

Kingston Single Malt Society

www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.com

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

June 18th, 2018 VOLUME 11; NUMBER 12



WHISKY
HIGHLAND PARK SCAPA

Friday August 23rd, 2019 - 12th Annual Premium Night - River Mill
September 16th, 2019 - Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside /
Highlands / Islands / Islay - River Mill
October 21st, 2019 - Speyside / Highlands - River Mill
November 18th, 2019 - Speyside - River Mill
December 9th, 2019 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill



MENU

1st course: Corn & Ancho Chili Bisque

2nd course: Grilled Summer Vegetables, Chevre,
Arugula & Balsamic

3rd Course - Main course:

Grilled Sirloin, Mac and Cheese,
Braised Greens, Chipotle Barbecue Sauce

Or

Blackened Salmon,
Mango Salsa, Mediterranean Pilaf, Asparagus

4th Course - Dessert Trio:

Raspberry, White Chocolate Cheesecake
Lemon Tartlet
Chocolate Espresso Mousse

Upcoming Dinner Dates

July 23rd, 2018 - World Whisk(ey) - Matt Jones-River Mill
Friday August 24th, 2018 - 11th Annual Premium Night - River Mill
September 17th, 2018 - Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside /
Highlands / Islands / Islay / River Mill
Sept. 21st, 2018 - Auchentoshan/Bowmore/Laphroaig - Matt Jones - River Mill
October 15th 2018 - Bunnahabhain Vertical - Mike Brisebois - River Mill
November 12th 2018 - Macallan/Highland Park - Cameron Millar - River Mill
November 19th, 2018 - Glenlivet Vertical Nosing - River Mill
December 10th, 2018 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill
January 21st, 2019 - Robbie Burns Dinner - River Mill
February 18th, 2019 - Highlands / Islands - River Mill
March 18th, 2019 - Speyside - River Mill
April 22nd, 2019 - Campbeltown / Highlands / Islay - River Mill
May 13th, 2019 - Speyside - River Mill
June 17th, 2019 - BBQ (Final Exam) - River Mill
July 22nd, 2019 - International Night - River Mill

Explain about ... Scotland's whisky regions

There are six major regions of whisky production in Scotland and each region has its own general characteristics. Of course, there are exceptions to every rule but here I will explain these basic regional characteristics and this may help you to select which style of whisky will suit your taste. Within each region, each distillery also has its own individual characteristics and this diversity gives us the different styles of the same drink and is what makes the world of whisky so interesting. There are currently over 80 distilleries in operation throughout Scotland.

Campbeltown

Campbeltown is found on a peninsula on the west Highland coast. It was once home to 15 distilleries but the industry there fell on hard times, partly due to the remoteness of its location and the resulting problems in transportation. Now there are currently only three operating distilleries in Campbeltown - Springbank, Glen Scotia and Glengyle (which has only just reopened in 2004, having been closed way back in 1925). They all use peated malt and the resulting whiskies have a light smoky flavour mixed with some maltiness and sweetness. They would be good examples to give to someone who was wanting to try a smoky whisky but not something too heavy or overpowering.

Lowlands

The Lowlands was once a major area of production but fell on hard times in the 1980s and early 1990s. Currently there are only three operating distilleries - Glenkinchie, Auchentoshan and Bladnoch (which was closed in 1993 and reopened in 2000). 'The Highland line' runs to the north of Glasgow and Edinburgh and this imaginary line is the boundary between the Lowlands and the Highlands whisky regions. The style of whisky produced in the Lowlands is light, fresh and fruity and are regarded as very easy to drink. They are subtle and refreshing, good for hot weather and as an introduction to whisky for someone who has not tasted it before.

Speyside

It is within this region that there is the largest concentration of distilleries in Scotland. There are currently over 30 in operation within what is a relatively small area, based around the towns of Elgin, Rothes, Dufftown, Keith and the surrounding glens. This has historically always been the case and is due to the combination of perfect climate for whisky maturation, quality water supply and locality to the quality barley growing areas. The whiskies produced include some of the most famous in the world, such as Glenfiddich, Macallan and Glenlivet, but also a number of hidden gems. The style is generally reasonably light with pronounced malty flavours and some sweetness. Speyside whiskies sit somewhere between the light Lowland whiskies and the richer, sweeter Highland whiskies. This is what makes them so popular.

Highlands

The Highlands is the largest region and contains some of Scotland's remotest distilleries. The distilleries are spread far and wide and include Glengoyne that is very close to 'the Highland line', Oban on the west coast, Dalwhinnie in the middle of the Grampians and Old Pulteney up in the far north. There is a large diversity of styles due to the geographical locations but generally the whiskies produced are richer, sweeter and more full bodied than from anywhere else in Scotland. Distilleries that are located by the coast can also have a salty element to their whiskies, due to the casks breathing in the sea air during maturation.

Islands

There are a number of distilleries that are based on the islands around the Scottish coast. These are Arran (on the isle of Arran unsurprisingly!), Jura (on the isle of Jura!), Tobermory (on Mull), Talisker (on Skye) and Highland Park and Scapa (on the Orkneys). There is no distinct style and all are pretty unique due to their locations. Generally, Arran and Scapa are the lighter and fresher whiskies, Jura and Tobermory are richer, sweeter and maltier while Talisker and Highland Park offer full bodied whiskies with some smokiness.

Islay

The island of Islay is the traditional home of smoky whiskies. Six of the eight operating distilleries produce the best smoky whiskies in the world and include some very famous names (the six are Ardbeg, Bowmore, Caol Ila, Kilchoman, Lagavulin and Laphroaig). The other two are Bruichladdich and Bunnahabhain, whose whiskies are normally unpeated and non smoky, but they do both occasionally produce limited edition smoky ones. The Islay whisky industry is booming and production on the island is at an all time high to meet demand. The industry runs the island's economy by giving jobs not just in manufacturing but in other areas, such as tourism. The whiskies are full bodied, smoky and complex. However, they are not to everyone's taste as they are so full on but are definitely worth a try. How will you know if you like it (or don't like it) if you don't try some?

MAY - KSMS Financial Statement

| | |
|--|---------------|
| (Money from 37 May attendees @ \$60) | = \$2220.00 |
| May dinner 37 persons = \$42.00/ea | = \$1554.00 |
| (Money remaining for buying Single Malt) | = \$666.00 |
| Cost of Single Malts: | = \$1042.45 |
| Cost of Pours per Person = \$22.62 | |
| KSMS Monthly operational balance | = (-\$376.45) |
| Cost per person 60 attendees (All inclusive) | = \$70.16 |

Diageo adds 'sweeter' expression to Singleton range

2nd May, 2018 by Melita Kiely - www.thespiritsbusiness.com

Diageo Reserve has released a "more delicate, slightly sweeter" variant of its Singleton Scotch whisky – The Singleton Malt Master's Selection. *The Singleton Malt Master's Selection is a "sweeter" variation of the 12yo*



The new expression is based on The Singleton of Dufttown 12 Year Old, but with a sweeter profile due to the larger quantity of refill wood used in maturation.

Bottled at 40% abv, The Singleton Malt Master's Selection is available in the UK on-and off-trade at an RRP of £30 (US\$41).

The whisky has been

described as a "perfect introduction" for single malt novices, as well as "a treat" for those who are already accustomed to drinking single malt Scotch.

Furthermore, to mark the launch Diageo has also tweaked the packaging design for The Singleton's core range, including the 12-, 15-, and 18-year-old whiskies.

The new look was inspired by a 19th-century hip flask and features the batch number, master blender's signature and tasting notes.

Nick Temperley, head of Diageo Reserve GB, said: "The Singleton Malt Master's Selection with its sweeter notes and delicate flavour will appeal to those new to the category whilst still complementing the collection – sitting well with our existing fans and loyal whisky drinkers."

"We've seen the premium malt whisky category grow by 9.9% in volume and 6.5% in value and I predict it's going to be a good year for malts."

"The rebrand of the 12-, 15- and 18-year-old will also create a strong standout for the collection on-shelf and we are excited that we've been able to develop a look and feel for the packaging that is just as good as the liquids inside."

Tamdhú Dalbeallie Dram to launch at Spirit of Speyside

2nd May, 2018 by Melita Kiely - www.thespiritsbusiness.com

Tamdhú Distillery has unveiled a limited-edition single malt to celebrate this year's Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival: Tamdhú Dalbeallie Dram.

Only 1,000 bottles of Tamdhú Dalbeallie Dram have been created Bottled at cask strength (62.1% abv), Tamdhú Dalbeallie Dram has been matured solely in oloroso Sherry casks from Jerez in Spain.

Non-chill-filtered, only 1,000 bottles of the whisky will be available exclusively from the distillery at an RRP of £90 (US\$123) per 700ml bottle.

The whisky is a nod to the Dalbeallie train station and the role the Victorian railway played in transporting Sherry casks from Spain.

The whisky is said to have notes of blackcurrant jam, mint tea and Bakewell tart on the nose, leading to Sherry oak, cream soda, orange and nutmeg on the palate.

On the finish, there are hints of malt biscuit, dark chocolate and cinnamon.

Sandy McIntyre, Tamdhú Distillery manager, said: "John Glass, our master blender, prepared a selection of drams for the team to nose and sample before we decided what we thought would best complement the current Tamdhú range."

Yesterday (1 May) Tamdhú unveiled a new single cask bottling to celebrate the distillery's 120th anniversary.

It followed the launch of the brand's oldest bottling to date - a 50-year-old single malt, which was also designed to commemorate the milestone anniversary.



Jura to launch new signature single malts

5th March, 2018 by Melita Kiely - www.thespiritsbusiness.com

Scotch whisky producer Jura is preparing to launch a new signature range of single malts globally, bringing a new smoky flavour profile to the brand.



The new signature range from Jura features five single malt Scotch whiskies

Scheduled to launch in domestic markets around the world in April, the new collection comprises five single malt expressions, each with a "subtle smoke" flavour and packaged in a new bottle design.

The new range includes no-age-

statement Jura Journey, bottled at 40% and matured in American white oak ex-Bourbon barrels. It is described as having a vanilla aroma, with citrus notes on the palate and a toffee fudge finish, and has a RRP of £33 (US\$45).

Jura 10 is bottled at 40% abv, and was finished in oloroso Sherry casks following a 10-year maturation in American white oak ex-Bourbon barrels. With dark chocolate on the nose, nectarines on the palate and a ground coffee finish, the expression has an RRP of £38 (US\$52).

Jura 12 has also been bottled at 40% abv, and was aged for 12 years in American white oak ex-Bourbon barrels before being finished in ex-oloroso Sherry casks. Consumers can expect to find chocolate aromas, leading to liquorice flavours and a soft smoke finish. With an RRP of £45 (US\$62), Jura 12 will only be available in select markets.

Also bottled without an age statement is Jura Seven Wood (42% abv). The whisky has been aged in seven French oak and first-fill American white oak ex-Bourbon barrels. With an RRP of £59 (US\$81), the single malt is said to offer tropical flavours with a hint of smoke, including peaches on the nose, candied orange to taste and a subtle smoke finish.

Completing the new collection is Jura 18 (44% abv), which has been matured for 18 years in American white oak ex-Bourbon barrels, and finished in fine red wine casks. On the nose, there's said to be toffee

notes, which lead to black forest fruits and bitter chocolate on the finish. It carries an RRP of £75 (US\$103).

Kirsteen Beeston, global head of brand for Jura, said the new range represented a “huge step forward” in terms of flavour and product consistency for the brand.

She added: “There is so much richness with Jura and we now confidently feel we have landed on a proposition with real consumer resonance and a range of whiskies with strong appeal.”

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING MODEST

30 May 2018 by [Dave Broom](#) – [www.scotchwhisky.com](#)

When was the last time you paused and thought about what malt whisky is made of? I know that, like good children at primary school, we can all recite by rote: ‘Water, barley, yeast’ (with the teacher’s pet at the front of the class adding, correctly: ‘And oak, Miss’), but when was the last time you actually paused to think about what you just said?

A cereal, a fungus and an omnipresent liquid; oh, and a tree. As a recipe, it’s startlingly simple. In fact, you might think it is an unprepossessing combination.

Seeing it laid out like that reminds me of the story of the person asking for directions to a town in Ireland. ‘Well, I wouldn’t start from here’ being the considered response. A wise one too, I hasten to add.

It seems barely possible that ingredients as basic as these can combine to produce a palatable drink. What is even more miraculous is how they interact to produce a myriad of flavours which ensnare us with their complexities. There is mystery at the heart of it all.

Yes, distillers have their part to play – this is not spontaneous (even if some might just test that theory out) – but what they do is nudge and cajole, control and guide, rather than force.

There’s no gussying up – no acidification or tannin addition, no chaptalisation or spinning cones. Despite the industrial-looking equipment, whisky-making is a natural process.

The secret is unlocking potential, allowing the flavours to rise and develop. It is an art of concentration and selection, of interplay and balancing.

The end result is a spirit which can speak to the soul like no other, a distillation of place, time and people, and it all comes from such humble beginnings.

Whisky, for all its boldness of flavour and attack is, at heart, modest. That in turn means that its makers have to have a respect for the ingredients. There is no place to hide when you are dealing with the original trio.

The same term, ‘humble’, is also the word which which springs to mind whenever you encounter anyone engaged in whisky’s production: from malting to distilling, coppersmithing to coopering, and blending.

As a nation, we Scots tend to be self-effacing (we talk ourselves down rather than up), and whisky people take this to the Nth degree. They are modest, lacking in arrogance or ego when it comes to what they produce.

They go about it quietly, letting the spirit speak. ‘It is a team effort’ ... ‘I just helped it along’ ... ‘It’s the whisky that’s important’ ... ‘It’s quite good’ (the last © [David Stewart MBE](#)). They serve the spirit.

It’s a lesson worth remembering when we pick up a glass. The moments of maximum enjoyment of whisky, for me at least, are also the simplest ones.

Not fancy dinners or gilded palaces of sin, no lights and lasers, but friends, glasses, a bottle and talk. Little has changed in that scenario since whisky’s earliest days.

The same applies to selling, talking or writing about it as well. Those of us fortunate enough to make our livings in this way need to always be aware that we are at the service of the whisky.

We can make it fun, crack jokes, play with it (in fact, I’d say all are essential), but we all need to remember that all we are doing is simply passing information along.

People come to our shop or bar or class, or read our writing, not because it is us, but because they want to learn about whisky.

As soon as we think we are more important than the story, the moment when ego takes over, then that simple aim is lost. We are servants of the spirit as well. We are all learning as well, sitting quietly at the feet of the people who know more than we do, asking why and then passing it on in a way which entertains and informs, but focuses on the whisky itself. We all have to remain humble.

NEW GLENGOYNE CASK STRENGTH IS SHERRY FIRST

18 May 2018 by [Richard Woodard](#) – [www.scotchwhisky.com](#)

Highland single malt Glengoyne has released the sixth batch of its Cask Strength expression – and the first to be 100% matured in ex-Sherry casks.

Amber glow: Glengoyne Cask Strength No 6 owes its colour to Sherry cask maturation

Glengoyne Cask Strength Batch No 6 includes whiskies matured in a combination of first-fill European oak Sherry casks, American oak Sherry butts and refill Sherry butts.

Bottled at its natural strength of 59.8% abv without chill filtration or artificial colour, the NAS (no age statement) single malt is said to have ‘intense flavours of Demerara sugar and gooseberry’ on the palate.

‘We are absolutely delighted to introduce Cask Strength No 6, the first ever exclusively Sherry oak-matured expression in the Cask Strength series,’ said Katy Macanna, brand manager for [Glengoyne](#) at distillery owner [Ian Macleod Distillers](#).

‘As tradition dictates for the Glengoyne Collection, this single malt has a deep golden colour, created by time and cask alone.’

Glengoyne Cask Strength Batch No 6 has a UK recommended retail price of £54.99 for a 70cl bottle.

JURA DISTILLERY

ISLANDS SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY

Inside, Jura is a classic 1960s distillery – large rooms, a clear flow from a semi-lauter tun, stainless steel washbacks, and a capacious stillhouse with very tall (7.7m) stills with capacity in excess of 20,000 litres. Clearly it was not built solely to satisfy the thirst of the local populace. Relatively short ferments give Jura’s background rigidity – meaning that this is a whisky that needs time (or active casks) to open fully.

Whyte & Mackay’s master blender Richard Paterson is a great advocate of ex-Sherry casks and while the bulk of Jura is aged in ex-Bourbon and refill, in terms of single malt bottlings the Sherried element has a higher presence, adding some dried fruit sweetness.

Peated malt began to be run for a small period annually from the late 1990s onwards. This is blended with unpeated in some expressions, as well as on its own.

JURA HISTORY

Although the large southern Hebridean island of Jura has always been sparsely populated, it has a fascinating distilling heritage. It was on 18th century Jura where it was reported that the natives made spirit from rowan berries, as well as using the bitter fruit to acidulate their whisky punch.

Illicit distillation took place, but there was a legal site in the island’s only settlement, Craighouse, in 1810 licensed to the island’s owner Archibald Campbell. There is debate as to whether there was a legal distillery in Lagg.

The distillery went through a number of names: Craighouse, Small Isles, Caol nan Eilean, Jura, and owners without garnering any great fame until 1901 when it was among many to close in whisky’s first great sales slump. The cost in running a remote island site is always expensive and a lack of direct transport to the mainland [all ferry traffic still has to go via Islay] also counted against its survival.

It was these economics which ruled Jura out of the distilling equation for over six decades. Then, in 1963, two of the island’s landowners, Robin Fletcher and Tony Riley-Smith, decided to start whisky-making once more – predominantly as an incentive to stop any further decline in the island’s population. With financial backing from Leith-based blenders Charles Mackinlay & Co., the famous designer William Delme-Evans was hired and a large, modern distillery was built which was further expanded in 1978 to its current size. In 1985, Invergordon Distillers bought Mackinlays and from there the firms were folded into Whyte & Mackay.

It began being sold as single malt in 1974, and the range has grown steadily since. The start of peating saw some smoky whisky being included in the no-age Superstition brand, launched in 2002, while a 100% smoked Prophecy was released in 2009.

GLENMORANGIE MALT MARKS 175th ANNIVERSARY

06 June 2018 by [Richard Woodard](#) – [www.scotchwhisky.com](#)

Glennmorangie is launching a 16-year-old single cask single malt, priced at £650, to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the Highland distillery.

Happy birthday: The 16-year-old single malt is only available from the distillery

On sale only at the [Glenmorangie](#) distillery in Tain from today (6 June), there are 191 individually numbered bottles available, bottled at 53.1% abv without chill-filtration.

Distilled in September 2001, the spirit was matured exclusively in a first-fill ex-Bourbon cask, and was bottled in March 2018.



'This single cask bottling is the perfect way for us to mark such a seminal year in the distillery's history,' said [Dr Bill Lumsden](#),

Glenmorangie's director of distilling, whisky creation and whisky stocks.

'Its aromas of vanilla and coconut, and richly balanced tastes of tropical fruits, spice and oak, offer a unique insight into Glenmorangie's quintessential style.'

'I hope those lucky enough to own a bottle will enjoy celebrating this landmark anniversary.'

The Glenmorangie distillery was established next to the Dornoch Firth in 1843, when founder William

Matheson converted Tain's local brewery into a distillery.

SCOTCH WHISKY TO DISPLAY CALORIES ON LABELS

13 March 2018 by Matt Evans -- www.thespiritsbusiness.com

Scotch whisky bottles will feature calorie information by 2022, thanks to a new industry-wide commitment supported by the Scotch Whisky Association (SWA).

Numbers game: Johnnie Walker Red Label already displays calorie information on its label

The SWA is falling into line with other, similar commitments from across the drinks industries, reacting to the European Commission's request to provide drinkers with clear nutritional and ingredient information.

'It's important that consumers have the information they need to make the right choices that fit with a healthy lifestyle, including on calorie intake,' said chief executive of the SWA, [Karen Betts](#).

'We're very pleased to endorse today's commitment to provide calorie information on labels, and to report on progress in October 2019.'

The information will be displayed as the amount of calories in a standard single measure rather than the total calories in the bottle, with a serving of 25ml containing between 55-56 calories at 40% abv.

'We believe this information should be provided in a format that is easy to understand, and linked to serving sizes,' said Betts.

Some producers have been displaying similar information for some time, with [Diageo](#) announcing that it would list calorie and serving size information on its entire portfolio [as far back as October 2015](#).

The commitment to display the information by 2022 was submitted to the European Commission yesterday (12 March), as part of a joint proposal by leading wine, beer and spirits producers in Europe.

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: | \$50 (member) \$60 (non-member) |
| Robbie Burns Dinner Fee: | \$70 (member) \$80 (non-member) |
| June BBQ Dinner Fee: | \$70 (member) \$80 (non-member) |

Reserved Seating

- Reserved Seating will only be provided in the case of groups consisting of four (4) or greater.

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 18th, 2017 dinner date as an example:

- Dinner invitations will be sent out Friday August 18th, 2017. Please respond to me (rdifazio04@gmail.com). I will then acknowledge that you have a seat. Please understand that if you do not receive a response you are not guaranteed a seat at the respective dinner. In such circumstances (e.g., computer glitches) please e-mail me again or call me (613-532-5285).

- Unless otherwise stated accommodation at the dinner will be guaranteed for all members who respond by Friday September 1st, 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 1st, 2017 @ 6pm will be removed from the list.

- Anyone canceling between Friday September 1st, 2017 @ 6pm and Monday September 18th, 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 18th, 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 1st, 2017 @ 6pm and Monday September 18th, 2017, their name will be placed on a wait-list and be accommodated on a first-come first-serve basis.

Just a note because we care.

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



Kingston Single Malt Society

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