

O thou, my Muse! Guid auld Scotch drink, Whether through wimplin' worms thou jink, Or, richly brown, ream o'er the brink, In glorious faem, Inspire me, till I lisp and wink, To sing thy name!

Robert Burns - Scotch Drink (1785)

Whisky

The name derives from the Gaelic "usquebaugh", meaning "Water of Life". This was phonetically transformed first into "usky", then "whisky-bar" and eventually Whisky.

Scotland has internationally protected the term "Scotch". For a whisky to be labelled Scotch it has to be both produced and matured in Scotland. The maturation must take place in oak casks for a period of at least 3 years and one day and it may not be bottled if it is less than 40% alcohol by volume.

Legend has it that St Patrick introduced distilling to Ireland in the fifth century AD and that the secrets travelled with the Dalriadic Scots when they arrived in Kintyre around AD500. St Patrick probably acquired the knowledge in Spain and France, countries that might have known the art of distilling at that time.

Types of whisky

There are two main categories of whisky – single and blended. Single means that all of the product is from a single distillery, while blended means that the product is composed of whiskies from two or more distilleries. Traditional practices define five types:

Single malt whisky is 100% malted barley whisky from one distillery, distilled in batches in pot stills.

Single grain whisky is distilled at a single distillery from water and malted barley, with or without whole grains of other cereals and must not meet the requirements of a single malt whisky.

Blended malt whisky is a blend of single malt whiskies from two or more distilleries.

Blended grain whisky is a whisky created by mixing grain whiskies from more than one distillery.

Blended Scotch whisky is a mixture of single malt whisky and grain whisky, distilled at more than one distillery.

How to drink whisky

There is no right or wrong way to drink Scotch whisky - it's all down to personal taste, however, here are a few suggestions:

Many who drink whisky neat say they do not want to spoil the taste by adding water. However, equally as many will say that adding a touch of water, serves to enhance the distinctive aroma and flavour of a whisky, softening it up to help make the individual flavours more accessible. In some areas tap water contains high amounts of chlorine and therefore would not complement a whisky, so it is best to opt for bottled mineral water, which we offer complimentary with our whiskies if you prefer (please just ask). Adding ice to a whisky can be considered a shame because it will only dull the fine taste and wonderful aromas. Similarly, carbonated water is not an ideal accompaniment for whisky as it may also interfere with the aromas.

All of our whiskies are served in 35ml 'nips' & the following tasting notes are based on the whisky being undiluted. Adding a touch of water should help you access these flavours a little more easily.

As we say in Scotland......'Slangevar'!



Our most local, Scotland's most easterly & one of the oldest operating distilleries in Scotland – Glen Garioch (pronounced 'Glen *Geery*' in the ancient Doric dialect still spoken in these parts) has been making its mighty malt in the quaint and historic market town of Oldmeldrum, near Aberdeen in North East Scotland, ever since 1797. Shielded from the world's prying eyes, deep in the fertile 'Granary of Aberdeenshire', and only ever produced in small, precious batches, Glen Garioch is a rare find indeed, but warmly appreciated by those who like a hearty Highland malt, non chill-filtered as nature intended, with a wholesome maltiness, honeyed sweetness and delicious creamy texture to savour.

** The distillery is open for tours all year round - please speak to a member for staff if you would like help in booking a tour or for directions **

Glen Garioch 1797 Founders Reserve (48%)

The nose has lots of caramel, vanilla & butterscotch – very sweet, with underlying nutmeg, spices, peppery. Mouth-coating on the palate, with some dryness – plenty of barley & cereal notes. For the finish, the grain continues – distant peat – quite warming, but not overly long, leaving a refreshed palate. Overall, the whisky is easygoing in style, with the intensity, texture & strength holding the whisky together very well.

Glen Garioch 12 Year Old (48%)

A fresh, crisp & creamy whisky. Aromas of refreshing mint, milky caramel & delicious apple. Sugar & cinnamon jump out on the palate, immediately chased back with a sharp dryness, which carries through to the finish. Lovely hints of apple, caramel & peel. A short to medium finish.

THE ISLANDS

ARRAN

Arran 10 Year Old (46%)

Complex, for a 10 Year Old. The nose is herbal, biscuity, hedgerow greenness. Sweet on the palate, quite malty with tones of digestive biscuits followed by green fruits. A malty finish. Multiple gold award winner 2014, 2018, 2019.

ISLAY

Ardbeg 10 Year Old (46%)

Deep peaty notes with tobacco smoke and strong espresso, plus treacle sweetness. The finish is smoky, yet sweet.

Ardbeg Uigeadail (54.2%)

Bottled at cask strength and awarded World Whisky of the Year 2009. The nose is deep and rounded – chocolate caramels and barley sugar combine with dates, raisins and smooth sherry notes, with leather and linseed oil finishing. The taste is sweet, chewy & oily with a silky feel in the mouth – fruitcake and treacle – then barbequed food and olives. A long sweet and dry finish with honey, treacle and lint.

Ardbeg Corryvreckan (57.1%)

Winner of the World Best Single Malt of the Year 2010. Deepest amber in colour. A heady, intense & powerful aromas, initially of tarry ropes, creosote & linseed oil – then to waxy dark chocolate, warm blackcurrants & muscovado sugar. Tastes of peppery steak, crispy seaweed & black-tarry espresso coffee. Dark fruit tastes & bitter almonds also emerge. A long, deep & powerful finish.

Bowmore 12 Year Old (40%)

Medium-bodied, warm gold malt. Smokiness balanced by heather-honey sweetness. Chocolate, pears, citrus bouquet.

Bowmore 15 Year Old (43%)

The colour of burnt sienna. The nose is of dark chocolate, raisins & the usual Bowmore smokiness. Tastes of Cedar wood & rich treacle toffee with a robust & warming finish, encompassing a hint of cherry tannin.

Bowmore 18 Year Old (43%)

This perfumed, fruity offering was launched in January of 2007 to replace the 17 year old. The nose is pungent, citrus stewing fruit, hints of damp wood and a very soft smoke. The palate is spirity at first, then gives way to perfume, fruit, plum jam. A good sweetness, peat smoke, grapey. Seville marmalade, blossom, dark peat on the finish.

Bruichladdich 'The Laddie' Classic 10 Year Old (46%)

The colour of bright, golden syrup. Floral/fruit notes with soft marshmallows, Madeira cake, carnations & apple blossom, before the oak sets in. Sweet oak flavours with a small wait before the richness and the fruitiness emerge. Eventually, black cherries emerge toward the finish, which is deep and full of finesse.

Bunnahabhain 12 Year Old (46.3%)

Gentle and smooth with just a hint of peat and brine. Oiliness and mocha hints on the finish.

Bunnahabhain 18 Year Old (46.3%)

Beautiful & golden in colour. The nose releases honeyed nuts with a slightly sea-induced salty tang – after that, leathery oak & rich toffee. Mellow, sherried nuts & oak influence the palate. A short but pleasant finish, with burnt pastry and smoke.

Lagavulin 16 Year Old (43%)

A huge, dry, peaty style with hints of iodine and a long, smooth finish. Notes of orange, toffee and heath all feature.

Caol Ila 12 Year Old (43%)

Pale straw in colour. The nose is subdued with a whiff of bath oil or dentists mouthwash. A fresh & appetising nose, with no sign of any smokiness. Drinks well at natural strength with a sweet start and a slight, fragrant smokiness with a lengthy finish.

Laphroaig 10 Year Old (40%)

Iodine, smoke and sea air abound on the nose along with Satsuma, clove, ginger peel and vanilla pod aromas. Intense and concentrated on the palate with masses of complexity and a long, spicy finish.

Laphroaig 15 Year Old (43%)

A heavily peated nose of tar, iodine and notes of creosote. Some fruit gives way to delicate whirls of smoke, very full in body. The palate is, at first, smoky and medicinal, well-rounded and rich, but still soft. Sweetness creeps onto the fore followed by a belt of peat and a touch of malt. The finish is very well-balanced and smoky.

Laphroaig Quarter Cask (48%)

Released in 2004, this bottling was aged for 5 years, before being finished in a quarter cask for several months. As the cask is quite small, is does not require such a long maturation. Oily & buttery on the nose, with toffee, nuttiness, hickory, rum & raisin ice cream & zest. On the palate is a big rush of sweetness, with fiery chilli heat, TCP, sweet cereals & a touch of cola syrup. A medium-length finish, which becomes fruity, with custard & cigar smoke.

Seaweed & Aeons & Fire & Digging 10 Year Old (40%)

From an undisclosed distillery in Islay. 25% of it has been finished off in first-fill Oloroso sherry octaves. Unsurprisingly, the nose is of sherry, rich & powerful, with a well-integrated core of peat. Well balanced on the palate – again, lots of sherry. The finish doesn't disappoint – red apple sweetness gives way to oaken-vanilla goodness & fades into the embers of a chargrilled, well-aged steak. A multiple gold & silver winner at the International Wine & Spirit Awards over the years.

JURA

Isle of Jura 10 Year Old (40%)

Almost Highland in style with a light, well matured palate. A pleasant oily nuttiness and lingering floral notes.

Isle of Jura Prophecy (46%)

Rich, amber gold with shimmering highlights. A lustrous copper gold & cherry wood hue. Tarry bonfire notes give way to liquorice & nutmeg. Powerful flavours of peak smoke, fresh cinnamon and spicy sea spray give way to the liquorice & nutmeg. Hints of earth, moss and peat – perhaps a touch of bonfire smoke & Arbroath smokies (kippers). Bottled in a traditional style, crafted from a selection of the finest & rarest Jura single malts, delivering an authentic taste of 1938. Voted Best in Class Silver at the 2009 International Wine & Spirit Competition.

MULL

Tobermoray 10 Year Old (46.3%)

A fresh lightly peaty, smoky nose. Medium dry with a smooth and fruity tang.

ORKNEY

Highland Park 12 Year Old (40%)

Aromas of herbs and heather, boiled sweets and a drop of full cream; all rounded off with a waft of smoky sweetness.

Highland Park 15 Year Old, 2000 (46%)

Independently bottled by the Edinburgh Whisky Company, this was matured in a first-fill bourbon barrel from March 2000 to June 2015, when it was bottled with a outturn of only 257 bottles. The nose is classic Highland Park smokiness, with notes of vanilla and white fruit growing in the background. Smoke isn't quite as pronounced on the palate, giving way to more apple, pear and raisin notes. The finish is dark chocolate and peat.

Scapa Skiren (40%)

Our replacement for the 16 that is now sadly discontinued. The Skiren was matured in first-fill American oak casks, bringing plenty of vanilla and honey notes to the table. The name comes from the Old Norse word for "glittering bright skies". Runny honey and fresh cream on the nose. Hints of apple and a touch of anise. Maybe some crushed nuts, too. Continued honey warmth and richness on the palate. Sparks of juicy pear and lemon peel. Touches of oak develop further on, bringing some balancing spice. The finish is of medium length and a bit sweet, with oak lasting too.

SKYE

Talisker 10 Year Old (45.8%)

A smoky nose and a sweet maltiness with a spicy and long finish.

SPEYSIDE

Aberlour 10 Year Old (40%)

Gold in colour with a dry, fresh fruit aroma. Sweet notes of mint toffee. Smooth creamy taste, with spicy-sweet nutmeg and honey, mixed with dewy freshness of autumn fruits. A long, soft warming finish.

(The) Balvenie 12 Year Old DoubleWood (40%)

Honey, amber gold in colour. Sweet fruits, Oloroso sherry and vanilla on the nose. The palate is smooth, rich and mellow, with a nutty sweetness and hints of spices, along with the sherry notes. The finish is long and warming.

(The) Balvenie 14 Year Old, Caribbean Cask (43%)

A limited-edition Balvenie, which finishes its maturation in casks which had previously held Caribbean rum. Expect vanilla & toffee notes as the rum contributes extra sweetness to the flavours. There's brown sugar, nutmeg & butter on the nose, along with shortbread, golden syrup & sweet Muscat grapes. Apples, lemons, icing sugar & brown toast on the palate, as well as syrup, caramel & toffee popcorn. White toast with golden syrup & spiced, stewed apples on the finish.

(The) Balvenie 17 Year Old, DoubleWood (43%)

The 17 year old version of the bestselling DoubleWood. Initially matured in 'whisky oak' casks, before being switched to sherry wood to finish – the added 5 years give it extra depth without being overpowering. Warm Acacia honey & green apples on the nose, leading to warm winter spices, vanilla & honeysuckle on the palate. A gloriously long finish with notes of vanilla & honey.

Benrinnes 15 Year Old (43%)

The only Speyside malt to be triple distilled & part of their Flora & Fauna series. The nose is slightly doughy – think toffee chip biscuits – and floral. With a rounded palate it has a good sweetness with a whiff of peat. A barley-infused, biscuity finish, slightly drying. A lovely whisky!

Benromach 10 Year Old (43%)

Straw yellow. The nose consists of citrus fruits with a hint of honey and pine resin. Peaty, malty notes in the background. The taste is smoky with cereal and malt flavours, which dries up with spicy/peppery notes, followed with a floral edge. A slightly sweet finish with a hint of smoke and malt.

Cardhu 12 Year Old (40%)

Pale, light amber colour. Medium bodies with a hint of sweetness and peat. The taste is smooth, light to medium. Malty sweetness with a hint of peat. A long, lingering and sweet finish with some peat coming through.

Cragganmore 12 Year Old (40%)

A delicate and smooth malt with a bouquet of herbal flowers. Smoky maltiness to the finish, which is long and dry.

Craigellachie 17 Year Old (46%)

The 17 year old expression really shows off the meatiness of this Speysider's spirit. Apple crumble, melon and raisins on the nose, alongside honey'd barley, a little hint of smoke and vanilla ice-cream. The palate opens up very sweetly with pineapple and custard creams, though the meatiness soon shines through. More smoke on the palate than the nose, with a touch of clove and oak. Waxy and smoky on the finish.

Dalwhinnie 15 Year Old (43%)

A crisp, dry aromatic nose, then soft flavours of heather, honey-sweetness, malt and citrus-fruits lead to a lingering, sweet finish and finally more smoke, peat and malt.

GlenAllachie 12 Year Old (46%)

One of the unique distilleries that is still independently, Scottish owned. This expression is the flagship of the distillery, which features whisky matured in Pedro Ximinez, Oloroso & virgin oak casky, resulting in a huge flavour profile of fruit, oak & vanilla. Fried banana, almond, cola cubes & freshly cut oak on the nose. Stem ginger, sultana, barley & buttery vanilla on the palate. Slightly chocolatey on the finish.

GlenAllachie 18 Year Old (46%)

Again, this expression was aged in the same casks as the 12 year old expression. Salted butter, treacle tart & cinnamon bun on the nose. Barley again on the palate, but this time with added kirsch & sultana notes in support. Caramelised dates & peanut butter mark the finish.

(The) Glendronach 12 Year Old (43%)

A rich, creamy nose with cereals, specifically barley, hazelnut & oak. Buttery on the palate, with fruit peels – also, pain au chocolate, marmalade on toast – nutty. A good length on the finish – again, buttery, cereals with toffee.

Glenfarclas 10 Year Old (40%)

Wonderful combination of biscuits and cream, with hints of peat and perfume.

Glenfarclas 105 (60%)

A cask strength whisky. Great depth in the nose – sherry, creamy, nutty – honey on soft toast & a touch of smoky coffee. A silky palate – spicy & peppery – hints of almond, praline, hazelnut, dry peels. A touch of Armagnac. A long, peppery & nutty finish.

Glenfiddich 12 Year Old (40%)

Possessed of a delicate, floral, slightly fruity nose, it is well mannered in the mouth, malty, elegant and soft. Rich, fruit flavours dominate the palate, with a developing nuttiness and an elusive whiff of peat smoke in the fragrant finish.

Glenfiddich 15 Year Old (40%)

This whisky is produced using a Solera system, commonly used when producing quality sherry. 15 year old malt from three different types of casks is married together in a wooden vat, which is constantly topped up to ensure quality is maintained. The colour is golden with a red hue. An intriguingly complex aroma on the nose – sweet heather honey & vanilla fudge combined with rich, dark fruits. It's a silky smooth taste, revealing layers of sherry oak, marzipan, cinnamon & ginger – full bodied & bursting with flavour. A finish which is satisfying with lingering sweetness.

Glenfiddich 18 Year Old (40%)

An inviting oaky perfume, with lots of mango, banana, some sherry sweetness, and backed up by a delicate complexity.

(The) Glenlivet 12 Year Old (40%)

The nose is remarkably flowery, clean and soft. The body is light to medium, firm and smooth. Flowery, peachy, notes of vanilla, delicate balance between sweetness & malty dryness. A long and warming finish.

(The) Glenlivet Founder's Reserve (40%)

Dates, orange zest, toffee, hints of struck match & chocolate raisins on the nose. A fruity-sweet palate with touches of anise, milk chocolate, banoffee pie & apple turnover. The finish is of creamy toffee, a little oak & sweet barley sugar. Milk chocolate raisins linger on the finish. A gold award winner in the Speyside No Age Statement category, 2015.

(The) Glenlivet 18 Year Old (43%)

Winner of two golds at the International Wine and Spirits Competition. The nose is quite big and well-rounded. There are notes of chewy sultanas and Sherried peels, barley sugars and toasty cereals with petals and apple blossom. A touch of fudge and gentle wisps of smoke. The palate is full and rich with notes of chewy, tannic oak. Manuka honey and walnut with Cox's apples and orange peels. Cut herbs - fennel and spearmint. A long dry finish with a spicy oak note.

Knockando 12 Year Old (43%)

Pale gold in colour. Sweet and aromatic with light nutty notes. Light and smooth body – a little creamy. Delicate in the mouth, soft and fruity with a hint of almonds. A smooth finish – toffee and creamy notes, becoming drier.

Linkwood 12 Year Old (43%)

Gold in colour. The nose is ripe fruit with a light, malty touch. A malty, fruit taste with a hint of honey. A pleasant malty finish.

Longmorn 16 Year Old (48%)

Old-gold in colour. The nose is of cream, spice, toffee apples and honey. Medium bodied in the mouth, displaying fudge, butter and lots of spice. The finish is quite long, with oak and lingering spices towards the end.

(The) Macallan 1824 Gold (40%)

This 'Gold' was the first in Macallan's last no age statement range of, which concentrates on colour. The theory is that by using 100% sherry casks and natural colour, the darker the whisky, the older and more complex. The nose is tangerine & very citrusy, but not young – more of a 'Crunchie Bar' or toffee. The palate is toffee, barley & dried orange peel. A short finish but very good – parkin and a touch of cinnamon. Macallan are due to revise this range, but we've invested in a few bottles of each so they'll be on our list a while longer.

Strathisla 12 Year Old (43%)

Amber gold. An oaky nose, with hints of sherry and citrus fruits. A full and dry taste with pleasant honey hints. A long pleasurable finish.

Tamdhu 10 Year Old (40%)

The nose is a softness of vanilla & sugared almonds, balanced by fresh oak & cinnamon. The palate is bursting with fruit & spice, gently yielding to toffee & the richness of sherry oak. On the finish, fruit & vanilla linger, becoming pleasantly drying, finally unveiling the merest wisp of peat smoke.

Tomatin 12 Year old (43%)

Gold in colour. Rich malt and fruity aromas, with a hint of peatiness. Sweet in taste – a mix of apples and pears and malt with a hint of nuttiness and sherry wood. A long and warm spicy finish.

Tomatin 14 Year old, Port Finish (46%)

Quite a powerful nose, with big bunches of red berries and grapes - vanilla, oak and hints of white pepper. Dark chocolate dipped in strawberries smoothes over the palate. Crushed almonds, walnuts, Victoria sponge and a centre of oak. Fruity on the finish.

Tomintoul 10 Year old (40%)

Tomintoul has been marketed as a single malt since 1973, however it remains comparatively unexposed. This is an excellent, easy drinking, aperitif Speyside, with a light, floral & pleasantly malty nose. Light bodies & delicate, with vanilla fudge, apples & lemon on the palate. A medium length finish, with honey & lingering malt.

Tomintoul 16 Year old (40%)

Hazelnut on the nose, with dry bracken/heather & cereal. Water brings out some grasssines, a touch of syrup & green fern. The palate is soft to start, rounded with butterscotch & nutmeg – light & dry. A spicy finish.

HIGHLANDS

AnCnoc 12 Year Old (40%)

The nose is soft, very aromatic with a hint of honey and lemon in the foreground. Sweet to start with, the palate has an appetising fruitiness and a long smooth finish.

AnCnoc 22 Year Old (46%)

This is a brand-spanking-new AnCnoc, distilled at the Knockdhu distillery and aged in both American bourbon casks and Spanish oak Oloroso sherry-seasoned casks for a period of 22 years. Very rich and full of flavour. Nose: Sweet, biscuity aromas. Hints of Manuka honey and toffee apples. Notes of mince pies, a touch of smoke and candied lemon peel. Slightly floral. Full-bodied palate entry with notes of Corinth raisins and citrus. Hints of spice, custard and calves leather. Quite juicy and faintly smoked. A long finish with honey and allspice. Won a silver medal at the 2013 Wine & Spirit Awards.

Balblair 12 Year Old (46%)

Aromas of sponge cake, earthiness & nutmeg. Red apple & juice pear fill the palate, with layers of honey & barley developing. The honey continues in the finish, with milky tea & sultana notes for company. Multiple silver award winner.

Blair Athol 12 Year Old (43%)

Gold in colour with a sweet, smoky and ginger nose. The taste is sweet and fruity – a slow start develops into a prolonged explosion. The length of finish is average, sweet with a hint of smoke.

Clynelish 14 Year Old (46%)

A delightfully complex spicy and perfumed nose, with some floral and malty hints. The palate is multi-layered, with some slight citrus hints on a background of honey with peat and delicious spices. The finish is honey with a trace of brine.

(The) Dalmore 12 Year Old (40%)

Deep golden mahogany in colour with orange marmalade and aromatic spicy on the nose. Elegant and rich on the palate with concentrated citrus, Oloroso sherry and hints of sweet vanilla pod. A complex finish.

(The) Dalmore 15 Year Old (40%)

Good attack on the palate – elegant and refined. The aged Matusalem, Apostoles and Amoroso Oloroso sherry butts deliver a rich and aromatic heart full of dried spices – cloves, cinnamon and ginger. A concentrated citrus mouth-feel tantalises the middle part of the tongue, with Seville orange, lemon and lime. An almost perfect single malt – great distinction.

(The) Dalmore Cigar Malt Reserve (44%)

The nose is malty, rich & creamy. Lots of toffee, hints of mint chocolate, cardamom – fresh, lively & very complex. A round & sweet palate & good balance on the nose. The same rich mint chocolate note. A precise oak frame ties up with the rich aromatic profile. Also liquorice & raisins on the palate. The finish is lingering, fruity & sensuous. A complex whisky which needs time & attention to release its richness.

Deanston 12 Year Old (46.3%)

The nose is light – cereals, zesty orange marmalade & barley. The palate is soft, nutty & caramel with a touch of salinity & oak. The finish is soft, quite abrupt, with caramel.

Edradour 10 Year Old (40%)

Golden in colour with a hint of sugared almonds and Oloroso in the nose. The taste is smooth, creamy and lightly malty. A mellow and warming finish.

Fettercairn Fior (42%)

A limited-release whisky. Honey-gold in colour, with aromas of crushed pear, toffee apple & hints of vanilla and cinnamon. A hint of peat smoke, nuts and orange complete the nose. The taste is bold, dark chocolate, roasted coffee beans & peat smoke. Other smaller flavours are marzipan, sherry trifle, pineapple, mint & nutmeg. A lingering finish.

Glengoyne 10 Year Old (40%)

Golden yellow - clear and bright. A sweet nose with toffee and popcorn aromas. Slightly nutty, with fresh green apples coming through. Warming in the mouth with the initial taste being 'clean'. Green apples and grass with a hint of sweet liquorice come through. A sweet and malty finish.

Glengoyne 15 Year Old (43%)

Rich, rounded & completely devoid of peat smoke thanks to air-drying the barley. It is aged in both bourbon and first-fill sherry casks, with some refill cask whisky thrown in for good measure. Hints of candied lemon and a touch of butterscotch on the nose, with creamy cereal sweetness, porridge oats & Demerara sugar. Oily, rich palate entry with notes of toffee popcorn, salted butter and hints of ground walnuts - allspice and lemon rinds. Oaky, malty finish.

Glenmorangie 10 Year Old (40%)

Yellow gold colour. A rich nose – flower and spicy hints with some vanilla wood notes. The taste confirms the nose – delicate honey wood taste with a subtle hint of nuttiness. The finish is smooth and relatively long.

Glenmorangie 18 Year Old (43%)

The colour is gold-yellow. The nose detects wax and cereals (malt). The mouth, nearby cereals develops on ripe fruits (pear). The oily finish reveals honey and sweet spices. The particularity of this malt is it's finishing for 6 months in new barrels (this does not happen often in Scotland).

Oban 14 Year Old (43%)

Olive gold. The nose is rich and full of sweetness – lemons, oranges and pears, with sea-salt and smoky peatiness. A rich and full body, with a mouth-filling taste of late autumn fruits - dried figs and honey-sweet spices; followed by a smoky malty dryness. A long, smooth-sweet finish with oak-wood, dryness and a grain of salt.

Old Pulteney 12 Year Old (40%)

Deep amber in colour - red gold (with a slight pink hue). The nose has medium to high intensity and complexity - dry with a hint of sea air. Dry, medium bodied and smooth in taste - faintly salty with a slight sherry note. Elegant touches of smoke and peat. A clean, dry finish.

Old Pulteney 17 Year Old (46%)

Red amber in colour with a rich autumnal hue. Sweet on the nose with traces of apples & pears – slightly woody with a hint of butterscotch. A full-bodied palate, with hints of vanilla and floral notes in the background. A long-lasting and memorable finish. An outstanding nip for after dinner.

Tullibardine, Vintage Edition, 1993 (40%)

An easy drinking malt and an ideal pre-dinner appetiser. Smooth and mellow on the palate with a fruity flavour and has a clean crisp finish. The nose is a fresh, floral scent with hints of vanilla and chocolate orange. This whisky is no longer available to buy & we're down to our last 2 bottles.

LOWLAND

Ailsa Bay (48.9%)

With granite embedded in the bottle top from the Ailsa Craig, the natural stone of the island, this was a silver award winner in 2017 at the International Wines & Spirits Awards. The nose is intense – smoky phenolic ash, but balanced with creamy, honeyed sweetness...then...smoky bacon! The palate is zingy – peaty, layered with beautiful sweetness & again, smoky bacon & maple syrup. The finish goes on forever – again, a lovely balance of smoke & sweet.

Auchentoshen American Oak (40%)

A triple distilled lowland malt aged entirely in first fill American oak casks. A light, bright whisky with plenty of vanilla sweetness. The nose is vanilla, oranges, lemons, toffee chunks & milk chocolate. Buttery on the palate – think citrus, bounty bars & peaches. The lasting finish is of toffee & grapefruit. Won Gold in the International Spirits Challenge 2020.

Glenkinchie 12 Year Old (43%)

Bright gold in colour. The nose is aromatic and flowery with noticeable hints of vanilla, cut flowers and a deep down hint of toast. It becomes increasingly sweet and creamy, with a light aromatic edge of lemon. A light and smooth body. The palate starts sweet, like crème anglais, yet swiftly becomes flowery with a very smooth delivery. A crisp mid-palate before the taste settles into butter-icing and lemon cheesecake. The finish is herbal and dry, bringing to mind pot pourri.

Springbank 10 Year Old (46%)

The nose is orchard fruit (pear) with a hint of peat, vanilla and malt. The palate is malt, oak, spice, nutmeg and cinnamon, vanilla essence. A sweet finish with a lingering salty tingle.

