

WHISKY JOURNAL

2nd EDITION



TASTING NOTES

JOIN US ON A UNIQUE JOURNEY
ACROSS ALL FIVE OF SCOTLAND'S
WHISKY-PRODUCING REGIONS





Loch Shiel - Highlands



WELCOME TO OUR SECOND WHISKY TOUR OF SCOTLAND

We're delighted that you can join us on a tour of Scotland's five whisky regions with these 24 unique hand-picked whisky expressions.

Our *Whisky Tour of Scotland* is presented in the form of a traditional whisky cabinet, handmade in wood and finished in the same way. Our product is sustainable and recyclable in homage to the natural Scottish wilderness where our whiskies are made.



The narrow opening on the glasses, shaped like a tulip, helps channel and concentrate the aromas of the whisky, triggering all the senses.





We've curated this adventure through the five Scottish whisky regions, selecting casks of single malts and premium blends from some of the best distilleries in Scotland. The artisans creating these whiskies are among the finest in their field, and these limited release casks offer the very best of aged, old and rare Scotch whiskies.

Some of the expressions here have been matured in first fill casks. A first fill cask is one which previously held another spirit such as Sherry or bourbon and which is now being used for the first time to mature whisky. A secondary fill cask is a cask which has previously held whisky. European oak casks tend to give notes of spice and fruit, and will have previously matured fortified wines such as Sherry and port. American oak casks will have previously matured bourbon, and the different grain in the wood gives notes of vanilla. Some whiskies can be matured in new casks which have been made specifically for whisky. But new casks tend to overpower the subtle flavours of whisky, so these may sometimes be carefully charred or treated in order to imbue the distiller's preferred flavour. First fill casks add richness, depth and complexity to the whisky that secondary fill casks do not achieve. Some of our whiskies have been bottled at batch strength.

We have three types of whisky in this tour: most are single malt, but we also present four blended whiskies and five single grain whiskies. Our unique selection of whiskies ranges in age from upwards of 4 years, with the oldest saved for door 24, at 21 years of age.

Each expression is bottled straight from the cask in a generous 50ml serving – a full double spirit measure – compared to the 30ml size which is standard in most whisky calendars. Our *Whisky Tour of Scotland* is an unparalleled introduction to the great variety of whiskies produced in Scotland.



Whether you're a novice or connoisseur, our selection will reveal lesser-known gems. There's always something new to learn and discover.

INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY OF SCOTCH WHISKY

THE WORD ITSELF COMES FROM THE OLD GAELIC FOR “WATER”, AND HAS **TWO SPELLINGS** IN MODERN ENGLISH:

WHISKY & WHISKEY

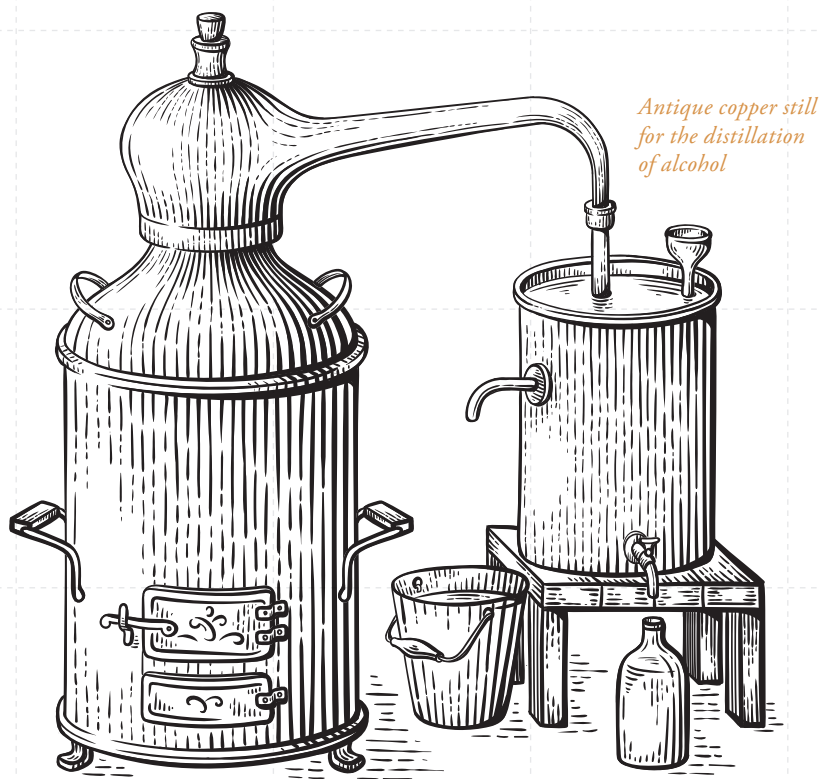
THE latter is more common in the United States, and prevails in Ireland too; the former is generally used in the rest of the world. Scotland therefore prefers “whisky”. In the US the convention is that “whisky” is used to refer to grain spirits distilled outside the country, and “whiskey” refers to those made within. But confusion reigns: the legal regulations for spirits in the US (known as the *Standards of Identity for Distilled Spirits*) use the spelling “whisky” throughout, and some US brands also use the “whisky” spelling on their labels.

In Scotland, the drink made there is simply called whisky. Outside Scotland it is generally called “Scotch whisky” or just “Scotch” as it is also commonly known in the US.

Whisky production can be very complicated, but in essence whisky is made from heated “mash”, which is ground grains (usually barley, and often malted) mixed with water. The mash ferments at very specific temperatures, and other treatments are applied along the way. The whisky is extracted by distillation and is then aged in a wooden cask, which is a very important part of the process and contributes uniquely to the flavour, before it is ready to drink. Wine, by contrast, does not require such a lengthy ageing process after fermentation.



EARLY ALCOHOL METHODS & DISTILLATION



Alcoholic drinks have been enjoyed for thousands of years. The earliest records of wine production date from about eight thousand years ago (6000 BC), and beer from about five and a half thousand years ago (3500 BC). These drinks are made through fermentation, which creates alcohol. Only sugar and yeast are required for fermentation to take place: sugar is present in the fruit and vegetables from which wine and beer are made, and yeast is a single-celled living organism that feeds on sugar. Fermentation is a natural process, although of course it can be controlled and influenced. Drinks made in this way tend to have a maximum alcohol content of about **20% ABV** because most yeasts cannot metabolise above this level of alcohol concentration, so fermentation ceases.

Whisky, on the other hand, involves not just the initial creation of alcohol via fermentation, but also the subsequent extraction of that alcohol by distillation. This is achieved by heating the liquid and separating the required part at its unique boiling temperature via evaporation and condensation. This creates a drink with a higher concentration of alcohol than can be produced by fermentation alone. Distilled drinks are usually known as liquor and have an alcohol content of at least **20% ABV**, but are in fact almost always above **30% ABV**.

THE ART OF DISTILLATION

THE ART OF DISTILLATION HAS BEEN KNOWN TO HUMANKIND FOR MORE THAN THREE THOUSAND YEARS (SINCE ABOUT 1200 BC), INITIALLY FOR PERFUME PRODUCTION.

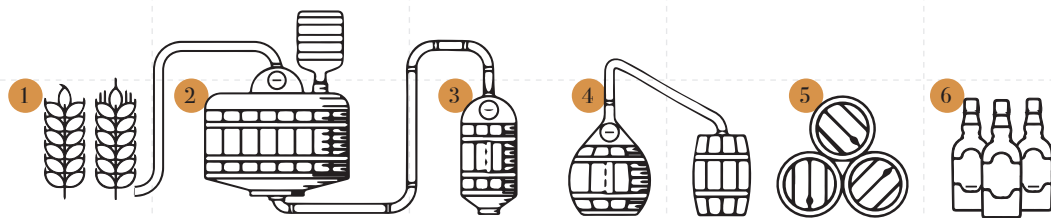
THE earliest record of the distillation of alcohol from wine goes back only eight hundred years to 13th century Italy, at which time alcohol of up to 90% purity could be achieved by multiple distillations. The use of distilled alcohol spread through medieval monasteries, and was mostly for medicinal purposes (as a drink rather than as an antiseptic, because this latter property of alcohol was not realised until centuries later). By the 15th century the art of alcohol distillation had spread to Ireland and Scotland, still almost exclusively confined to monasteries and primarily for medicinal purposes, but the doctors of the time eventually helped it pass to the secular world. The first evidence of whisky production in Scotland comes from 1495.

In England whisky was probably first made at this time too, but it wasn't until about forty years later that the distillation of alcohol became more widespread there. During Henry VIII's great religious purge in the 1530s – a period known as the dissolution of the monasteries – many monks were made destitute. They had to leave the sanctuary of their monastic life, and they took the art of distillation with them as a way of earning a living in their new and reluctantly-found independence. This helped whisky production move into secular homes and farms.

Whisky at the time tasted much rougher than it does these days, because ageing wasn't originally part of the process. Whisky has evolved into a much smoother drink today. The benefit of maturing whisky in oak casks was discovered by accident, probably because in the days of illicit distilling, when stills were hidden all over Scotland, casks were left forgotten and then discovered years later with an improved taste. All Scotch whisky in modern times is required by law to be aged for a minimum of 3 years in an oak cask before it can be sold or described as Scotch whisky. (The United States has no such minimum ageing period, but if the liquor achieves two years of ageing it can be called "straight".)

For much of its history whisky was produced secretly, to avoid government taxes. Often in Scotland it was distilled at night by moonlight so that the smoke couldn't be seen, which led to the nickname "moonshine" being used to describe whisky. It was only when whisky distillation was legalised in 1823 that production became widespread.

In the 1920s, during the famous Prohibition era in the United States, alcohol production and sale was generally banned, but some whisky was exempt if prescribed by a doctor and sold by a licensed pharmacy.



1. PREPARATION 2. MASHING 3. FERMENTING 4. DISTILLING 5. AGEING 6. BOTTLING



STILLS

Whisky stills were traditionally made of copper, which removes sulphur-based compounds from the alcohol that would make it unpleasant to drink. Modern stills are made of stainless steel, but still have copper innards.

CASKS

Whiskies mature in the cask, never in the bottle, so they are very different to wines in this respect. A whisky's age is therefore understood to be the time it spends in the cask (i.e. the time between distillation and bottling), regardless of how long ago it emerged from the cask and was bottled. Whiskies that were bottled many years ago may have a rarity value and consequently a certain cachet, but are not considered older in an "aged" sense, and are not necessarily any better than more recent whiskies which have matured in the cask for a comparable time. Whiskies tend to reach their peak benefit from cask ageing between 10-20 years.

Whisky ageing in casks undergoes several processes that contribute to the final flavour and look. These include extraction, evaporation, oxidation and concentration. Distillers will usually age whisky in casks that have been used to age other drinks (e.g. rum or Sherry) in order to imbue certain flavours. Wood is breathable, so about 2% of the whisky evaporates from the cask each year. This is known as "the angels' share". Older whiskies are therefore more expensive to produce and to buy because evaporation means they are constantly diminishing.



WHISKIES HAVE AN AVERAGE
ALCOHOLIC STRENGTH OF
40% ABV

This is the statutory minimum in some countries, but strength can vary and cask-strength whisky can be up to twice as strong.

Whisky is probably the best known of Scotland's manufactured products and exports. More Scotch whisky is drunk globally than American, Japanese and Irish whiskies combined.

The Scotch whisky industry supports around 42,000 jobs. It contributes several billion pounds to the UK economy, and accounts for 25% of all UK food and drinks exports. The US is traditionally the largest market for Scotch whisky.

Source: Scotch Whisky Association (SWA)

TYPES OF WHISKY

THERE ARE TWO MAIN
TYPES OF WHISKY:



*made primarily
from malted barley*



*made from any
type of grain*

Malts and grains can be combined in various ways:

Single malt whisky comes from a single distillery, and is made from a mash that uses only one particular malted grain. A Single Malt whisky will usually contain whisky from different casks and years, enabling the distiller to achieve a taste recognisable as typical of the distillery. In most cases, single malts bear the name of the distillery, with an age statement reflecting the youngest whisky in the bottle, and perhaps the label will also give some indication of special treatments such as maturation in a port wine cask.

Blended malt whisky is similar to the above - a mixture of single malt whiskies - but from different distilleries. (Whisky labelled just "malt" or "pure malt" is almost certainly a blended malt.) The brand names therefore do not usually include distillery names. Most Scotch whisky (and also whisky from Ireland and Canada) is thus sold as part of a blend, even when the spirits are the product of one distillery.

Single cask (also known as single barrel) whiskies are bottled from a single cask, and often the bottles are labelled with specific cask and bottle numbers. The taste of these whiskies may therefore vary substantially from cask to cask within a brand.

Cask strength (sometimes known as barrel proof) whiskies are comparatively rare, and usually only the very best whiskies are bottled in this way. They are bottled straight from the cask undiluted (or occasionally only very lightly diluted) and are usually stronger than the average 40% ABV of most whiskies.

Almost every country has its own whisky production methods, but Scotch whisky remains the most prestigious and desirable.





Whisky – and other distilled beverages, such as Cognac and rum – are complex liquids containing a huge range of flavouring, with more than 300 compounds being easily detected by chemical analysis. The waters used in the distillation process and the woods used in the ageing are often local to each region, and they create subtleties of taste and flavour with an almost infinite variety of combinations.

The distinctive smoky flavour found in many whiskies – and especially Scotch whiskies – is achieved through the use of peat smoke to treat the malt. Many methods are used in the distillation process to remove unwanted elements and potential defects.

Malt whiskies tend to have the highest levels of acetals, which are the principal flavour compounds in Sherry, and contribute fruitiness to the aroma. Other distillates include for example diketone diacetyl, which has a buttery aroma and is present in almost all distilled beverages. Whiskies and Cognacs usually contain more of this than vodkas, but much less than rums or brandies. Other elements enter whisky through the distillation process, such as polysulphides and thiophenes which contribute to its roasted flavour.



Whisky that has been aged in oak casks absorbs substances from the wood. One of these is known as the “whisky lactone” (or “quercus lactone”), a compound with a strong coconut aroma. Commercially charred oaks are also rich in phenolic compounds – one study identified 40 different phenolic compounds.



Local regulations vary from region to region, but flavourings and colouring compounds can be added to whisky. For example, Canadian whisky may contain caramel flavouring in addition to the distilled mash spirits. American blends allow flavouring additions, but ‘straight’ American whiskies do not.

Most whiskies are bottled after being chill-filtered (chilled and filtered to remove unwanted elements), unless specified as un-chillfiltered or non-chillfiltered. This is done primarily for cosmetic purposes: un-chillfiltered whiskies often turn cloudy when stored at cool temperatures or when cool water is added to them. This is perfectly normal, but can confuse consumers as to the whisky’s quality, so the industry tries to standardise the product.



Scotch whisky is not allowed to contain any added flavouring, and the regulations permit only one specific colouring. Scotch whisky otherwise contains no additives.



THE HISTORY OF THE FIVE SCOTTISH WHISKY REGIONS

ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES WE GIVE A SUMMARY OF THE FIVE SCOTTISH WHISKY REGIONS, THEIR HISTORY, THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WHISKIES THEY PRODUCE, AND HOW THE TOPOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE INFLUENCE THE WHISKIES.



Scotch whiskies are generally distilled twice, but in some rare cases can be distilled up to four times. The Scotch Whisky Regulations require many criteria to be met for anything distilled in Scotland to bear the label “Scotch”, but the most basic requirement is that the whisky must be matured, or aged, for a minimum of three years in an oak cask.

There are 143 Scotch whisky distilleries operating in Scotland – up 10% from last year. The basic types of Scotch are malt and grain, which are combined to create blends. Nearly 90% of all bottles of Scotch sold each year are blended whiskies.



Loch Torridon - Northwest Highlands



FEATURED DISTILLERY - TOMINTOUL

TOMINTOUL DISTILLERY IS IN THE SPEYSIDE REGION WITHIN THE PRESTIGIOUS CROWN ESTATE AND THE PICTURESQUE CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK. THE DISTILLERY TAKES ITS NAME FROM THE NEARBY VILLAGE OF TOMINTOUL, THE HIGHEST VILLAGE IN THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS.

The award-winning distillery uses traditional techniques stretching back hundreds of years. The natural environment, fresh air and pure water all add to the distillery's uniquely smooth and mellow spirit. Before the distillery was built, the distillers searched for more than a year for the purest source of spring water. They finally settled upon the Ballantruan spring and built the distillery on its banks, tucked away in picturesque countryside.

The distillery manager holds the honorific title Master Distiller, and is a fourth generation distiller in the region, having been born and raised on the Crown Estate. He began working in the whisky industry in 1974, and worked for a number of different distilleries until coming to Tomintoul, where he has now been for more than 30 years, overseeing all aspects of production.

Tomintoul Single Malt is made with natural ingredients, and lies in oak casks for many years before being bottled. It has time to absorb the flavour from the different layers of the wood. The whisky is only taken out of the cask when the distiller decides it tastes perfect. Flavour and characteristics change over time, so every distiller will be aiming for something different with each whisky.





In such a pristine environment, Tomintoul Distillery does its best to ensure that very little gets wasted. The cooling water is recycled. It's also mixed with the barley husks left behind from the mash, to make syrup that's used as cattle food. And the leftovers make great fertiliser for the following year's barley crop.



Tomintoul entered the Guinness Book of World Records in 2009 for producing the world's largest bottle of whisky, containing 105.3 litres of 14-year-old Tomintoul Single Malt Scotch Whisky.





SCOTCH MALT WHISKIES ARE DIVIDED INTO FIVE MAIN REGIONS: CAMPBELTOWN, HIGHLAND, ISLAY, LOWLAND AND SPEYSIDE.

These regions have distinct flavour profiles and characteristics.



ISLAY

At the southernmost tip of the Inner Hebrides on Scotland's wild west coast, Islay is windswept and barren, frequently battered by Atlantic gales. Islay malts are pungent with smoke, brine and peat on the nose, but multi-layered on the palate, with mossy, peaty, floral mixes and peppery linseed and soapy hints. Islay has nine producing distilleries. Distilleries in the south make whisky which is "medium-bodied ... saturated with peat-smoke, brine and iodine" because they use malt that is heavy with peat as well as peaty water.

Whisky from the north is milder because it is made using spring water that makes it "lighter flavoured, mossy (rather than peaty), with some seaweed, some nuts." The national tourist board says that the single malts from Islay vary from "robust and smoky" to "lighter and sweeter".

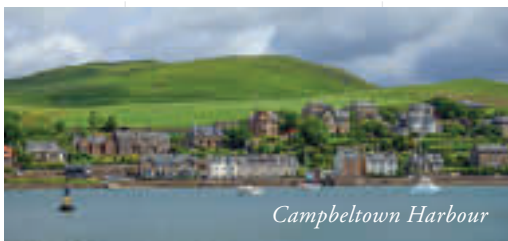


Isle of Islay

CAMPBELTOWN

The Kintyre Peninsula was once home to a thriving community of distilleries, but now has only a few remaining. Campbeltown is a small western coastal town where there used to be more than 30 distilleries, but now there are only three in operation.

Characteristics vary, but the national tourist board describes the whiskies as "fruity, peaty, sweet and smoky". Campbeltown malts often have hints of salt and underlying maritime touches, with flavours of fruit and toffee blended with peat. Perfect for an adventurous whisky drinker looking for something distinct.



Campbeltown Harbour



Lowland countryside

LOWLAND

Any distillery south of an imaginary line from the Firth of Clyde in the west to the Firth of Tay in the east is Lowland. The region offers light, soft, smooth malts, with a gentle, elegant palate reminiscent of grass, honeysuckle, cream, ginger, toffee, toast and cinnamon. This district covers much of the central belt and the south of Scotland. There are 17 Lowland distilleries according to the national tourist board, with several new ones expected to open soon.

The characteristics of whisky from this region are soft and smooth, consisting of a floral nose with a sweet finish. Single malts from this area tend to be lighter, and have sweet and floral tones.

HIGHLAND

The Highland region, which also includes the islands, is by far the largest in Scotland, not only in area but also in whisky production. There are more than 30 distilleries on the mainland, and a further 17 on the associated islands. The islands in this group include every whisky-producing island in Scotland other than Islay, which is a region unto itself, so it therefore includes such renowned Scottish islands as Arran, Jura, Mull, Orkney and Skye.

The region offers a huge range of flavour, as diverse as the landscape, encompassing rugged peaks, moorlands of heather, and rich fertile land. The national tourist board describes the region's whisky characteristics as "fruity, sweet, spicy, and malty." From the brinier coastal malts to the softer 'midlands' malts, Highland whisky has silky floral notes and strong peaty flavours complementing the dry oak and fruitcake finish.



Glencoe, Highlands



SPEYSIDE

The region is named after the River Spey which cuts through this area of northeast Scotland and provides water to many of the distilleries. Once considered part of the Highlands, the region is now recognised by itself, and has more than 50 distilleries, the largest number of any region. The region's characteristics can vary greatly from "rich and textured to fragrantly floral", but in general are "sweet, caramel, fruity and spicy." The single malts from Speyside are also known for smokiness.

Whiskies from the world's most densely populated whisky region, famous for secluded glens and clear flowing rivers, are known for being light on peat because of the area's low mineral content. Notable for their complexity, Speyside whiskies have fruit notes; apple, pear, honey and vanilla, and are commonly matured in Sherry casks.



Craigellachie, Speyside



FEATURED DISTILLERY - GLENCADAM

GLENCADAM DISTILLERY IS AN AWARD-WINNING DISTILLERY IN THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS, CAPABLE OF PRODUCING AROUND 1.5 MILLION LITRES OF SPIRIT PER YEAR, AND WITH A STORAGE CAPACITY OF ABOUT 24,000 CASKS. IT IS A HISTORIC DISTILLERY DATING BACK ALMOST 200 YEARS TO 1825, WITH MANY OF THE ORIGINAL BUILDINGS STILL REMAINING.

Glencadam Distillery is in the ancient Royal Burgh of Brechin in the Eastern Highlands of Scotland. The distillery focuses on hand-crafting and heritage, with the whisky being made in a very similar way to how it was made back in 1825. To emphasise this, in 2021 the distillery re-installed a working water wheel into the heart of the distillery, in its original 1825 location. When the distillery was built, electricity could not be controlled as a source of power, so water and fire were the preferred choices.

The essential supply of pure water for distilling depends on Glencadam's long-held rights to springs at The Moorans almost ten miles away. This is perhaps the longest water supply for distilling purposes of any Scottish distillery. The distillery also has rights to draw water from Barry Burn for cooling.

The best malted barley, pure Highland spring water and yeast are the only three ingredients in Glencadam Single Malt Scotch Whisky.

Traditionally, the pot stills in Glencadam were heated with coal fires, which were smoky and dirty, and had to be refuelled by hand. The distillery now uses steam to control the temperature of its stills. Glencadam has operated just two pot stills since it began whisky production in 1825. The shape of the stills at Glencadam plays a big role in the final character of the whisky. An unusual feature in the distillery is that its condensation pipes run upwards at an angle of 15 degrees, rather than downwards. This helps to produce a particularly delicate and mellow spirit.





Every Glencadam cask has been made in the traditional manner by a cooper, a member of a highly-skilled trade requiring a 7-year apprenticeship. No glue or nails are used in the production of casks, and the wood is held together by metal hoops. The insides of new casks are charred to release the flavour compounds in the wood. The carbon on the inside of the cask filters and purifies the whisky as it matures. The surrounding environment, temperature and humidity also affect maturation and help determine the character of the whisky.

Traditionally, Glencadam Single Malt is bottled at 46% ABV, without any chill-filtration and with no added colour. This ensures that the whisky can be enjoyed in its most natural and pure state.



Glencadam Single Malt has had exceptional recent successes at major international spirits competitions, as judges appreciate the high quality and natural state of the whisky. Three Glencadam expressions scored 98 points out of 100 at the prestigious International Wine and Spirits Competition 2022.





TASTING TIPS



TO ADD WATER, OR NOT TO ADD WATER, THAT IS THE QUESTION

There is a perception that adding water to whisky is not something a true connoisseur would do. This is a mistaken impression. Adding a few drops of water to a glass of whisky can help release flavour and depth, and can also reduce the harsher notes in some whiskies. Another benefit is of course that it can also give you more in your glass to drink and enjoy! But if you add too much water you risk spoiling the drink.

Adding water to whisky can boost the concentration of flavour compounds at the surface of the liquid, bringing more aroma to the nose when the glass is raised to sip. Of course it is well known that smell is a large component of taste, so anything that increases or releases aroma from the whisky can heighten the sensory appreciation.

Some people like to add ice, which will release a slow dilution to the whisky, but which will also lower the temperature too much, which can kill the flavour. And if the ice touches your lips as you drink from the glass, this will also impair your ability to discern flavour. Whisky loses some of the subtlety of its flavouring if it is chilled too much, so ice is best avoided. On the other hand, if whisky is drunk too

warm, the volatile compounds which give the drink its special flavour can become excited, creating the burning sensation which is sometimes associated with whisky. Whisky is best enjoyed at about 11-14 degrees Celsius – similar to the cellar temperature of a good wine.

As for how much water to add, it's up to personal taste, but the best answer is – not too much. Start with literally just a few drops, and you can always add more if desired. Add the water to the whisky, not the other way round. When the water has been dropped in, swirl the glass gently to ensure a good mix. Be careful not to spill the precious drink. The gentle motion will help release flavours which will build in the glass. Our whisky glasses are specially shaped to channel the flavours to your nose as you raise the glass to your mouth.

Finally, experiment with which kind of water you like to add. It's best to use a gentle spring water, not too heavily flavoured or containing too many minerals.

Ultimately the decision is up to you. Add water if you like. Don't if you don't. You may even find that you prefer to add water to some whiskies but not others.

SOME TIPS ON GETTING THE MOST OUT OF TASTING YOUR WHISKY

APPEARANCE



Admire the colour of the whisky and the richness it has developed from the wood of the cask. Every whisky in your tour is different, and has developed a unique character and colour as it aged.

THE PALATE



Take a small sip of your whisky. We recommend washing the first sip around your mouth for a few seconds to take in the textures, before swallowing. Make a note of the flavours that immediately come to mind.

THE NOSE



Move the glass towards your nose, keep your mouth open, and take long gentle sniffs. The experience is entirely subjective, so see what individual scents and aromas you can discern. Each scent may prompt different associations from different people.

WATER



As explained above, when tasting whisky, adding a drop or two of water is a good way to open the flavour, especially if the whisky is at cask strength. Water can help reveal the intricate workings of a whisky's flavour, enabling you to identify the tastes and aromas.

THE KEY CHARACTERISTICS & TASTING NOTES OF YOUR 24 WHISKIES

YOUR 24 SCOTCH WHISKIES ARE AS FOLLOWS, WITH BRIEF TASTING NOTES. ALL ARE 46% ABV OTHER THAN THE THREE NOTED

We've specially curated this journey to take you on an exciting trip around Scotland, and we've suggested the whiskies in the numbered drinking order so that you don't get too familiar with one particular area or whisky before trying another. We have selected 24 unique distilleries, so each whisky in your tour comes from a different maker, and we have saved the oldest for last – a special and rare 21-year-old whisky.

WHY ARE SOME OF THE DISTILLERIES NOT NAMED?

We've curated and selected a range of 24 outstanding whiskies from some of the best distilleries in Scotland, but in a few instances we have not been able to name the distillery. Here we explain why.

Control over the use of the name of Scottish whisky distilleries is extremely important. Often there are licensing agreements in place which prevent the name from being disclosed to external suppliers.

This does not, however, mean that such whiskies are in any way inferior to the ones that have been named. In fact, quite often it's the reverse! And certainly the ones that have been named should not be thought of as inferior simply because we have been able to name them. Naming or not naming a whisky simply reflects what other agreements the distillery has in place. It does not have any direct bearing on quality, age or desirability.

Being able to supply whiskies from distilleries without disclosing their names allows us to increase the range and quality of what we can offer, so that we can include some special and renowned whiskies in our *Tour* at pricing that couldn't be found elsewhere.



Some terms to help you describe the tasting experience.

Descriptions:

- Light, medium, heavy bodied
- Sweet, dry, fresh, robust
- Neutral, soft, rich, sharp
- Flat, round, hard, coarse
- Long, short, lasting

Flavours:

- Bitter - *dry, tart, acidic*
- Earthy - *peat, earth, heather, musty*
- Fruity - *dark cherry, citrus, dried fruits, melon*
- Flowery - *floral, light, rosewater, fragrant*
- Sweet - *cake, fruit cake, caramel, toffee, butterscotch, marshmallow*
- Honey - *syrup, maple, molasses*

- Herbal - *vegetal, grassy, peat, earth*
- Liquor - *Sherry, wine, rum, port*
- Malty - *grain, cereal, toast, shortbread, biscuits, oatmeal*
- Nutty - *almond, walnut, coconut*
- Spices - *cinnamon, nutmeg, clove, vanilla, anise*
- Smoke - *charred tobacco, peat, cigar box, campfire, fireplace*
- Woody - *oak, cedar, tannic*

<p>4 SINGLE GRAIN SCOTCH WHISKY</p> <p>AGE: 15 Years</p> <p>DISTILLERY: Port Dundas distillery</p> <p>CASK: Barrel; 180 - 200L</p> <p>NOSE: Buttery and sweet with vanilla and brown sugar, and a zesty kick of citrus</p> <p>PALATE: Maple syrup on pancakes, cereal and milk, gingerbread</p> <p>FINISH: More ginger, more citrus, more vanilla</p>	GRAIN WHISKY	LOWLAND	COLOUR:	<p>46% ALC/VOL.</p>
	RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆	NOTES:		

<p>5 SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY</p> <p>AGE: 5 Years</p> <p>DISTILLERY: Ardmore distillery</p> <p>CASK: Bourbon Barrel</p> <p>NOSE: Gingerbread, flamed orange peel, damson and stewed plums</p> <p>PALATE: Oatcakes, toasted barley with a touch of nuttiness (almond flakes and honey roasted peanuts), brown sugar</p> <p>FINISH: Soft peppery smoke, contrasted by a sweet hint of strawberry</p>	MALT WHISKY	HIGHLAND	COLOUR:	<p>46% ALC/VOL.</p>
	RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆	NOTES:		

<p>6 SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY</p> <p>AGE: 9 Years</p> <p>DISTILLERY: Tamnavulin distillery</p> <p>CASK: Barrel; 180 - 200L</p> <p>NOSE: Plenty of oak, backed up by rounded cereal notes</p> <p>PALATE: Runny caramel, punchy malt and a hint of black tea</p> <p>FINISH: Earthy spices</p>	MALT WHISKY	SPEYSIDE	COLOUR:	<p>46% ALC/VOL.</p>
	RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆	NOTES:		



7 SINGLE GRAIN SCOTCH WHISKY *Batch Strength* **GRAIN WHISKY** **HIGHLAND**

AGE: 15 Years
DISTILLERY: Invergordon distillery
CASK: 1st Fill Bourbon Barrel
NOSE: Sugared rum, ripe Mirabelle plums, Bailey's, cream, vanilla, toffee, hot coffee
PALATE: Sweet, almost liqueur-like, oily, caramel, Bailey's, marzipan, vanilla
FINISH: Menthol, honey, bitter

COLOUR: ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●

RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆

NOTES:

50% ALC/VOL.

8 SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY **MALT WHISKY** **SPEYSIDE**

AGE: 5 Years
DISTILLERY: Tormore distillery
CASK: Barrel; 180 - 200L
NOSE: Nutty barley and juicy pear, with a whisper of tropical fruit zestiness
PALATE: Malted milk biscuits, fried dough, white pepper and sawdust
FINISH: Lemon, salted caramel, and a hint of heather

COLOUR: ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●

RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆

NOTES:

46% ALC/VOL.

9 SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY **MALT WHISKY** **HIGHLAND**


AGE: 11 Years
DISTILLERY: Glencadam distillery
CASK: Barrel; 180 - 200L
NOSE: Aromatic and fresh. Hay, fruit, gentle wood influence with light vanilla and spice
PALATE: Beautifully balanced with tart fruits, freshly cut hay and vanilla sweetness
FINISH: Long and gentle as it fades out on barley malt and fruit

COLOUR: ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●

RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆

NOTES:

46% ALC/VOL.

10	SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY	MALT WHISKY	SPEYSIDE
		<p>AGE: 10 Years</p> <p>DISTILLERY: Auchroisk distillery</p> <p>CASK: Hogshead; 225 - 250L</p> <p>NOSE: Light, with a playful zestiness. Crème anglaise, cut grass and delectable nuttiness</p> <p>PALATE: Quite sweet with a pleasant softness</p> <p>FINISH: Soft, dry green cereal notes</p>	<p>COLOUR: </p> <p>RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆</p> <p>NOTES:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

11	SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY	MALT WHISKY	ISLAY
		<p>AGE: 4 Years</p> <p>DISTILLERY: Caol Ila distillery</p> <p>CASK: Hogshead; 225 - 250L</p> <p>NOSE: Woody, distinctly salty and lots of smoke</p> <p>PALATE: Maritime notes of iodine, seaweed and tar, with smoke swirling on the palate. These notes fade into floral layers, alongside toasted seeds and malt</p> <p>FINISH: Smoky peat, a hint of menthol, a slight maltiness</p>	<p>COLOUR: </p> <p>RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆</p> <p>NOTES:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

12	BLENDED MALT SCOTCH WHISKY <i>Batch Strength</i>	MALT WHISKY	CAMPBELTOWN
		<p>AGE: 6 Years</p> <p>DISTILLERY: Undisclosed distillery</p> <p>CASK: Barrel; 180 - 200L</p> <p>NOSE: Savoury herbs, a touch of hay, suggestions of dried meats, buttery honeyed bread, dried stone fruits, a hint of ginger</p> <p>PALATE: Sweet, nutty malt, spicy cinnamon and pepper, zesty citrus peel and poached fruit</p> <p>FINISH: Spicy warmth. Ginger and cinnamon with rich, peppery oak leading to toasted nuts</p>	<p>COLOUR: </p> <p>RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆</p> <p>NOTES:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>



13 SINGLE GRAIN SCOTCH WHISKY

GRAIN WHISKY | LOWLAND

AGE: 10 Years
DISTILLERY: Girvan distillery
CASK: Barrel; 180 - 200L
NOSE: Tropical wafts of pineapple, fruity pastries, some creamy notes of coconut, chai, and granola
PALATE: Dried oranges, buttered brioche with honey, softly spiced with sweet vanilla fudge
FINISH: Butter biscuits and more vanilla, sweet, roast barley, and peppery zest

COLOUR: ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●● | 46% ALC/VOL.
RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆
NOTES:

14 SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY

MALT WHISKY | SPEYSIDE

AGE: 5 Years
DISTILLERY: Linkwood distillery
CASK: Barrel; 180 - 200L
NOSE: Rancio, raisins, white wine, white grape, cinnamon, oak, malt, green tea
PALATE: Red fruits, Rancio, white wine, oak, malt, lime, green tea, white pepper
FINISH: Medium finish with oak, malt, white wine, ending with nutmeg and lime

COLOUR: ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●● | 46% ALC/VOL.
RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆
NOTES:

15 SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY

MALT WHISKY | SPEYSIDE

AGE: 7 Years
DISTILLERY: Ballantruan distillery
CASK: Hogshead; 225 - 250L
NOSE: Soft spices and rich peat. Very punchy and intense, with inviting vanilla notes
PALATE: Simple and balanced with a rich peat smoke and hints of black pepper
FINISH: Intense and spicy with wood smoke and tar

COLOUR: ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●● | 46% ALC/VOL.
RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆
NOTES:

16 SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY

MALT WHISKY | SPEYSIDE

AGE: 5 Years
DISTILLERY: Benrinnes distillery
CASK: Hogshead; 225 - 250L
NOSE: Sweet, herbal and oily
PALATE: Fruit and spice
FINISH: A long, satisfying finish with a hint of sandalwood

COLOUR: ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●● | 46% ALC/VOL.
RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆
NOTES:

17 SINGLE GRAIN SCOTCH WHISKY

GRAIN WHISKY | LOWLAND

AGE: 13 Years
DISTILLERY: North British distillery
CASK: Barrel; 180 - 200L
NOSE: Fragrant fruits, melon, vanilla, and gentle oak
PALATE: Wonderfully creamy, hints of lemon meringue with subtle grassy, vegetal notes
FINISH: Light, bright and fruity, hints of butterscotch and vanilla

COLOUR: ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●● | 46% ALC/VOL.
RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆
NOTES:

18 SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY

MALT WHISKY | HIGHLAND

AGE: 4 Years
DISTILLERY: Deanston distillery
CASK: Barrel; 180 - 200L
NOSE: Fresh citrus, honeyed barley and a subtle hint of smoke
PALATE: Toffee sweets, followed by cream and oak notes
FINISH: Oak spices

COLOUR: ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●● | 46% ALC/VOL.
RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆
NOTES:



<p>19 SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY</p> <p>AGE: 13 Years</p> <p>DISTILLERY: Tomintoul distillery</p> <p>CASK: Barrel; 180 - 200L</p> <p>NOSE: Sweet butterscotch and dried fruits, caramelised nuts and smooth, creamy praline chocolate</p> <p>PALATE: Sherry, honeyed cereal with nutty notes, candied fruits and a delicate creaminess</p> <p>FINISH: Rounded Sherry and just a hint of spice</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> MALT WHISKY SPEYSIDE </div>		<p>COLOUR: </p> <p>RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆</p> <p>NOTES:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>46% ALC/ VOL.</p>
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<p>20 SINGLE GRAIN SCOTCH WHISKY</p> <p>AGE: 14 Years</p> <p>DISTILLERY: Strathclyde distillery</p> <p>CASK: Barrel; 180 - 200L</p> <p>NOSE: Custard, butterscotch, and praline. Caramelised sugars with custard, vanilla cream. Pralines, candied cashews and pecans, and coffee cake streusel</p> <p>PALATE: Tannic. Fried dough, sweet buttery pastry, almond croissants. Oaky vanilla and spice. Bitter oak and semi-sweet cocoa powder</p> <p>FINISH: Custard with a kiss of spice and cocoa</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> GRAIN WHISKY LOWLAND </div>		<p>COLOUR: </p> <p>RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆</p> <p>NOTES:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>46% ALC/ VOL.</p>
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<p>21 BLENDED MALT SCOTCH WHISKY</p> <p>AGE: 7 Years</p> <p>DISTILLERY: Undisclosed distillery</p> <p>CASK: Hogshead; 225 - 250L</p> <p>NOSE: Aromas of honey, white pepper and fresh malt</p> <p>PALATE: Toasted oak, barley sugars, sweet malt and white pepper</p> <p>FINISH: Cloudy lemonade, honeyed barley, granary bread with thyme honey</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> MALT WHISKY LOWLAND </div>		<p>COLOUR: </p> <p>RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆</p> <p>NOTES:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>46% ALC/ VOL.</p>
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THANK YOU FOR JOINING US ON
A WHISKY TOUR OF SCOTLAND.



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