is exceptional, and it is one of very few distilleries which has managed to mature numerous whiskies to in excess of 50 and, indeed, 60 years," explains Fowle. "Secondly, its team aren't shy of taking risks and innovating through their production – from port pipes to Champagne casks, there is very little they have not experimented with, and with great success. Finally, the team behind The Dalmore understands the modern market and the place their brand holds within it."

For Fowle, these pillars of excellence account for The Dalmore's success as a prized lot at auction and, in particular, the respect collectors have for its most exclusive high-end releases: "The Dalmore has the capacity to present its whiskies extravagantly, to release hyper-limited expressions including 'one of one' bottlings, and to have the quality of liquid that undergirds their position at the top end of the premium drinks market."

Importantly, these thoughts are borne out by wider data from the secondary market. According to the [latest report from brokers and analysts Rare Whisky 101](#), The Dalmore has recently risen three places in its ranking to become the third-most desirable single malt whisky brand for investors. The ranking is calculated using a proprietary formula, developed in-house by Rare Whisky 101, which processed all available auction sales data for the past 18 months. For each single malt distillery, a score is calculated using three data sets given a weighting of 80 per cent, 10 per cent, and 10 per cent respectively: the total percentage increase in value for all bottles sold at auction in the UK, the highest average price of all bottles sold at auction in the UK, and the overall highest price ever paid for a single bottle at auction. According to Andy Simpson, co-founder of Rare Whisky 101, The Dalmore's success within the luxury single malt space is down to its consistent approach toward creating collectable bottles: "It has a clear-to-understand core range, an affordable 'pilgrims' dram (a distillery exclusive for those who visit the distillery), and a variety of 'rarities' and 'ultra-rarities' for dedicated collectors to buy."

In his opinion, The Dalmore also has a good back catalogue of rare bottles to keep 'completist' collectors interested in tracking down those long-lost releases from a bygone era, but has been careful not to flood the market with 'limited editions'. "When everything is limited, nothing is rare," he concludes. "Couple that with some exceptional, quality old spirit and a clear, easily identifiable bottle and brand – it all means that The Dalmore offers a very compelling case to collectors and investors." However, interest is not solely reserved for The Dalmore's most high-end products. According to the drinks industry analysis body IWSR, The Dalmore was the fastest-growing single malt (in terms of absolute growth) in the two-year period of 2018–20, with standout performance pre-pandemic, and a strong recovery since. What's more, during the same period, The Dalmore saw the largest growth in terms of absolute value, and drove 12.4 per cent of value growth for the entire single malt Scotch whisky category. This wider appeal has also fed the appetite for its rarest releases, and The Dalmore is now the fastest-growing single malt Scotch whisky brand at the 'very rare' end of the category. With each passing day, The Dalmore's aged stocks distilled in the 20th century are becoming increasingly scarce. Each cask is a snapshot in time from the distillery's past and tells a distinctive part of its history. No selection of whiskies tell a story better than The Dalmore Decades Collections, special selections that commemorate 60 years of the distillery's inventory, from the 1950s to the 2000s. Comprising three remarkable Collections, the pinnacle of the series is The Dalmore

Decades No. 6 Collection: a truly unique, one-of-a-kind set of six single malts distilled over six decades. Sold at global auction by Sotheby's Hong Kong, and featuring whiskies from 1951, 1967, 1979, 1980, 1995 and 2000, each whisky is the personal selection of master distiller Richard Paterson OBE.

The youngest whisky in The Dalmore Decades No. 6 Collection began life in a spectacular fashion. Laid down at 12:02am on 1 January 2000, The Dalmore was the first distillery in Scotland to create a new spirit in the new millennium. This exceptional single malt has been matured entirely in Matusalem sherry butts from the González Byass bodega in southern Spain, which are available exclusively to The Dalmore.

Exhibiting rich and indulgent flavours, the 2000 is an extremely rare example of a Dalmore fully matured in these exquisite casks. Born in a time when whisky lovers were increasingly searching for style in their bottlings, the 1995 expression hails from the year in which The Dalmore's minimalist and now iconic bell-shaped bottle was introduced, perfectly complimenting the elegant character of the liquid inside. This 25-year-old whisky was first aged in ex-bourbon casks, before being transferred into a Graham's vintage port pipe, followed by five years in a barrique used to mature Tintilla de Rota, a sweet fortified wine from southern Spain.

Early in his career, Richard Paterson spent almost 20 years learning from Colonel 'HAC' Mackenzie, the last of the famed Mackenzie family to be associated with The Dalmore. The 1980 expression is a continuation of his learnings, bottled as a 40-year-old single malt. Moving against tradition, this whisky moved from ex-bourbon casks into Matusalem sherry butts, before going back into first-fill ex-bourbon barrels. This special maturation process brought renewed life and vivacity to the spirit.

The biggest of jumps in terms of the appreciation of single malt whisky is embodied by the 1979 expression, which captures a moment of rare boldness. Releasing single malts with a high age statement was relatively unheard of at the time, but, with the arrival of Richard Paterson at The Dalmore, things were about to change. This bottling marks a decade of discovery and the long-standing relationship between sherry producer González Byass and The Dalmore. First filled into ex-bourbon casks, it has undergone a secondary maturation in a prized Matusalem sherry butt.

Taking yet another step back through the decades, the 1967 bottling represents a transformational time, during which The Dalmore's idiosyncratic still house became what it is today. This elegant 53-year-old single malt was crafted in a 20-year-old Graham's tawny port pipe, sourced from Portugal's Douro Valley, then aged in a barrique that previously held Châteauneuf-du-Pape from acclaimed winery Château Mont-Redon.

The final and oldest whisky in the Collection is the 1951 expression, a 60-year-old single malt. As one of the oldest whiskies ever released by the distillery, it is a product of the watchful gaze of Colonel Hector 'HAC' Mackenzie and exists as a direct link to the era of his family's management at The Dalmore. The spirit began its long journey to maturity in twin refill oloroso sherry casks, #1781 and #1782, both filled with The Dalmore's new-make spirit on the same day in June 1951. Each of the expressions included in The Dalmore's Decades No.6 Collection is a bottled moment in time and, for lovers of single malt Scotch whisky, it provides the ultimate roadmap through the history of both the distillery and the wider industry. When considering the nature of these whiskies as a true one-of-a-kind piece of history, The Dalmore Decades Collections provide the whisky lover with an opportunity to play a part in that legacy by either enjoying the spirit or safeguarding this liquid history for the next generation to appreciate.

With The Dalmore's history of breaking records and provoking bidding wars at auction when its prestige releases appear, there was no doubt that a collection with this level of prestige and rarity would cause a stir when going under the hammer. Indeed, when the collection appeared at Sotheby's Hong Kong in October, it [achieved an incredible USD \\$1,124,000](#).

According to whisky expert and broker Blair Bowman, this recent success was not surprising and is simply indicative of a wider trend. "I'm continuing to see an increase in interest in The Dalmore, especially among clients in East Asia, which is borne out both in terms of bottle sales and cask purchases," he says. "This is coming from both established whisky collectors and those looking to move into whisky for both enjoyment and investment."

For any collector keen to enjoy their own piece of The Dalmore Decades, a strictly limited number of Collections will be made available via select retailers worldwide, the names of which will be announced in November 2021.

Whisky Review: Glenmorangie The Cadboll Estate 2021

By [John Dover](#) / November 9, 2021

Editor's Note: This whisky was provided to us as a review sample by Glenmorangie. This in no way, per [our editorial policies](#), influenced the final outcome of this review. It should also be noted that by clicking the buy link towards the bottom of this review our site receives a small referral payment which helps to support, but not influence, our editorial and other costs.

Although, I am sure experiencing this whisky in the Highlands of Scotland would be the optimal tasting excursion, I took my bottle along with me for an escape to the Pacific Northwest Coastline. The smell and sound of salty waves in the background, a bright sun shining through scattered clouds, and a gentle cool breeze from the south truly elevated the drinking experience.

Founded in 1843 by the husband-and-wife duo of William and Anne Matheson, [Glenmorangie](#) distills one of the most recognizable flavor profiles in the Scotch Whisky world. What sets the [Cadboll Estate](#) bottling that I sampled this week apart from the other whiskies offered under the Glenmorangie label, is that it is distilled from their own barley harvested from the Cadboll Estate and aged in American oak.

When I sample Scotch whisky, I look for an experience that will take my palate a step further than just searching for flavors. I want to be transported to another place and allowed to sample the culture, the land, the air, and everything else that goes into that bottle on the other side of the world. It is an opportunity to travel during a time when travel seems next to impossible. When I think of the Highlands, my palate leans towards the flavors of [Macallan](#), [Benromach](#), and [Dalwhinnie](#), with their bright, spicy notes, of citrus, and caramel paired with balanced oak and leather and just a whisper of smoke.

When I popped the top on this bottle, was I taken away to the rolling hills of Scotland? Or was I left sitting in my kitchen to sift through my memory banks in search of random flavors to connect with the bottle in front of me?



Glenmorangie The Cadboll Estate 2021 (image via [John Dover](#))

Tasting Notes: Glenmorangie The Cadboll Estate 2021

Vital Stats: 15 years old, aged in American oak, 43% ABV about \$90

Appearance: Light golden color, hangs in a single sheet vs a leggy decent.

Nose: Delicate nose with citrus on the front. Buttery with a bit of saline similar to a salted caramel. Hint of white pepper.

Palate: Buttery and spicy with a firm presence of oak. Fruitiness is accentuated by an orange peel with a bit of pith for bitterness and just a hint of banana to soften the bright citrus notes. There is malt on the center of the tongue and a peppery bite that prickles with heat that builds over time. It's not overly sweet, but there is a hint of honey and vanilla. The only negative notes I experienced were a bit of a medicinal aftertaste. But it was not enough to sway me from further sips.

The Takeaway

Summary

Glenmorangie is not a go-to Scotch for me. This bottling is the exception. With their attention to detail and presentation of flavors, they have struck a tone that is balanced and paints a picture of the traditions and landscape of the Scottish Highlands. Whether this result could have been achieved by their usual outsourcing of materials, or if it is because of the incorporation of their own grains, is not quite clear to me, but I for one am excited for this bottling and to see if the future is leaning towards this flavor profile for Glenmorangie.

Ex-Brora manager joins Isle of Arran Distillers

11 NOVEMBER 2021 By [Nicola Carruthers](#)

Scotch producer Isle of Arran Distillers has appointed former Brora manager Stewart Bowman to lead the Lochranza Distillery team, following the departure of David Livingstone.



Stewart Bowman has joined Isle of Arran Distillers

Bowman took over the distillery manager role from Livingstone, who left in September 2021 to return to Islay.

Bowman previously held the role of [site operations manager at the revived Brora distillery](#) as well as working in production at the Cragganmore Distillery. He also worked for Brewdog for eight years as head distiller.

Isle of Arran said Bowman's 'impressive' industry background will bring expertise and knowledge to the position.

"We're all very excited to be welcoming Stewart to our wonderful company," said James MacTaggart, director of operations and production for the Lagg and Lochranza distilleries.

"His experience, passion and understanding of the industry will no doubt be a huge asset as we look to the future with Lochranza Distillery.

"This is a very exciting time for Isle of Arran Distillers, and we are so happy to be welcoming visitors back to our distilleries after what has been a challenging period for the industry. With Stewart on board we are thrilled to get going with what promises to be a very exciting time for the company."

Isle of Arran's first distillery in Lochranza started production nearly 25 years ago. The company's second distillery in Lagg, which produces peated single malt, was opened in 2019.

Earlier this year, Diageo [restarted production at the refurbished Brora distillery in Scotland](#) following a multi-million-pound investment.

Gordon & MacPhail reveals £100k whisky collection

11 NOVEMBER 2021 By Melita Kiely

Independent bottler Gordon & MacPhail has created a one-off Scotch whisky collection priced at £100,000 (US\$134,000).



The Gordon & MacPhail Private Collection Showcase features 17 200ml bottles

The set comprises 17 200ml bottles from Gordon & MacPhail's Private Collection. Each whisky was curated by Stephen Rankin, director of prestige.

The whiskies are housed in a bespoke Scottish oak cabinet, hand-crafted by family-owned Method Studio.

The Private Collection Showcase is on display in Elgin, Scotland, in the shop where Gordon & MacPhail was established in 1895.

Rankin said: "The cabinet is unlike anything we have done before and is a chance to own a piece of Scotland's whisky history.

"It's a labour of love, from the meticulous process of our whisky experts pairing the spirit with the cask to the precision and talent of the cabinet makers, each built up over decades of experience.

"The result is a celebration of the patience and dedication that comes with true craftsmanship."

The full collection of whiskies available within the showcase are:

- Gordon & MacPhail 1953 from Strathisla Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1954 from Mortlach Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1957 from Glen Grant Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1961 from Mortlach Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1969 from Mortlach Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1965 from Glen Grant Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1966 from Longmorn Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1969 from Dallas Dhu Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1975 from Glenlossie Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1978 from Glen Grant Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1978 from Glenlivet Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1979 from Glenlivet Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1979 from Glen Albyn Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1979 from Glentauchers Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1981 from Coleburn Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1982 from St Magdalene Distillery
- Gordon & MacPhail 1982 from Caperdonich Distillery

Whisky enthusiasts can register their interest at gordonandmacphail.com.

In September this year, Gordon & MacPhail unveiled [Generations 80 Years Old](#) – the world's oldest single malt Scotch. A bottle of the rare liquid [fetched US\\$193,000 at auction](#) with Sotheby's last month.



Inside look: the wooden cabinet was designed by Method Studio

DC Comics unveils Batman-inspired single malt

12 NOVEMBER 2021 By Kate Malczewski

Park Row, the London restaurant created by DC Comics, has launched its first Scotch whisky, a 25-year-old limited edition bottling inspired by the story of Batman.



DC has made just 145 bottles of the whisky available. Inishree Speyside Single Malt comes from the distillery Imperial, which shuttered in 2013.

The whisky was placed in a single refill Bourbon barrel in 1993, and was bottled in 2019 by Speciality Drinks.

Just 145 bottles of the expression are available, priced at £495 (US\$663) each.

The whisky is named after the fictional town of Inishtree, which, in the world of the *Batman* comics, is the ancestral home of the superhero's alter ego Bruce Wayne.

On the nose, the liquid is said to offer notes of sugared almonds, biscuits, lemon curd and meadow flowers. Meanwhile, the palate delivers candy bracelets, sweet cream, buttermints and lemon zest.

Whisky enthusiasts can register their interest in the bottling by emailing inishtree@parkrowlondon.co.uk.

The immersive [Park Row venue opened in Central London in August](#), featuring a multitude of drinking dens and restaurants themed around the characters of the DC comic book universe, including a whisky bar called Pennyworth's. The space is a partnership between Warner Bros Themed Entertainment and DC Comics.

decades before it was transferred to a cognac cask. After that final maturation, the whisky was bottled at cask strength.

Tasting Notes:

The nose on this is one of the fruitiest out there, with strong notes of apricot next to dried figs, orange oils, old raisins, and candied fruits that lead towards a rummy fruitcake with a tube of marzipan running through it and a light flourish of fresh heather flowers. The palate really holds onto the fruit with the candied fruits and citrus rinds leading the way as apple cores and stems veer the taste towards a woodier note of cedar with a slight echo of white grape juice. The mid-palate holds onto the sweetness of that juice as the malts kick in with a slight tobacco spice that's *just touched* with a hint of dried and candied ginger.

Bottom Line:

This was fruity. That's not a bad thing at all. It's delicious. It's just that this didn't quite speak to me as deeply as the rest of the expressions on this list. Also, something has to be last in these rankings. So here we are.

7. Lagavulin Aged 12 Years, The Lion's Fire



DIAGEO

ABV: 56.5%

Average Price: [\\$172](#)

The Whisky:

This Islay whisky is iconic already and this year's younger of two special releases from the distiller helps cement that further. The whisky is built from juice aged in re-fill bourbon casks — meaning that the casks had already aged bourbon and then aged single malts at least once before this whisky was filled into them and left for 12 years. That whisky was then vatted and bottled at cask strength.

Tasting Notes:

This opens with a matrix of the sea and land as notes of air-dried sea salt mingle with nori wetted with sushi rice, and a clear sense of green tea with a hint of dried florals that then leads towards dry cacao powder, salted lemon peels, and a very distant line of sea-spray laced campfire smoke with wet sand lurking underneath. The palate takes that sea salt, nori, and lemon and tosses them together for a sharp yet dry and briny mouthfeel that leads back to now-sweetened tea with a hint of waxy saltwater taffy. The mid-palate rushes towards a big billow of dry driftwood smoke that's emboldened by a handful of smoked and dried ancho chilis.

Bottom Line:

There's a lot going on here. While The Singleton above was a little fruity, this feels a little all over the place. It ends up making sense but it's a baffling road to get there. Delicious, mind you, but it may leave you shaking your head.

All Of Diageo's 2021 Special Release Single Malts, Ranked

[ZACH JOHNSTON](#) TWITTER LIFE WRITER

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

2021 Games That Should Be On Your Holiday Wishlist

Every year, [Diageo](#) releases a set of [single malt whiskies](#) that invariably become the most [sought-after scotch expressions](#) of the year. 2021 was no different. Well... that's not entirely true. Diageo did, indeed, drop eight brand new [single malts](#) but they also added a new wrinkle by leaning into storytelling.

Each of this year's Special Releases is branded with a story that plays into the overall theme of "Legends Untold." Each bottle has its own title and QR code that will take you to an interactive visual story that plays into the theme of the [whisky](#) in the bottle and fables from Scotland. It's an extra layer of cool added to some already very unique whisky.

Fables aside, there are also eight pretty damn amazing bottles of [single malt scotch](#) at play in this year's set. We're going to rank each of those bottles based on taste alone (price and availability are not a factor here). It goes without saying that these special one-off whiskies from some of the most beloved distilleries in Scotland do not come cheap — the most expensive bottle is in the thousands. Still, this is the gift-giving and holiday imbibing season so click on those prices if you're interested in trying one of these yourself.

8. The Singleton of Glendullan Aged 19 Years, The Siren's Song



DIAGEO

ABV: 54.6%

Average Price: [\\$182](#)

The Whisky:

This Speyside malt — which is getting pushed pretty hard on the U.S. market right now — is all about the honeyed and heather notes of the region. This expression rested in former bourbon barrels for nearly two

6. Royal Lochnagar Aged 16 Years, The Spring Stallion



DIAGEO

ABV: 57.5%

Average Price: [\\$268](#)

The Whisky:

This eastern Highland whisky is another cask strength drop from Diageo. The juice was aged in refill bourbon barrels and left alone for 16 long years. There was no finishing cask. The whisky was simply vatted and bottled as-is.

Tasting Notes:

Soft, soft, soft. That could be the notes on the nose, palate, and finish and we could move on. More deeply, the nose is full of mild notes of dates next to tart apples and orange peels that turn into an apple cobbler of sorts as this very mellow, almost damp, mossy earthiness peeks in. That tart apple and orange zest drive the palate towards a soft malted cookie frosted with light powdered sugar and vanilla frosting. The end warms up with a slight pepper tobacco vibe next to a distant idea of a dry woodpile next to that tart fruit.

Bottom Line:

This is very interesting and very even-keeled. I really like this. It's mostly ranked a little lower because I'm not overly familiar with Royal Lochnagar, having only sampled a couple of the expressions over the years. So I'm not 100 percent sure if this is an outlier or perfect example of the distillery. Either way, this is really tasty and easy-going.

5. Mortlach Aged 13 Years, The Moonlit Beast



DIAGEO

ABV: 55.9%

Average Price: [\\$182](#)

The Whisky:

This year's Mortlach leans into the "beast of Dufftown" moniker the brand has earned by being bold and unique. The whisky in the bottle is a spirit that spent 13 years aging in both refill bourbon casks and new oak. Those barrels were vatted to create this beast of a whisky and it was bottled at cask strength.

Tasting Notes:

This starts off very unexpectedly with a nose full of Thanksgiving dinner — the roasted turkey with sage, thyme, and rosemary leads towards a bowl of cranberry sauce cut with holiday spices and a touch of sweetness next to the bold tartness of the berries while candied fruits, floral honey, and varnished cedar round out the nose. The palate builds on that vibe and adds in a vanilla-chili note that attaches to a dry cedar box full of fruity and sticky tobacco. That spice really leans into freshly cracked black pepper as the fruitier notes from the nose return to mellow everything out on the long finish.

Bottom Line:

This feels so *right now*. Big notes of roasted fowl, autumnal herbs, and wintry fruits with a warming woody tobacco vibe feel like you should be snuggled next to a crackling fire and sipping this exact whisky after a big holiday meal.

4. Talisker Aged 8 Years, The Rogue Seafury



DIAGEO

ABV: 59.7%

Average Price: [\\$120](#)

The Whisky:

This year's Talisker sticks with the classic age statement of 8-years while leaning into the smokier side of the Island whisky. The build on this expression is a marrying of the "Smokiest Reserves" from the Talisker warehouse. That juice is vatted and bottled at cask strength.

Tasting Notes:

You get this medley of smoked fruits on the nose — think smoked plum and apricot — that leads towards a rush of sea spray, iodine, and nori that braces your senses for this billow of wet forest and granite on fire like a mountain overlooking the ocean that's been set ablaze. The palate calms down only slightly with a pink sea salt that's been accented with dried roses while that smoke puffs through your sense with a green pepper spiciness and an almost sweet, wet fir tree bark with an earthy edge that almost feels like damp black dirt. That earthiness imparts a soft peatiness to the malt on the end with a slight tobacco chewiness followed by a final kick of spicy smoke.

Bottom Line:

Last year's Talisker 8 was my favorite by far. This year's release is so drastically different from last year's that it was hard to know where to place it. I really like this but it just didn't grab me quite as fully as the next three on this list.

That's not to say this isn't a thoroughly nuanced and delicious whisky. It is. It just wasn't my jam this year.

3. Cardhu Aged 14 Years, The Scarlet Blossoms of Black Rock



DIAGEO

ABV: 55.5%

Average Price: [\\$155](#)

The Whisky:

This year's Cardhu is a subtle malt that's just touched with wine casks after spending a dozen years mellowing in refill bourbon barrels. Those wine casks are dumped into a vat and then this is, again, bottled at barrel strength.

Tasting Notes:

This feels like a layered fruit tart that starts with almost sour apples and grapes that's topped with a layer of buttery pastry topped with red berries and pear that's topped with another layer of buttery pastry that's then topped with savory lychee that's *then* topped with dried orange zest, dried lavender petals, and a drizzle of cinnamon-spiced honey. The palate adds a creamy dollop of vanilla-laced whipped cream with a few lines of buttery toffee and more of those florals. Then the taste veers into a tannic, vinous red wine vibe with a touch of wet cedar and a hint of black peppercorn. The finish arrives quickly as that pepper smooths out into a powdery white pepper and the apple and pear return to softly bring about the short end.

Bottom Line:

This was goddamn delicious. It has a wonderful balance of sweet, tart, creamy, and spicy that just works. What's amazing is that while I really dig this, it still wasn't quite as bold and interesting as the next two.

2. Lagavulin Aged 26 Years, The Lion's Jewel



DIAGEO

ABV: 44.2%

Average Price: [\\$2,220](#)

The Whisky:

This is a very rare and unique whisky. First, it's the first 26-year-old Lagavulin released. Next, there are only 7,500 of these bottles in existence. Lastly, the whisky was built from a combination of first-fill Pedro Ximenez and Oloroso sherry casks. Those barrels were married after over two decades of mellowing and bottled at a very accessible cask strength of 44.2 percent.

Tasting Notes:

The nose on this opens as if you've taken a freshly emptied red wine barrel, torn the staves from the metal, and thrown those wet staves onto a campfire and then sat down to eat some figs wrapped in nori and drizzled with rich butterscotch while someone else threw an old boat rope onto that fire and then started up an outboard motor on the dock just a few feet away.

From there, the taste mellows out considerably as a vibe of smoked dates flaked with sea salt takes over and this clear sense of the oil from a sardine can arrives with plenty of salt and black pepper to help it go down easy. The finish mellows even further as this wet and earthy note arrives that's one part forest mushroom, one part wet green moss, and one part smoldering wet cedar branches with a slight peppery tobacco dryness and warmth on the very end.

Bottom Line:

Yes, the oldest and most expensive pour is one of the best. That should come as no surprise. What *is* surprising is the path this whisky takes you down. It's constantly surprising your senses while giving you this feel of ... comfort.

It's wild yet refined. It tastes old but feels new. It's birth, death, and rebirth all in one sip.

1. Oban Aged 12 Years, The Tale of Twin Foxes



DIAGEO

ABV: 56.2%

Average Price: [\\$142](#)

The Whisky:

Oban's location on the Scottish coast next to both the Islands and Highlands allows it to harness the best of both regions when making its whisky. This year's 12-year release is built on the backs of both ex-bourbon casks and refill bourbon casks, allowing the stronger notes of those new bourbon casks to get a light mellowing from the refill wood. The results are bottled at cask strength.

Tasting Notes:

Briny — that's the draw here. The nose has this mellow mix of spicy nori crackers that lead towards an old wooden cutting board that's slick with olive juice, fish oils, salt, and black pepper that you then take a heel of bread to mop up while a slight note of smoked haddock or cod lingers on the very backend. On the palate, a burst of citrus oils arrives to cut through all that umami, oil, and brine as a light malty fruitiness adds a little tart and sweet to the mix with a sense of cedar chips soaked in mild chili oil drives a warmth. The finish lets that spice build towards a dry pepperiness thanks to the wood as the fruit ties itself to a very mild tobacco leaf and another note of that smoked fish sneaks in on the very end.

Bottom Line:

This took me home. I was raised on the sea (in a little town called Port Townsend) and we fished nearly every day. We smoked a lot of the fish we caught and this brought back all those sense memories and just memories of that time. It damn near brought a tear to my eye. This wins hands down for the transportation sensory experience alone. I honestly cannot detach this from the hefty load of nostalgia it dug up to say truly if it's the most delicious. All that I know is that it was the most delicious dram of this set for me.

Seasonal Release 2021 – Glen Scotia 12 Year Old at Hard To Find
Whisky – Scotch Whisky News
November 10th, 2021



Seasonal Release 2021

Limited Edition | 12 Year Old | 54.7% ABV | 70cl

Bringing together a series of unpeated distillations from 2009 and earlier, this seasonal spirit was matured in first fill Bourbon casks and American Oak hogsheads. After eleven years maturation it has then been finished for twelve months in first fill Oloroso hogsheads and heavily charred American Oak barrels before being married prior to bottling at cask strength.

NOSE

Toffee, apple, seaspray, vanilla

PALATE

Warm spice, nutty, floral, orange citrus, melted brown sugar

FINISH

Long nutty finish with pears and dried peel

£74.95

SCOTTISH LOWLANDS WHISKY: THE RESURRECTION OF A REGION

[BY THIJS KLAVERSTIJN](#)

November 11, 2021

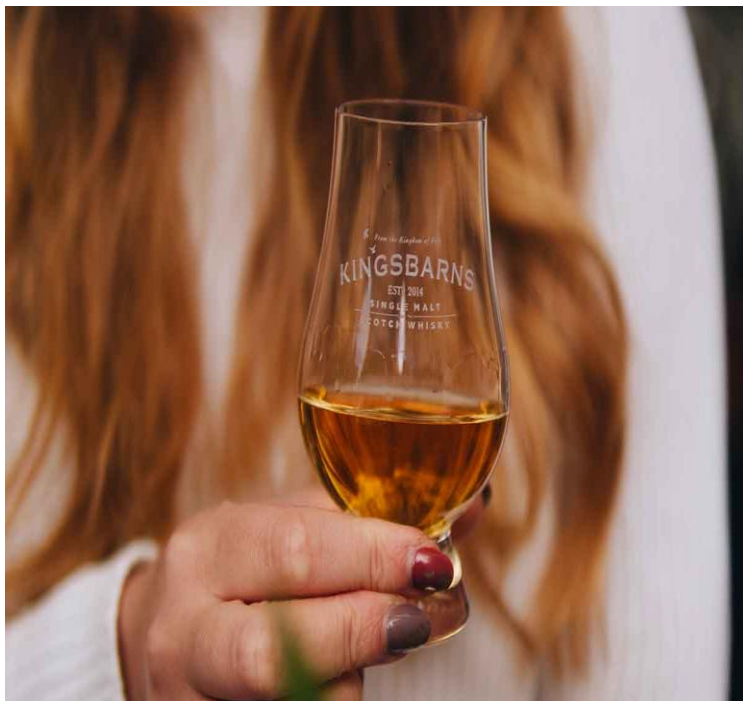
Not that long ago the Scottish Lowlands region was on life support. But within the span of a decade it has become a vibrant [whisky region](#) teeming with new distilleries, as well as a few revitalized oldies. The Lowlands malt whisky region has a history dating back to the end of the 18th century, which is when it was first defined as part of the 1784 Wash Act. In the following decades an impressive Lowlands distilling industry was established. Triple distillation was often

employed, while many distillers also opted for coal rather than peat in the malting process. These choices gave birth to the traditional Lowlands character of a light, elegant, floral and grassy malt whisky. "They wanted to produce a style which made them different to the other regions", explains Gordon Dundas, senior brand ambassador at Ian Macleod Distillers, which owns legendary Lowlands whisky distillery [Rosebank](#). "The regions are obviously all about the historical blending element rather than the modern single malt. The Lowlands distillers set out to produce something that blenders wanted to use and was different from whiskies from the Highlands, Speyside or Islands."

LOWLANDS WHISKY RENAISSANCE

Once there were over 100 producers in the Scottish Lowlands. But that number diminished to just three at the start of the current millennium. [Auchentoshan](#), [Glenkinchie](#) and [Bladnoch](#) were the last distilleries standing. The rise of the Speyside region in the second half of the 19th century certainly didn't help the Lowlands. World War I and Prohibition hit the region especially hard; 22 distilleries closed in the 1910s and 1920s. During the entirety of the 20th century only one new distillery was built in the Lowlands. And whenever the whisky industry fell on hard times, Lowlands whisky distilleries were easy victims. As many were built in urban areas, owners could sell their sites to developers for decent money.

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Kingsbarns whisky /Photo Credit: Kingsbarns

However, the fortunes of the Lowlands whisky region changed dramatically in the 2010s. Now there are 17 distilleries currently producing malt whisky and a number of others are still in the works. Ironically, this time around it seems the location is a strength for the Lowlands. As it's the most populous and urban area of Scotland, it gives new distilleries an obvious tourism advantage. Tourists bring in much-needed cash flow during those first three years when there's no mature whisky yet. Most of the tourism centers around Scotland's two largest cities, Edinburgh and Glasgow, both of which are located in the Lowlands.

"There are also logistical issues for new distilleries that are starting on an island or in the far northwest where you have single track roads", says Peter Holroyd, distillery manager of [Kingsbarns](#). This distillery in Fife has been in production since 2014. He continues, "They sometimes put distilleries in very awkward places. In the Lowlands we're closer to populated areas, so you can get your logistics and labor sorted out a little bit easier."

CHANGING CHARACTER

Together with the likes of [Lindores](#), Clydeside and [Daftmill](#), Kingsbarns is one the new Lowlands whisky distilleries that has already released its product into the marketplace. From the outset the whisky makers knew they wanted to make something that was akin to the traditional Lowlands style. "Some people may think it is just a gentle dram that's not very interesting," says Holroyd. "But far from it. Some of the best

whiskies I've ever had have been Lowland whiskies. Some old Bladnoch. And I remember the first time I ever smelled Rosebank. It just blew me away. There's a hell of a lot of character in these malts."



Whisky barrels/Photo Credit: Lochlea Distillery

But with the influx of new distilleries the traditional Lowlands whisky character is evolving. For example, [Lochlea Distillery](#) in South Ayrshire wants to make sure people don't pigeonhole Lowlands whisky. This single-estate farm distillery is set to launch its inaugural whisky in November. But Lochlea doesn't produce a typical Lowlander. In fact, the distillery produces more than one spirit style. One is suited to a shorter maturation, while the other will spent at least ten years in the cask.

"We don't want people to think that all Lowland whiskies are going to taste a certain way," explains David Ferguson, commercial manager at Lochlea. "We have fourteen different cask types maturing in our warehouse and 95 percent of the stock that we have will not taste light and grassy. It's good if people start to change their mindset and know that you can get very different styles of whisky even within one area."

CHERRY ON TOP

Dundas agrees with Ferguson that the Lowlands style will likely "evolve over time." But he is also involved with the resurrection of Rosebank, a distillery that might just be the prime example of a typical Lowlands whisky. An icon in the world of Scotch whisky, Rosebank closed its doors in 1993, partly due to a lack of tourism opportunities. But 25 years after the "Queen of the Lowlands" shut down, the whisky climate had changed drastically. As a result, Dundas' employer Ian Macleod Distillers swooped in and announced it was giving Rosebank a new lease on life.

"People would say it was the Queen of the Lowlands, and that's an honorable thing for us to strive for," says Dundas. "Hopefully they'll say that again about Rosebank. The pressure is high, but we have great people at this company, a family business, that understand distillation and distilleries. We will go through a period of tweaking the spirit, looking at yeast, barley varieties, temperatures, and flow rates. All these things that will allow us to settle on a spirit style that we're really happy with."

"We're also very aware that when we do release a whisky, which will be around 2030, we'll be entering a very different whisky industry even compared to what it is now. We have to produce a whisky that is relevant to the history of the distillery, but also relevant in that modern marketplace. There's a lot for us to consider, but of course we will be making it in the same style."

Assuming everything stays on schedule, Rosebank will be producing whisky once again in the summer of 2022. And once it re-opens, Rosebank will be the cherry on top the Lowlands whisky revival.

EL TESORO MUNDIAL COLLECTION SERIES BEGINS WITH LAPHROAIG CASK FINISH

This week El Tesoro Tequila and Master Distiller Carlos Camarena have introduced the Mundial Limited Edition Series, a new experimental collection from La Altea Distillery in Jalisco, Mexico. The Mundial expressions will feature one-of-a-kind single barrels of El Tesoro tequilas finished in unique casks that have previously held other spirits from around the globe.

The premiere release in the series, El Tesoro Mundial: The Laphroaig Edition, features El Tesoro Añejo finished in casks that once held Laphroaig single malt Scotch whisky. For this expression, Camarena worked closely with the Laphroaig distillery team to arrive at the final flavor profile. First, the tequila was aged for nine months in ex-bourbon barrels. Then the tequila was finished for four additional months in Laphroaig 10 Year Single Malt casks.

“While we continue upholding the traditional processes that have made El Tesoro the treasure of Jalisco, we also like to experiment with ways to bring tequila production to a different level,” explains Camarena.

“The Laphroaig finish imparts a slight whiff of smoke on the nose but not heavy peat as one might expect. It is just enough to create a specific spiciness that shows how well the peatiness of Laphroaig intertwines and complements the deep, rich agave flavors we are most proud of with our El Tesoro Añejo.”

Significantly, new Mundial Collection editions will be introduced in the coming years. Each edition will be finished in different types of casks.

[El Tesoro Mundial Collection: The Laphroaig Edition](#) is bottled at 40% ABV. The tequila is available in limited quantities at select markets at retailers and bars as of mid-November 2021. The SRP is \$125.00.



El Tesoro Mundial Collection: The Laphroaig Edition /Photo Credit: Gabi Porter

BOWMORE MASTERS' COLLECTION AIMS TO UNITE THE WORLDS OF WHISKY MAKING AND AUTOMOTIVE DESIGN

The latest single malt whisky from Islay's Bowmore Distillery is a collaboration with Aston Martin, with the intention of showcasing a shared heritage of craftsmanship.

Here's what to look forward to according to the press release: the whisky itself was created with the Golden Ratio theory – the

mathematical ratio found in nature that creates aesthetically pleasing compositions — in mind.

To explain further, this whisky uses what is considered the “divine proportion” of 61.8%. In this instance, a base of 21 year Bowmore matured in first-fill Pedro Ximenez and oloroso sherry casks is used.

The remaining parts are made up of exact ratios of each other, again in line with the Golden Ratio theory. Additionally, the whisky includes Bowmore matured for over 35 years.

[Bowmore Masters' Selection](#) is bottled at 51.8% ABV. The whisky is available now in select global markets including the UK, Germany, Canada and China. However, in the US availability won't begin until January 2022. The SRP is \$400.00.

Membership and Dinner prices for 2021-2022

Membership Fee:	\$50 (singles)
	\$75 (couples)
One Time Initiation Fee:	\$15
Standard Dinner Fee:	\$90 (member)
	\$100 (non-member)

Reservation policy

- The agreement with the Kitchen's requires that we provide five (5) business days notice for them to guarantee accommodation for our requested numbers. To accommodate the Kitchen's needs and meet our obligation with them; our members are requested to respond to the emailed invitation five (5) 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 20th, 2021 dinner date as an example:
 - Dinner invitations will be sent out Friday August 20th, 2021. Please respond to me (rdifazio04@gmail.com) in the form of an e-transfer. 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).
 - Once payment is received I will send a confirmation and your seat will be guaranteed reserved.
 - An RSVP only does not guarantee the seat and if there is a waiting list, you run the risk of losing your seat.
 - Unless otherwise stated accommodation at the dinner will be guaranteed for all members who respond by Friday September 3rd, 2021 @ 6pm or until capacity is achieved.
 - Please keep in mind until further notice our maximum attendance will be capped at 40. So delays run the risk of you missing out.
-

Cancellation policy

- Using the same example as above, anyone who cancels anytime prior to Friday September 3rd, 2021 @ 6pm will be removed from the list.
 - Anyone canceling between Friday September 3rd, 2021 @ 6pm and Monday September 20th, 2021 will be expected to pay for the cost of the dinner and scotch (\$90). 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 20th, 2021 dinner without having cancelled and been successfully replaced will be expected to pay the full cost (\$90). A member will be responsible for their guest's cancellation (\$100).
 - If a member asks to be included at the dinner between Friday September 3rd, 2021 @ 6pm and Monday September 20th, 2021 their name will be placed on a wait-list and be accommodated on a first-come first-serve basis.
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Dinner Payments

- Please consider sending your payment by e-transfer prior to the dinner. The password will be "KSMS2021RDF", 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.
-

Assigned / Reserved Seating

- Assigned Seating will be offered for the January, June, August, and December dinners.
 - 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.
-

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.



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