

# Kingston Single Malt Society

[www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.com](http://www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.com)

A social club for the appreciation of Single Malt Whisky since 1998  
JANUARY 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 VOLUME 11; NUMBER 7



This evening's  
menu celebrating  
the  
259<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of  
Robbie Burns  
Birthday

## MENU

Pre-dinner toast to Robbie Burns

1<sup>st</sup> Nosing: TAMDHU 10 YEAR OLD  
(introduced by: Ken Goodland)

2<sup>nd</sup> Nosing: GLENTAUCHERS 8 YEAR OLD  
(introduced by: John Leighton)  
Soup: Cullen Skink (Fish Soup)

3<sup>rd</sup> Nosing: BEN NEVIS 10 YEAR OLD  
(introduced by: John Creber)

Appetizer: Duck Liver Pate, Haggis, Onion Jam,  
Pickled Walnut

4<sup>th</sup> Nosing: KILCHOMAN 100% ISLAY 7<sup>th</sup> EDITION  
(introduced by: John Leighton)

5<sup>th</sup> Nosing: TAMDHU BATCH STRENGTH No. 2  
(introduced by: Ken Goodland)

Entree: Highland Lamb Shank, Root Vegetables,  
Braising Jus

6<sup>th</sup> Nosing: GLENMORANGIE PRIVATE EDITION  
BACALTA (introduced by: Bill Gorham)  
Dessert: Scottish Shortbread,  
Crème Fraiche, & Mixed Berries

## COST OF THE MALTS

- **TAMDHU 10 YEAR OLD** SPEYSIDE SINGLE MALT  
SCOTCH WHISKY LCBO 417923 | 750 mL bottle **Price:**  
**\$89.95** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 43.0%  
Alcohol/Vol.

- **GLENTAUCHERS 8 YEAR OLD** LCBO 441295 | 750 mL  
bottle **Price: \$124.95** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch  
Single Malts 57.9% Alcohol/Vol.

- **BEN NEVIS 10 YEARS OLD** LCBO 432281 | 700 mL  
bottle **Price: \$83.00** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single  
Malts 46.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **KILCHOMAN 100% ISLAY 7<sup>th</sup> EDITION** VINTAGES  
134820 | 700 mL bottle **Price: \$149.95** Spirits, Scotch  
Whisky 50.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **TAMDHU BATCH STRENGTH No. 2** SPEYSIDE SINGLE  
MALT SCOTCH LCBO 507558 | 750 mL bottle **Price:**  
**\$124.95** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey 58.8% Alcohol/Vol.

- **GLENMORANGIE PRIVATE EDITION BACALTA**  
HIGHLAND SINGLE MALT VINTAGES 520833 | 750 mL bottle  
**Price \$ 179.95** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single  
Malts 46.0% Alcohol/Vol.

## Results of the December Raffle

The winner of the Lagavulin 12 Year Old, Bottle of  
Wine, Merlot Chocolate Syrup, Chocolates,  
Glasses, Magazine & Book Gift Pack was Bart  
Gauvin. A total of \$606 was raised.

Thank you everyone!

## Winners of Gifts from Mrs. Claus (aka Lana Di Fazio)

David Detomasi, Allen Stewart,  
Philip Henderson, Conny Leighton,  
Tony Hopely, & David Simourd

## Upcoming Dinner Dates

February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Islands / Islay - River Mill  
March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Deanston Vertical Nosing - River Mill  
April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Glenlivet Vertical Nosing - River Mill  
May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Speyside / Highlands - River Mill  
June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - BBQ (Final Exam) - River Mill  
July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - International Night - River Mill  
Friday August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Premium Night - River Mill  
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside /  
Highlands / Islands / Islay - River Mill  
October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Speyside / Highlands - River Mill  
November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Speyside - River Mill  
December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill  
January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 - Robbie Burns - River Mill  
February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Islands / Islay - River Mill  
March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Speyside - River Mill  
April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 - Speyside / Highlands - River Mill  
May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Speyside / Highlands - River Mill  
June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - BBQ (Final Exam) - River Mill  
July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 - International Night - River Mill  
Friday August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 - 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Premium Night - River Mill  
September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside /

Highlands / Islands / Islay - River Mill  
October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 - Speyside / Highlands - River Mill  
November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Speyside - River Mill  
December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill

## Explain about ... Burns Night

<http://whiskyforeveryone.blogspot.com/2010/01/explain-about-burns-night.html>

Burns Night is an annual festival that celebrates the life and works of Scottish poet and lyricist Robert Burns (also known as Rabbie to his friends) and has a strong association with whisky. Burns is widely regarded as Scotland's national poet and the festival has become Scotland's unofficial national day. It is celebrated on January 25th, the date of Burns' birth. Burns Night has a rich heritage in Scottish culture and combines two of the nation's favourite pastimes, eating and drinking whisky, with the legendary poetry of Robert Burns.

Robert Burns was born in 1759 in the small town of Alloway, Ayrshire. The town is located two miles (3km) to the south of Ayr in the Lowland region of Scotland. The house where he was born is now the Burns Cottage Museum. Burns was tutored mostly by his father for his early education before starting formal schooling in 1772. His first attempt at poetry was in 1774 - it was entitled *O, Once I Lov'd A Bonnie Lass* and was inspired by his first love. He went on to write hundreds of poems and songs including famous works such as *Tam O'Shanter*, *My Love Is Like A Red, Red Rose* and *Auld Lang Syne*, which is traditionally sung around the English speaking world on New Year's Eve.

As time passed and Burns' work became more renowned, so did his reputation for liking whisky and women. His heavy drinking and adultery gained him notoriety and scorn within literary circles, although the quality and output of his works remained consistently high. His first illegitimate child was born in 1785 and he went on to father 12 children with four different women (although these totals are believed to both be higher!). He died on July 21 1796, aged just 37, of rheumatic fever that is believed to have been accelerated by a degenerative heart condition from his childhood. His final child was born two days later, on the day that he was buried with full civic and military honours. Burns' grave stands in a graveyard in Dumfries.

So how did Burns Night begin and what does it involve? It is believed that the first Burns Night took place over 200 years ago in 1801. This is less than five years after Burns' death and was celebrated by a group of scholars who were fans of his works. In the early days, it was seen as the perfect platform to celebrate Scotland and being Scottish, incorporating Burns' poetry, Scottish food (most notably haggis, neeps and tatties) and copious amounts of whisky. The popularity and celebrations grew year on year until we have the Burns Night that we know today.

The modern Burns Night supper has evolved over time but remains quintessentially (some would say, stereotypically) Scottish. The core of the supper is the haggis (a mixture of offal, cereal grains, oatmeal, herbs and spices wrapped in the lining of a sheep's stomach) and this is served with neeps and tatties (turnip/swede and potato). This can be preceded by a soup based starter - the three most common are Scotch Broth (a thick soup that contains barley and anything else that you may have), Cullen Skink (a fish based chowder) or Cock-a-leekie soup (the clue is in the name - it's chicken and leeks, then prunes are added). Dessert can take any form (if you have space or haven't had a heart attack by this point!), with cheese, Cranachan (whipped cream, whisky, raspberries and oatmeal) or Cloutie Dumpling (a cake made with dried fruit, condensed milk, spices and golden syrup, then cooked in a cloth or *clout* in Gaelic) being the most popular. These are traditionally accompanied by whisky at every opportunity.

The main ceremonial part involves the reading of [Address To A Haggis](#) - a poem written by Robert Burns to celebrate Scotland and its national food. The haggis is bought in and placed on a table and then the reader performs the poem to the haggis and the crowd. This can be accompanied by bagpipes at larger events (as seen in the image, left). The final act of the poem is to slash the stomach membrane of the haggis to reveal its contents and for the reader to down a dram of whisky (occasionally, another dram can be poured over the steaming haggis). Then the rule is to toast the haggis, have a fun evening and drink whisky!

Other Burns Night facts ...

- \* Approximately 15 million people worldwide annually celebrate Burns Night.
- \* There are statues of Robert Burns in Central Park, New York and at Poet's Corner in Hyde Park, London.
- \* It is estimated that 70% of the UK's annual haggis consumption happens on or around Burns Night.
- \* Burns Night contributes a staggering £150 million to the Scottish economy each year.
- \* The poetry of Robert Burns have been translated in to almost every known language and have been used in the works of legendary figures such as Jimmy Hendrix and The Beatles.

### Does the Glass Matter in Whisky?

Posted on November 15, 2017 by Jim - <http://scotchaddict.com/>

The glass you use matters but I don't let it define my whisky experience.

I'm a relative novice when it comes to enjoying whisky. I very much enjoy the flavors but I don't sit there savoring every last drop every single time I drink it.

It's like music. Sometimes I like listening to the beat, sometimes I want to hear the words, and sometimes I just want to vibe with the general mood and not get too into it. For the longest time, people drank whisky from any old glass because it meant whisky was getting into your body. There are debates over which is the best glass for scotch whisky but personally I think there are a few that honestly are different and worth looking at. The rest is all fluff.

Personally, I usually use one of two glasses - a Glencairn or the NEAT whisky glass. I'll explain why, plus a nod towards a new entrant to the market, and then I want to hear your opinion.



### Glencairn Glass

Besides a regular tumbler, which everyone knows about and needs no clarification, the tulip-bulb shaped Glencairn is probably the most popular glass. The Glencairn was designed to be like the nosing glasses used in distiller labs, when the professionals are nosing their work to check for quality and consistency. The shape is meant to intensify the nose on the whisky, which for novices can singe.

Personally, I like these glasses because of the intensity. Since they're so popular, they're also relatively inexpensive. A pair will run under \$15.

### NEAT Whiskey Glass

I was sent a few NEAT glasses to give them a try several years ago and they really are kind of neat. I nosed the same dram in a Glencairn and in the NEAT and the NEAT delivered on its promixaggeratedr ethanol vapors and bring out the other aromas in a whisky.

The shape isn't unique but they're more pronounced - it's a tulip shape but more exaggerated. The top tapers in more and the base is wider, which will allow you to swirl it a bit to wake up the spirit. It's a fun glass to drink but near the end of a dram it does feel weird since you have to tip the glass nearly vertically for the last of the spirit to escape!

The NEAT glass is also affordably priced at under \$20 for a pair.



### Norlan Glass

In recent years, there have been several whisky glass makers who have claimed whisky is tastier in their glass. The most recent, as of late 2017, is the [Norlan Whisky Glass](#). I've personally never used it but there's no debating how nice the glass looks.

As for the design, it was "digitally crafted" with help from distiller Jim McEwan (formerly of Bruichladdich). It's double-walled tumbler design with curves meant to simplify the drinking experience and aerate the whisky, to reduce ethanol vapors and lower the need to add water. The only knock against the glass is that a pair will set you back \$48. What do you think? Does the glass matter to you?



Highland single malt's signature style is amplified as never before  
1 September 2017

<http://www.theglenmorangiecompany.com/news/article/highland-single-malts-signature-style-is-amplified-as-never-before/>

Glenmorangie 19 Years Old brings a rare elegance exclusively to Travel Retail

For 19 years, its rare and elegant spirit has lain undisturbed in the deep peace of a warehouse at Glenmorangie's Highland Distillery. This September, released exclusively in Travel Retail, Glenmorangie 19 Years

Old single malt whisky brings new levels of intensity to the Distillery's signature style.

Matured only in the finest ex-bourbon casks, Glenmorangie 19 Years Old showcases the mastery and vision with which the award-winning Distillery has approached its whisky creation since 1843. Crafted from the most delicate aged parcel of single malt whisky, the expression augments Glenmorangie's soft and smooth character with a deep complexity, extraordinary smoothness and surprising zestiness. Glenmorangie 19 Years Old was created by Brendan McCarron, Glenmorangie's Head of Maturing Whisky Stocks, under the watchful eye of Dr Bill Lumsden, the Distillery's acclaimed Director of Distilling, Whisky Creation & Whisky Stocks. The pair were intrigued to see how they could magnify the vibrant citrus notes and creamy style for which Glenmorangie is renowned. In pursuit of the expression they had in mind, Brendan selected a parcel of whisky which had been allowed to mature undisturbed in slow-growth American white oak ex-bourbon casks, for almost two decades. From these casks, he chose only the spirit which still retained

the utmost finesse, to form the delicate character of Glenmorangie 19 Years Old.

Brendan said: "Often, a longer maturation will tone down a spirit's more perfumed notes. But Glenmorangie 19 Years Old retains a wonderful vibrancy and zest. Unusually for a whisky of such age, perfumed aromas of rose, lilac, carnation and mint emerge in abundance. Its long maturation in the finest-quality casks, brings the expression a smooth, buttery mouthfeel. Connoisseurs will be mesmerized by its tastes of apple, apricot, tangy oranges, toffee, menthol and butter candy – and the finish filled with oak tannins and lingering citrus fruit. For travellers

who love Glenmorangie, this whisky wonderfully amplifies the character of the spirit they know and adore."



#### GLENMORANGIE CADBOLL DEBUTS IN TRAVEL RETAIL

04 January 2018 by Matt Evans – [www.scotchwhisky.com](http://www.scotchwhisky.com)

Highland distillery Glenmorangie has extended its Legends Collection of travel retail exclusives with a wine cask-finished single malt inspired by a 16th century drinking vessel.

*Highland history: Glenmorangie Cadboll is designed to evoke the distillery's storied past*

Glenmorangie Cadboll is a no-age-statement single malt whisky aged in ex-Bourbon casks and finished in barriques which previously held Muscat and Sémillon wines.

Described as 'a slightly denser, more viscous expression of [Glenmorangie](#)', Cadboll is the brainchild of [Dr Bill Lumsden](#), Glenmorangie's director of distilling, whisky creation and whisky stocks.

The expression is bottled at 43% abv and priced at £75.

Cadboll is named after the Cadboll cup, a precious 16th century silver wine cup owned by the MacLeods of Cadboll, who created Glenmorangie House. The finishing barriques were chosen to echo the wines the Cadboll cup may once have held.

'[Cadboll's] aromas of baked bread and toasted brioche remind me of France,' Lumsden said. 'It is delightfully smooth and sweet on the palate, with tastes of mint humbugs, milky toffee and a long finish, full of old-fashioned confectionery.'

This bottling is the third permanent expression in the Legends Collection, following Glenmorangie Duthac and Glenmorangie Tayne.

The distillery also released Glenmorangie Tarlogan, a limited expression, into travel retail in 2016.

## THE (UN)IMPORTANCE OF SCOTCH WHISKY REGIONS

by [Thijs Klaverstijn](#) - January 5, 2018 – <https://blog.distiller.com/scotch-whisky-regions/>

Scottish whisky regions are often used as a guideline for taste, by brand ambassadors and whisky enthusiasts alike. We decided to take a closer look at each of the regions, and examine their importance as a taste indicator.

The most current regional map of the Scotch Whisky Association mentions 113 distilleries. An incomprehensible number, [but one that's actually already outdated](#). Numerous new Scottish distilleries have opened their doors in the last twelve months. To create some order to this chaos, whisky regions are used as a way to categorize single malts.

The traditional five regions as we know them today, are protected by law in the [Scotch Whisky Regulations 2009](#). Which regions are there? With which flavors are they historically associated? What are some of the well-known distilleries in each of them? And should you ultimately care?

### HIGHLANDS



Geographically the largest whisky region, it encompasses almost the whole of Scotland above Glasgow and Edinburgh. Highland whiskies are deemed as rounded, robust and dry, sometimes with a hint of smoke.

In the north you have classic distilleries such as Clynelish, [Glenmorangie](#) and Dalmore, while the western area counts such favorites as [Oban](#) and Ben Nevis. In the east and south you'll find Glen Garioch, Royal Lochnagar and Edradour. Then there are island distilleries like Arran, Highland Park and [Talisker](#), which you'll often see mentioned as a separate Island region, but they officially belong to the Highlands.

### SPEYSIDE



Smaller in size than Rhode Island, the Speyside region is home to half of Scotland's malt whisky distilleries. Named after the River Spey, its whiskies are noted for their elegance and

complexity. Some of the most well-known and best-selling whiskies hail from Speyside, such as [Glenfiddich](#) and The Glenlivet. Another Speyside brand, maybe the most luxurious of them all, is [The Macallan](#). (Editor's Note: Confusingly, though The Macallan bottle labels state "Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky", the brand prefers to be known as a Speyside whisky. As Speyside is technically a subregion of the Highlands, it is allowed.)

### LOWLAND



A very modest region with less than a dozen malt distilleries, the whiskies produced in the Lowland area of Scotland are traditionally associated with triple distillation. Nowadays only [Auchentoshan](#) employs this production method. Lowland whiskies are usually light, soft and mellow, and gentle on the palate.

## CAMPBELTOWN



salty tang of the sea.

At its peak, Campbeltown was home to more than 30 distilleries. Now there are only three: [Springbank](#), Glen Scotia and Glengyle. The whiskies from this remote town at the southern end of the Mull of Kintyre (famously celebrated in song by Paul McCartney) are robust and carry the

## ISLAY



(medicinal) peat smoke.

A small island off the west coast of Scotland, Islay may only be 25 miles long, but it is home to some of the most iconic distilleries in the world. Lagavulin, [Ardbeg](#) and Laphroaig are all situated within a few miles of each other. The whiskies from Islay are pungent and powerful, and characterized by their

### THE (NON)SENSE OF WHISKY REGIONS

The five Scottish whisky regions are often used to classify and categorize different distilleries. Looking for something smoky? [Let's visit Islay](#). Want something light and hyper-accessible? [Try a Lowland whisky](#). Or maybe something a bit more fruity, with subtle spices? [Then Speyside might be your thing](#). But is this really true? Reality, as is always the case, is more nuanced. Scottish whisky regions were established over a very long period of time. And not necessarily because of a perceived distinction in flavor profile.

For example, did you have any idea that the regional classification of Scottish malt whiskies has its origin in 18th century excise laws? The Wash Act of 1784 drew the infamous 'Highland Line', which divided Scotland into the Highlands and the Lowlands. It wasn't until almost a century later that other regions were being recognized. Islay and Campbeltown for example, because of the amount of licensed distilleries in those places.

Back then, many distilleries were an extension of a farm. Owners grew and malted their own barley. They cut their own peat, probably from a nearby bog. Single estate distilleries were the norm, not the exception. This was before the world became a smaller place. First through the industrial revolution, then because of the technological and digital revolutions.

### WHISKY PRODUCTION TODAY

Nowadays barley for whisky production is grown all over the world. Malting happens in big centralized facilities, as does the bottling. Chances are whiskies from different distilleries are diluted to bottling strength using the same neutral water. All of this is the result of progress and efficiency.

Non-peated whisky is produced on Islay. By Bunnahabhain and [Bruichladdich](#) for example, but also by [Caol Ila](#), who make unpeated spirit specifically for the Johnnie Walker blends. Conversely, in Speyside [The Balvenie](#), The Glenlivet and Glenfiddich experiment with peated whiskies. Diageo's modern Roseisle distillery has been specially designed to produce a range of different characters of spirit.

Maybe once upon a time there was whisky that could be dubbed *typically Speyside* or *typically Lowlands*. But the whisky industry has passed that point a long time ago. Whisky regions are ultimately nothing more than a very rough guideline for flavor, but shouldn't be looked at as gospel.

So did you drink a smoky, medicinal Islay whisky once, didn't like it, and have since avoided everything from Islay? That's a mistake. There's a whisky suited for you in (almost) every one of the five Scottish whisky regions. Happy exploring!

## Ian Macleod gains £80m funding to revive Rosebank

16th November, 2017 by Nicola Carruthers

Ian Macleod Distillers has secured an £80 million (US\$105m) refinancing package to support the revival of closed Lowland whisky distillery Rosebank.



Ian Macleod Distillers secures £80 million in refinancing to bring Rosebank Distillery back to life. The company – producer of the Glengoyne, Tamdhu and Smokehead Scotch brands – entered into a binding agreement with Scottish canals to [buy the Falkirk site](#)

last month.

The distiller also separately purchased the Rosebank trademark, along with the distillery's remaining casks, from Diageo.

Ian Macleod obtained the asset-based debt facilities from PNC Business Credit and Bank of Scotland, led by KPMG's Debt Advisory team.

The facilities include a further £10 million accordion option and have a term in excess of five years.

Leonard Russell, Ian Macleod's managing director told The Spirits Business last month that he "plans to produce Rosebank Lowland single malt in exactly the same way as it is known".

"We've got casks from 1990 through to 1993, and we will bottle them as limited releases over course of the next few years, maybe up to 10 years."

All equipment for the distillery will have to be installed in the old distillery building, including three stills for triple distillation, plus wormtub condensers.

The distillery will have a capacity of "around 600,000 litres". "We have to build the place, replace the equipment, then we have to start distilling it," said Russell. "It needs a major refurbishment and that's what its going to get."

As for future releases from the distillery, Russell plans to launch a "limited edition bottling at around 25-30 years, probably next year".

For the year ended September 2016, the Broxburn-based business recorded revenues of £64.7 million and employed 118 people.

The refinancing, along with "strong" trading results, is said to "position the business well to deliver its medium-term strategy".

Mike Younger, finance director of Ian Macleod Distillers, said: "This transaction provides Ian Macleod Distillers with a platform for growth, provided by a supportive banking club. The role played by KPMG was instrumental in securing the facility on flexible and competitive terms."

Bruce Walker from KPMG's Debt Advisory team, added: "This deal follows a competitive market process, reflecting the strength of both the business and the whisky market more widely."

## Inchmoan Profile - Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky

Like Inchmurrin and Inchfad, Inchmoan takes its name from an island on Loch Lomond, and is essentially a heavily peated version of Loch Lomond distillery's Inchmurrin single malt.

It is produced using Inchmurrin's unusual stills – pot stills with rectifying plates in their necks – and has a character that combines light fruitiness and peat.

Releases have been intermittent and small-scale, but Inchmoan has recently been given a new lease of life as part of the Loch Lomond Island Collection. The single malt is now available as a 12-year-old matured in re-charred American oak and refill Bourbon casks, as well as a 1992 Vintage distilled exclusively in Loch Lomond's straight neck pot stills.

Region Highland  
Production type Single malt  
Produced at [Loch Lomond](#)  
Inchmoan History

Since Loch Lomond distillery began operations in 1966, the plant has earned a reputation for being the most versatile and multi-functional in Scotland.

Additional stills of various shapes and sizes have been installed in the intervening period, including the twin pot stills with rectifying heads that produce Loch Lomond's Inchmurrin and Inchmoan single malts.

Initial releases were infrequent and small in terms of volume, with bottlings appearing in the mid-2000s of varying (but generally quite youthful) ages, typically under the group's Distillery Select label.

In 2014, Loch Lomond was acquired by businessman Colin Matthews, with the financial backing of Exponent Private Equity. Three years later, the company announced plans for a new Loch Lomond Island Collection range of single malts, including Inchmurrin, Inchmoan and Inchfad. Initial releases of Inchmoan include a 12-year-old and a 1992 Vintage.



- Timeline
- 1966 First spirit runs off the stills at Loch Lomond distillery, where Inchmoan is produced
  - 1984 The distillery is temporarily closed as recession hits the industry
  - 1986 Glen Catrine buys Loch Lomond after only a year in the ownership of Inver House
  - 1998 Two 'traditional' swan neck pot stills are added to Loch Lomond's varied collection
  - 2005 A four-year-old Inchmoan

appears on the market, followed by sporadic further releases

- 2016 Two more straight neck pot stills are installed
- 2017 A new Loch Lomond Island Collection will include two Inchmoan expressions

Owners:

Parent company - [Loch Lomond Group](#)

Current owner - [Loch Lomond Distillers](#)

## Kilchoman to double distillation capacity

14 November 2017 by [Dave Broom](#)

Islay farm distillery Kilchoman is to double its production capacity by the end of next year in a bid to exploit the growing market for single malt whisky.

Going up: Kilchoman is set to double its production capacity by the end of 2018

[Kilchoman](#), which began production in 2005, has already built a new malt floor and kiln on the site of the old Rockside Farm cow shed.

This is due to become fully operation in November, and will be capable of processing four-tonne batches of the distillery's own barley, compared to the two tonnes which the existing maltings can produce.

In 2018, construction will start on a new stillhouse, mash house and tun room – housing two more stills, a mash tun and six new washbacks.

All will be of the same size and design as the distillery's existing equipment in an effort to ensure that the character of the new make spirit will remain consistent.

When fully operational, the two stillhouses will allow Kilchoman to produce a maximum of 460,000 litres of pure alcohol (Ipa) per year, a doubling of its current capacity.

In addition, five new warehouses will be constructed on-site over the next five years.

'The single malt market is still growing and we want to be part of this continued growth,' said Kilchoman founder [Anthony Wills](#).

'We have built momentum with sales and I don't want to be in a position in four to five years of having to allocate stock.'

The news comes as a number of other Islay distilleries, including [Ardbeq](#) and [Laphroaig](#), are reportedly looking to expand their production.

Two weeks ago, [Diageo announced that it would rebuild Port Ellen distillery](#), 34 years after it closed, with production likely to restart by 2020.

Meanwhile, independent bottler [Hunter Laing is currently building a new distillery at Ardnahoe](#), with production due to begin next year.

## Construction starts on £15m Ardross Distillery

15th November, 2017 by Nicola Carruthers

Ardross Investments has begun work on its new £15 million (US\$19m) The Ardross Distillery, which is due to start production in summer 2018.

Highland Council [approved plans for an old farm site](#) to be transformed into the Scotch whisky distillery and tasting room in February this year.

Located in the Averon Valley, 30 miles north of Inverness, the construction will involve the refurbishment and extension of a dilapidated farm complex on a private 50-acre site that includes Loch Dubh.

In early 2018, two large copper stills and other process equipment for the distillery will be transported to site. Ardross plans to produce a "very high-quality, niche whisky", with production slated to begin in summer 2018.

It will also house a gin distillery with plans to launch the first product onto the market in late 2018.

Once completed, The Ardross Distillery will be of similar scale to that of Ballindalloch – Scotland's first single estate Scotch whisky distillery that [started production in 2014](#).

The steading buildings, farm house and cottages, where were established in the 19th century as part of Ardross Mains Farm, will be retained for the distillery.

Stone and slate will be salvaged from existing buildings that have collapsed and will be used to rebuild walls and roofs of the development.

Walls at the rear of the main steading will be removed and rebuilt to increase the size of the building for a two-storey still house, tun room, mash house and milling area.

The construction of the distillery will include offices and staff accommodation, a blending and product development lab, a vaulted cask storage area and marketing suite.

Donald Mclachlan, Morrison Construction managing

director, said: "Beginning construction is an exciting time and we look forward to continuing our work with Ardross Investments on this new distillery in the Highlands.

"We are proud to be working on this development, which reuses existing materials onsite, preserving the character of historic buildings.



## GLEN KEITH DISTILLERY RELEASES SINGLE MALT

19 October 2017 by [Becky Paskin](#) – [www.scotchwhisky.com](#)

Chivas Brothers is releasing a permanent no age statement (NAS) single malt from Glen Keith distillery for the first time.

*Speyside malt: Glen Keith Distillery Edition is the site's first NAS whisky*

Glen Keith Distillery Edition has been matured in 'traditional' American oak casks and bottled at 40% abv.

Said to contain notes of honeycomb, vanilla toffee and poached pears, the expression is being launched in the UK this month at £30 for a 70cl bottle.

The Speyside distillery, located near Strathisla in Keith, produces a light and fruity style of single malt that's predominantly used in the [Chivas Regal](#),



[Passport](#) and [100 Pipers](#) blends.

The distillery opened in 1960, but the first official bottling of [Glen Keith](#), a 10-year-old, wasn't released until 1994.

The distillery was mothballed in 1999, but was reopened in 2013 by [Chivas Brothers](#)' owner Pernod Ricard following a complete refurbishment.

James Middleton, channel director for impulse at Pernod Ricard UK, said the launch of Glen Keith Distillery Edition follows a 90% increase in sales of single malt Scotch whisky in the UK impulse segment in the eight weeks leading up to Christmas last year.

'The single malt market has been one of the most dynamic and profitable sectors of the spirits market in the last 10 years and is at the forefront of a movement in consumer taste towards spirits with greater authenticity and substance,' he said.

The launch of Glen Keith as a single malt follows those of Chivas Brothers stablemates [Glenburgie](#), [Glentauchers](#) and [Miltontuff](#). Last month the three distilleries, whose whisky is mostly commandeered for the Ballantine's blend, were [launched as 15-year-old single malts](#) under the Ballantine's brand.

---

## TOP 20 WHISKIES OF 2017

<http://whiskyadvocate.com/top20/>

- #20 • Fukano 2017 Edition
- #19 • Chivas Regal Ultis
- #18 • Crown Royal Noble Collection Wine Barrel Finished
- #17 • Macallan Double Cask 12 year old
- #16 • Tyrconnell 16 year old
- #15 • Kentucky Peerless Straight Rye
- #14 • High West Campfire
- #13 • Sheep Dip Islay Blended Malt
- #12 • Rebel Yell 10 year old (Barrel 5043515)
- #11 • Little Book "The Easy"
- #10 • Glen Moray 18 year old
- #9 • Bruichladdich Islay Barley 2010
- #8 • Tamdhu Batch Strength 002
- #7 • Compass Box Spice Tree Extravaganza
- #6 • Ardbeg An Oa
- #5 • Rampur Select
- #4 • Lagavulin 12 year old (Diageo Special Releases 2017)
- #3 • Wild Turkey Master's Keep Decades
- #2 • Glenmorangie Astar 2017 Release
- #1 • Elijah Craig Barrel Proof B517

---

## How to Store Your Whisky Collection

NOVEMBER 30, 2017 - JONNY MCCORMICK - <http://whiskyadvocate.com>

Once you acquire [more than a handful of whisky bottles](#), you have to start thinking about the best way to keep them organized. Even more important, storing whisky in the right conditions helps keep open bottles tasting their best, while maintaining those you may be saving for a special occasion or as a collection. Being well organized allows you to easily locate specific bottles, avoid cluttering your living space, and protect your most valuable whiskies. Use this guide to avoid lackluster flavors, evaporating fill levels, sun-bleached labels, and calamitous leaks while also showing off your connoisseurship.

### STORAGE BASICS

Compared with wine, storing whisky is easy and doesn't require any specialized equipment. Whisky is much more durable than wine and should not mature or spoil within a sealed bottle.

Store bottles upright—never on their side—to protect the cork. Otherwise, contact with the high strength alcohol could cause the cork to degrade or impart unpleasant flavors onto the whisky.

Protect your bottles from strong sunlight, temperature extremes, and the risk of water damage. Choose a room that gives you easy access to your collection; an outbuilding, garage, attic, or cellar may increase the risk of environmental damage compared with your main residence. Note that exposing your whisky to extreme heat can lead to significant volume loss.

### Creating a Whisky Display

One of the joys of owning a collection of fine whiskies is the pleasure in showing it off, selecting a special bottle that you have been saving, and sharing its story with like-minded connoisseurs and friends. Too many bottles are unceremoniously shoved into cupboards or abandoned on top of bookcases. Invest in deep shelving or glass display cabinets, or build a home bar to show off the best aspects of your collection. Choose museum-quality lightning that will bring out the gorgeous colors of the liquid without affecting the inks on the labels or warming up the contents.

Display bottles will accumulate dust, so rotate your presentation frequently. Perhaps you'll want to put up every single bottle from a prized collectable series, an A to Z of scotch or bourbon,

or a super-fan shrine to your all time favorite distillery. If you have space, arrange the whole collection by name, or stratify it by whisky style and country of origin.



### Storing for the Long Term

All collectors, whether they're accumulating comic books, [Star Wars action figures](#), or whiskies, want to keep their hard-won prizes in mint condition. A vault is the place to keep your special-occasion bottles or those you are saving for future sale.

Store your whisky carefully to avoid rips, scuffs, and dents to the labels, closures, and boxes. You may want to keep bottles packed in cartons or cases from the liquor store.

Consider your home security: decide if your most precious bottles should be in a locked cabinet or lockable room with a good alarm system. If you have a secure whisky bunker or opt to use commercial storage, make sure your [inventory](#) and appraisal are up to date.

### STORING OPEN BOTTLES

If you're like many whisky lovers, you like to sample widely, and probably have multiple bottles open at a time. Take care, however. Having too many bottles open is like starting dozen of novels but never getting beyond the first chapter.

#### Restrict the Number of Open Bottles

Whisky will [oxidize](#) inside an open bottle, which will gradually dull its taste, so consuming it within a few months will ensure that you are enjoying it at its peak. Be disciplined and keep open only the number of bottles you can finish within a four month period to optimize your freshest pours: Calculate how many ounces of whisky you (and anyone else drinking from your stash) consume a week, then divide that number by 25, the approximate number of ounces in a 750-ml. bottle. Multiply that number by 52, then divide by 3. The equation is ((weekly ounces/25) x 52) / 3. So if you drink 12 ounces of whisky a week under your roof, you can rotate through eight open bottles at any given time.

#### Limit Oxygen's Influence

Once a bottle is open, oxygen is already doing its work. If you're planning to work through the bottle quickly, simply replace the cork. For bottles you aren't going to finish within a few months, consider alternate strategies, like decanting the whisky into small sample bottles or pumping in inert gas, like [Private Preserve True 1026](#), between tastings.

#### Kill Them Quickly

Nearly-empty bottles take up precious space: do not get overly sentimental about the last pour rattling around the bottom. You are never going to get that whisky back, so rediscover storage space for new bottles by de-cluttering. Have fun with it: host a dregs party, where everyone commits to helping you finish the last pours, or try your hand at home blending. Tip your last drams into a Mason or [Kilner jar](#), let the liquid marry for a few weeks, then try the results. You may find you want to keep adding to the mix, creating your own "Infinity Bottle."

Storing and organizing your whisky correctly involves an investment in your time, but once you get in the habit, maintaining your system will be a breeze—giving you much more time to enjoy your whisky.

---

## Why 'lost' whiskies should never be blended

06 December 2017 by [Angus MacRaild](#)

Whisky from closed distilleries is a precious and dwindling resource, says Angus MacRaid, so treat them respect: don't 'lose' them in a blend, but let them live on as single malts in their own right.

Liquid history: According to MacRaid, historic casks of Brora should be preserved in their own right

At [The Whisky Show in October](#), I was tasting the recent [Diageo Special Releases Convalmore](#). It's a beautiful whisky, almost [Clynelish](#)-esque in its waxiness – it lingers long in the mind.

I was struck to hear that there had been a serious tussle between the Special Releases team and the blenders over what purpose those stocks of [Convalmore](#) were to serve. An older, waxy-style malt had been desired by the blenders for a high-end blend – and those casks of Convalmore fit the bill.

That this was ever in consideration seems to me to cut right to the heart of the division between those who make whisky and those who drink it.

We are now at a point where it's fairly obvious that stocks from closed distilleries are scarce. Many are spent; those that aren't dwindle low. Almost all the distilleries that closed in the 1980s were shut, not only because they were deemed surplus to requirements at the time, but because they were usually distilleries which had not had serious money spent on upgrading them in the preceding decade.

[Glenlochy](#), [Glenugie](#), [Brora](#), [Coleburn](#), Convalmore – it made more sense at the time to close these sorts of distilleries than to shut the likes of [Glendullan](#), which had recently undergone serious and expensive expansion.

The upshot was that the makes from most of the distilleries that shut were often characterful – examples of an older style of whisky production which, while perhaps not appreciated or considered remarkable at the time, would come to be cherished by drinkers in the decades that followed, both at younger and older ages.

*Beautiful whisky: But Convalmore's dwindling stocks are also sought-after by blenders*

Very few distilleries now produce this waxy and textural style of malt. The planned production style at [the re-opening Brora](#) speaks volumes about [Diageo's](#) awareness of the desire for this character among whisky enthusiasts.

I would argue that the remnant stocks from these closed distilleries are precious. They are the product of a different era: the sum of different production methods, different ingredients, a different culture, and – most importantly – different people.

To blend such stocks away – whether without fanfare into the nameless graveyards of some older, high-end blends, or as the lauded base for something like [the new Johnnie Walker Blue Label Ghost & Rare](#) – smacks of disrespect to these whiskies.

This is clearly not a position shared by the blenders at Diageo, and other companies with stocks from closed distilleries. As Diageo has often posited, it is a *blending* company. Its primary purpose is not to release myriad single malts, but to create varied stocks from which to compose a broad range of blended whisky products.

This is where the division lies between the producers and the single malt enthusiasts. To me, a cask of Brora is liquid history and deserves to be preserved in singularity. To a blender like Jim Beveridge, it is a vital component in a bigger picture. To both of us it is beautiful and precious, but our perspectives arrive from quite different directions.

The blenders would argue that my perspective is that of the single malt snob, dismissing blends as inferior. I don't deny I generally favour malts over blends, but if a certain flavour profile is needed for a blend, then there are other options.

Stocks from extant distilleries such as [Clynelish](#), [Caol Ila](#) or [Glen Ord](#) can perform a similar function to the character of these lost makes. Is the art of blending not in the creativity of recreating a flavour profile, not always with the same ingredients?

*Spectral whisky: Johnnie Walker Ghost & Rare is built on the closed (but soon to reopen) Brora distillery*

This new Ghost & Rare bottling is being sold off the back of the name Brora – that is the reason for that whisky's inclusion. However, it doesn't follow that to create that flavour profile it is essential to use Brora in the blend.

Of course not all casks of closed distilleries are 'good' either. I appreciate there may be exceptions where individual casks will be markedly inferior. Should these be put into high-end blends at all, though? The line about duff casks usually goes that they are squirreled away into big-batch blends – not put into high-end bottlings such as the Ghost & Rare.

I would argue that, while there may be some substandard casks, the quantities of these stocks are no longer so vast that they shouldn't be

carefully judged on a cask-by-cask basis and, wherever possible, bottled as single malt. It is fundamentally about respecting what have become – by accident of history – important, relevant and finite stocks of whisky.

As a lover of whisky, given the option, I would always prefer to see a cask, or casks, of a malt such as [St Magdalene](#) bottled, rather than blended – no matter how good the resulting blend might be. There is pleasure to be had in whisky from closed distilleries that goes beyond initial olfactory appreciation. The *knowledge* of what you are drinking is part of the experience.

However, I don't believe the same can be said of grain whisky from closed distilleries. The nature of grain as a neutral alcohol, with flavour derived almost entirely from wood, renders it a different beast from these lost single malts.

The whisky from closed single malt distilleries derives its importance from distinction of character and identity. Its flavour is information about the process and culture of its creation; something also true of grain whisky, but apparent in a far more minimalistic, streamlined and, dare I say it, uniform way.



*Malts over blends: MacRaid would rather see a 'lost' malt like St Magdalene bottled on its own*

This is not to 'diss' grain whisky, or to deny its commercial necessity to the whisky industry. But its inherently consistent nature means it need not be approached from the philosophical perspective with which we consider how to treat malt whisky.

For the people who made these lost distillates, it would have been very much 'a job'. Contrary to popular marketing mythology, most distillery workers did not consider themselves artists or lofty craftsmen. In the economically stagnant decades of mid-20th century Scotland, there were more important things than whisky to concern yourself with, and jobs were precious. That out of this some terrific single malts were produced makes these remnant stocks all the more important and remarkable today.

They remain historically relevant and beautiful by accident – relics of an industry and culture long since changed. This is something that deserves preservation, attention and respect.

Give me a cask of Convalmore – even one slightly too tired, slightly too old or slightly too weak. I'll still take joy in the story that whisky tells me when I drink it. I'll admire it *because* of its fragility, not in spite of it.

I'll think on the time it's spent getting to me, and all that's changed in between. I'll think on the people who made it, how their lives and localities differed from mine, and how bewildered they'd be at the price I no doubt paid to drink their whisky all these years later.

And I'll be glad it's in my glass, and not forever lost in a crowded blend.

---

## Isle of Arran unveils final Smugglers' Series bottling

6th July, 2017 by Nicola Carruthers - [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

The Isle of Arran Distillery is set to release the final expression in its Smugglers' Series – a nod to the illicit whisky trade that operated from Arran to Glasgow.

*Isle of Arran Distillery has unveiled the final release in its Smugglers' Series*

Like preceding volumes, [The Illicit Stills](#) and [The High Seas](#), Smugglers' Series Vol.3 [The Exciseman](#), is presented in packaging that mimics a hardbound book, complete with a cut-out compartment that conceals the bottle.

The Madeira casks used, are similar to the ones utilised by Arran's illicit distillers, who often stored and transported locally produced whisky in old Madeira casks brought over from the continent by their smuggling counterparts.



The use of quarter casks is a nod to the type of small vessels, which would have been the easiest to transport.

The expression is described as "complex, full of character" with notes of "apple and vanilla". While the finish is noted as "long, luxurious and yet delightfully fresh" with a "complex and robust" body.

"Smugglers' vol.1 and vol.2 were tremendously popular, selling out within days," said James MacTaggart, master distiller of the Isle of Arran Distillery.

"There is a real desire for whisky with a story, something the Smugglers' Series has in abundance.

"As the first legal distillery on the island in over 160 years we draw a great deal of inspiration from Arrans whisky-making heritage and are delighted to be able to share it through this, the final bottling of the Smugglers' Series."

A limited edition release of 8,700 bottles worldwide will be available online from 11am on the 12 July at [arranwhisky.com](http://arranwhisky.com) and at specialist whisky retailers.

Bottled at 56.8% abv, Smugglers' Series Vol.3 The Exciseman is available at an RRP of £89.99.

In February this year, Isle of Arran Distillers [started work on its second distillery](#), beginning with the construction of three warehouses.

### Reservation policy

- The agreement with the Kitchen's requires that we provide seven (7) business days notice for them to guarantee accommodation for our requested numbers. To accommodate the Kitchen's needs and meet our contractual obligation with them; our members are requested to respond to the emailed invitation seven (7) business days prior to the respective dinner to guarantee a seat at the dinner. Following the RSVP date members will be placed on a waitlist.
- For these individuals the process will be as follows, using the Monday September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 dinner date as an example:
- Dinner invitations will be sent out Friday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Please respond to me ([rdifazio04@gmail.com](mailto:rdifazio04@gmail.com)). I will then acknowledge that you have a seat. Please understand that if you do not receive a response you are not guaranteed a seat at the respective dinner. In such circumstances (e.g., computer glitches) please e-mail me again or call me (613-532-5285).
- Unless otherwise stated accommodation at the dinner will be guaranteed for all members who respond by Friday September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 @ 6pm.
- Once the RSVP date has been achieved I will e-mail a spreadsheet informing everyone of their status and amount due.

### Cancellation policy

- Using the same example as above, anyone who cancels anytime prior to Friday September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 @ 6pm will be removed from the list.
- Anyone canceling between Friday September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 @ 6pm and Monday September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 will be expected to pay for the cost of the dinner and scotch (\$60). 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 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 dinner without having cancelled and been successfully replaced will be expected to pay the full cost (\$60). A member will be responsible for their guest's cancellation (\$70).
- If a member asks to be included at the dinner between Friday September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 @ 6pm and Monday September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017, their name will be placed on a wait-list and be accommodated on a first-come first-serve basis.

## DECEMBER - KSMS Financial Statement

(Money from 51 December members @ \$65)	= \$3315.00
(Money from 35 December guests @ \$75)	= \$2625.00
December dinner 86 persons = \$45.00/ea	= \$3870.00
(Money remaining for buying Single Malt)	= \$2070.00
Cost of Single Malts	= \$1626.70
Cost of Pours per Person = \$17.69	
KSMS Monthly operational balance	= \$443.30
Cost per person 72 attendees (All inclusive)	= \$69.07

### Membership and Dinner prices for 2017-2018

Membership Fee:	\$40 (singles)
	\$60 (couples)
One Time Initiation Fee:	\$15
Standard Dinner Fee:	\$60 (member)
	\$70 (non-member)
Dinner only - No Single Malt:	\$55 (member)
	\$65 (non-member)
Christmas Dinner Fee:	\$65 (member)
	\$75 (non-member)
Robbie Burns Dinner Fee:	\$70 (member)
	\$80 (non-member)
June BBQ Dinner Fee:	\$70 (member)
	\$80 (non-member)

### Reserved Seating

- Complimentary Reserved Seating will only be provided to groups of four (4) or greater, when requested.

### 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.



If you have any questions or comments please free to contact me. Thank you for your understanding, Roberto



## Kingston Single Malt Society

Roberto Di Fazio, President

827 Old Colony Road

Kingston, Ontario, K7P 1S1, Canada

613-532-5285

[rdifazio04@gmail.com](mailto:rdifazio04@gmail.com)

<http://www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.com>

