

# Kingston Single Malt Society

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

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

JULY 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

VOLUME 12; NUMBER 1



# Beam SUNTORY



## World Whisk(e)y Night

### MENU

**Amuse Bouche: CANADA**

**1<sup>st</sup> course: SCOTLAND**

**Smoked Salmon, Pork Belly, Aioli, House Pickles**

**2<sup>nd</sup> course: JAPAN**

**Japanese Gyoza Potstickers & Dipping Sauce**

**3<sup>rd</sup> course - Entree: IRELAND**

**Irish Roast, Brisket, Cabbage, Local Potatoes,  
Horseradish & Mustard Jus**

**4<sup>th</sup> course - Dessert: USA - KENTUCKY**

**Chocolate Cake, Maker's Mark Kentucky Bourbon  
Butter Cream Frosting**

## Upcoming Dinner Dates

Friday August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Premium Night

September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside /  
Highlands / Islands / Islay

September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - An Evening of American Whiskey - Taylor  
Corrigan / David Smith

Sept. ??? - 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 - Auchtoshan/Bowmore/Laphroaig - Matt Jones

October 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 - Bunnahabhain Vertical - Mike Brisebois

November 12<sup>th</sup> 2018 - Macallan/Highland Park - Cameron Millar

November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Glenlivet Vertical Nosing

December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Christmas Dinner

January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 - Robbie Burns Dinner

February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Highlands / Islands

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Speyside

April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 - Campbeltown / Highlands / Islay

May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Speyside

June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - BBQ (Final Exam)

July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 - World Whisk(e)y - Matt Jones

Friday August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 - 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Premium Night

September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside /  
Highlands / Islands / Islay

October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 - Speyside / Highlands

November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Speyside

December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Christmas Dinner

## Top 10 best-selling world whisk(e)y brands

26th June, 2018 by Owen Bellwood - <http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com/>

10. Maker's Mark

2017: 1.9m; 2016: 1.7m; % change: 10.6%; Place last year: 10

9. Canadian Club

2017: 2.0m; 2016: 2.0m; % change: -1.2%; Place last year: -

8. Black Velvet

2017: 2.2m; 2016: 2.2m; % change: 0.5%; Place last year: 8

7. Evan Williams

2017: 2.4m; 2016: 2.3m; % change: 6.0%; Place last year: 7

6. Black Nikka

2017: 3.0m; 2016: 2.7m; % change: 11.1%; Place last year: 6

5. Suntory Kakubin

2017: 3.4m; 2016: 3.3m; % change: 4.0%; Place last year: 5

4. Jameson

2017: 6.9m; 2016: 6.2m; % change: 11.3%; Place last year: 4

3. Crown Royal

2017: 7.0m; 2016: 6.8m; % change: 2.9%; Place last year: 3

2. Jim Beam

2017: 8.9m; 2016: 8.0m; % change: 10.6%; Place last year: 2

1. Jack Daniel's

2017: 12.9m; 2016: 12.5m; % change: 3.6%; Place last year: 1

## Compass Box Phenomenology Review

Feb 15, 2018 - <http://www.allthingswhisky.com/>

Compass Box Phenomenology: 46% abv; Score: 88.5/100

Held to impossible standards, maybe. Such is the esteem John Glaser has written himself into. Even the least of the Compass Box releases stands head and shoulders taller than any comparable whiskies on the market. Glaser has done amazing things for the world of blending, especially as it relates to the world of blended malts.

A visit to the [Compass Box website](http://www.compassbox.com/) tells us that "phenomenology is a school of thought in psychology that focuses on phenomena or the experiences we get from our senses." Okay. Leave no stone unturned in your search for intelligent and intellectual marketing. This has always been a forte of the company that has brought us the Lost Blend, Enlightenment and Hedonism.

Tie that to packaging that shames nearly everyone else in the industry (excepting maybe Ardbeg) and whiskies that consistently hit harmonious heights that others merely gawk at and it's no wonder Compass Box is such an industry darling.

In keeping with their stance on transparency in whisky, the good folks at CB have kindly jotted down the recipe for Phenomenology for us (on their website, of course, because to do so directly on the bottle itself is obviously such an overt threat to the dinosaurs in the SWA that we need to find workarounds to share the info). Quite a concoction, this. One you'd never peg blind, I'd wager. 72% Glenlossie, 24% Tamdhu, 2% Highland Park, 1% Talisker and 0.5% Caol Ila. The latter three contributors – making up just 3.5% of the cumulative volume – bring so little left to the final



product that smoke is nothing but a suggestion. It wouldn't surprise me if most folks thought that was nothing more than barrel char notes. I did.

So what do we think? Well...it's great, of course. I'd expect no less. Unfortunately it's also almost forgettable. Beautifully constructed, but just not enough personality to differentiate itself. It's like the models that grace the pages of the fashion magazines in your local grocery. They're all lovely, but they're also interchangeable, nameless and soon forgotten.

**Nose:** Clean grains. Soft fruits. Pear and underripe pineapple. Fruit flan. Vanilla. Heavy cream. White chocolate. Just a hint of eucalyptus. Syrup-heavy fruit cocktail. A whiff of smoke somewhere in the far reaches.

**Palate:** Firm, oaky backbone. Crunchy apple and pear. A touch of pineapple again, caramelized. Lychee fruit. Oily vanilla. Lemon. Alcohol-soaked angel food cake. Decent finish that fades mostly on fruit and a slightly woody note.



**Thoughts:** Quite lovely, all in. Just maybe lacking a little of that oomph we expect from Mr. Glaser. Especially at the \$220 mark. Left me wanting more. Happy to drink it, but doubt I'd buy it at this price. Compass Box aficionados should be well-pleased, though, I'd think.

## THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR WHISKY ATTRACTIONS

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

As Johnnie Walker and Macallan invest big bucks in new, state-of-the-art visitor experiences, it's clear that whisky tourism is more popular now than ever before. So where are all these people flocking to? Matt Evans charts the most popular whisky attractions in the world.

[Macallan's](#) new distillery is an architectural marvel. Blending into its rolling landscape like an enormous parody of

Tolkien's hobbit-holes, Macallan has spared no expense on creating a five-star visitor experience. However, as project manager [Adele Joyce said recently](#), Macallan has no desire to become 'the Disneyland of Scotch', preferring to maintain its numbers at about 50,000 visitors a year to keep the experience intimate.

But, if Macallan doesn't want to inherit whisky's theme park mantle, there are plenty who would step up. From Diageo's plans for an enormous [Johnnie Walker experience to be built in Edinburgh](#), to the Pitlochry-based [Blair Athol](#), the home of [Bell's](#), which recently installed a circular bar made from the inside of a recycled mash tun, it's clear that whisky tourism is [encouraging investment in visitor experiences](#). More than £500m in the last five years, in fact.

Diageo's 12 Scottish distilleries alone [welcomed 440,000 visitors last year](#), with its most popular attraction, Blair Athol, playing host to 80,000 punters. However, Scotland's busiest distillery in 2017 (according to Glasgow Caledonian University) was [Glengoyne](#), which brought nearly 90,000 people through its doors.

Yet even Glengoyne is nowhere near as bustling as some of the biggest whisky attractions at home and abroad, which reach into seven figures on an annual basis.

So which whisky experiences are enticing thirsty newcomers and committed fans alike? These are the world's most



visited distilleries and purpose-built tourist attractions.

### 1. KAVALAN

*Whisky landscape: Taiwan's countryside forms the backdrop for the world's most popular distillery*  
Where: 326, Section 2, Yuan-shan Road, Yuan-shan, Yi-Lan, Taiwan

Book: [kavalanwhisky.com](http://kavalanwhisky.com)

Annual visitors: 1.23m in 2015

Standing head and shoulders above the rest is Kavalan. On one level, it's no surprise – the Taiwanese distillery has been snapping up award after award for years, with its Solist Fino Sherry Cask named 'best new whisky of the year' by Jim Murray in 2012 and the distillery winning 'Visitor Attraction of the Year' in the World Whisky Awards two years running. But why should you pay a visit?

It helps that the Kavalan production facility is enormous, offering hourly tours, family-friendly nature reserves (a garden featuring hundreds of rare orchids is on-site, while the scenic Taiyangpi Lake is a stone's throw away) and a free tot of whisky to all those who take the tour.

Kavalan also shares a home with Mr Brown, a canned ready-to-drink coffee ubiquitous in Asia and valued by Western coffee geeks as a worthwhile curiosity. It also helps that the air-conditioned distillery offers respite from the blistering Taiwanese heat.

More exciting for whisky devotees, however – and there are a lot of them in Taiwan – is the chance to head to the quiet tasting room and try a selection of Kavalan's Solist range. This small country is the world's sixth-largest export market for Scotch, and whisky is commonplace in business and bar culture alike.

As one of only two Taiwanese distilleries, Kavalan draws in the home crowd thanks to this ravenous enthusiasm, as much as it does those visiting the country. If you're in Taiwan, make the pilgrimage to try some of the world's top-rated whiskies while gazing out onto lush, rolling forests.

### 2. KENTUCKY BOURBON TRAIL

*Pure Americana: The Bourbon Trail offers the promise of a great American road trip*

Where: Kentucky, US

Book: [kybourbontrail.com](http://kybourbontrail.com)

Annual visitors: 1.19m in 2017

Following on Kavalan's heels is a joint effort from 23 different distilleries, which should put the Taiwanese brand's mammoth achievement into perspective. Regardless, the Kentucky Bourbon Trail is well worth traversing in its own right, as the combination of some of the world's best whisky and the prospect of your own great American road trip is enough to make an event out of it. Bonus points if you're in a classic American muscle car or, even better, a Harley-Davidson.



Picking up a Bourbon trail 'passport' allows you to hop from distillery to distillery in, around and between Lexington and Louisville. The big dogs are all here, from Jim Beam to Wild Turkey and Evan Williams, but you can also visit lesser-known craft distilleries such as Hartfield and Co for a more intimate Bourbon experience. And, if you finish in Louisville, you can always visit the Pendennis Club, widely purported to be the birthplace of the Old Fashioned.

The passport is recommended, as with so many distilleries and 76 miles of Bourbon country to discover, you'll likely get plenty of use out of it. When it comes to transport, it's more cost-effective to set aside the Harley for a group minibus or a van – at least then you can drink.

### 3. THE SCOTCH WHISKY EXPERIENCE

*Collector's item: The Claive Vidiz collection is a draw for dedicated whisky enthusiasts*

Where: The Royal Mile, 354 Castlehill, Edinburgh, Scotland

Book: [scotchwhiskyexperience.co.uk](http://scotchwhiskyexperience.co.uk)

Annual visitors: 378,000 in 2017



For those of us with an insatiable passion for Scotch, it's easy to forget that most visitors to Scotland view whisky as nothing more than a curiosity. Consequently, the Scotch Whisky Experience, situated a few minutes from Edinburgh Castle on the city's famous Royal Mile, tends to be an

inoffensive, easily digested first encounter with the spirit.

Comprising an introductory tour of the whisky-making process (neatly combined with a *Pirates of the Caribbean*-esque barrel ride), a brief talk and a tasting, the Scotch Whisky Experience also plays home to the Diageo Claive Vidiz whisky collection, an impressive 3,384 historic bottles of whisky in an imposing marble and glass vault.

A tightly-run ship situated in the middle of a bustling city, the Scotch Whisky Experience conducts tours in more than 20 languages and plays host to its own restaurant and whisky bar. A slick operation perfect for newcomers.

### 4. JAMESON DISTILLERY BOW ST

*Irish charm: Bow Street's central Dublin location draws in the crowds*

Where: Bow St, Smithfield Village, Dublin 7, Ireland

Book: [jamesonwhiskey.com/uk/visit-us/jameson-distillery-bow-st](http://jamesonwhiskey.com/uk/visit-us/jameson-distillery-bow-st)

Annual visitors: 350,000 in 2017

A bit of a misnomer here: Jameson Distillery Bow St is no longer a distillery. Now that production has been moved to Middleton in Co

Cork, the original distillery operates as a comprehensive, effective tourist trap.

Much like the Scotch Whisky Experience, Bow St's Dublin location serves it well as Irish whiskey's leading destination for



curious visitors, diehard whisky fans and rowdy stag and hen dos.

In addition to tours of the interactive educational displays, Bow St is run like a big, welcoming whisky bar, offering group bookings for cocktail masterclasses, a blend-your-own-whisky workshop and the opportunity to draw and taste from a Jameson cask – likely the key selling-point for single cask aficionados. Thanks to these sterling efforts and a welcome Irish tourism boom, Bow St has garnered several accolades, notably a 'Best International Experience' Themed Entertainment Award. In response to its status as the world's most famous Irish whiskey, Jameson has taken great pains to ensure that its flagship experience is world-class.

### 5. JACK DANIEL'S DISTILLERY

*Gentleman Jack: Quintessential Southern hospitality marks the JD experience*

Where: 280 Lynchburg Hwy, Lynchburg, TN 37352, US

Book: [jackdaniels.com/en-gb/visit-us](http://jackdaniels.com/en-gb/visit-us)

Annual visitors: 282,000 in 2017

The ubiquitous, unpretentious nature of Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey has helped ensure that it cracks the top five. Its hometown of Lynchburg is fairly unremarkable and out-of-the-way for most tourists, so the distillery's ability to draw in serious



numbers is a testament to the relentless marketing of Jack Daniel's as the lifestyle brand of American whiskey.

The tour itself comes in several flavours, from whistle-stop coach tours that last less than 30 minutes, whiskey in hand, to

a leisurely amble around the distillery and storehouses, followed by a two-course meal at the attached Miss Mary Bobo's Boarding House.

All exposed, warped wood and laconic banjo riffs, the entire operation could feel like it was designed by committee to feel as authentically Jack Daniel's as possible, and consequently one might lose a little genuine authenticity. Regardless, the distillery is a testament to the appeal of good old-fashioned Southern hospitality.

## DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE TOUR GUIDES

20 June 2018 by [Dave Broom](http://Dave Broom) - [www.scotchwhisky.com](http://www.scotchwhisky.com)

In my folly, I once hosted a tour around [Ardbeg](http://Ardbeg). Among others, the party contained my mother, then 80, who had never been round a distillery before, my brother-in-law who was interested in whisky, my sister-in-law who doesn't drink, and my (then) young niece who was more interested in trying to put a Mars bar into the mash tun than listen to her stupid uncle.

It was nothing compared to what most tour guides have to cope with on a daily basis, but it was instructive as it showed me how hard it is to pitch a tour to suit all levels of interest.

It means being geeky enough to satisfy the whisky lover, but not so far out there that you put off the newbie; it means having a talent to field 'stupid' questions, and trying to enthuse people who, let's face it, are often only there because their partner/parent likes whisky, or who only came along to the distillery because it was raining. Aye, being a tour guide is not an easy gig.

*People pleasers: Tour guides must have the ability to tailor their presentations to all manner of visitor*

So, the news that [distilleries have invested over £500m](http://distilleries have invested over £500m) in creating 'world-class tourism experiences' is welcome evidence of how whisky firms are no longer seeing the visitor centre as a place to sell shortbread and drams, but as part of their whole brand strategy.

That's all great, but with that shift in focus comes a greater responsibility on the part of the owner to also invest in the people who are on the front line. If the number of tour guides outstrips the number of operators, so the balance shifts. As a distiller or brand owner you have to ensure that the front of house staff are aware of every part of the process. They need to know when to engage the big guns of geekery and when to keep it light; they must have the ability to read a group of strangers and

know which ones are only there because of the weather and which are a whisky club.

There is more to the job than being taught a script, it means being trained to think on your feet and being able to tell the truth and not some marketing guff created by agencies who have never stepped in the distillery, or faced the challenging demands of a tour group.

It is all very well saying that these days the visitor experience should operate on an emotional level, but the stropky whisky geeks who want to berate you over your company's approach to NAS will not be assuaged by your New Age vibes about 'being' and 'feeling' – they want answers and they want facts, just as the members of the coach party want to know where the toilet is.

This is a difficult and complex job and if the visitor centre is being upgraded so should the training. It is all very well investing millions in the look, but the whole experience falls flat if, in the desire to equip the distillery with all manner of bells and whistles, the brand owner forgets to pay attention to the staff and the complex job they have to do.

Distillery managers and brand ambassadors have superstar status. So should the folk who take the tours, and investment in their training should be uppermost. You can't have a superstar chef in the kitchen but untrained front of house staff running the restaurant.

It's not just spending more money on better facilities, or amazing merch, or distillery bottlings, it is about investing in people and training to ensure that they know the history, the process (inside out) and where the flavour in the final whisky comes from. They are the real brand ambassadors.

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### Leader of Bourbon crime ring pleads guilty

21st September, 2017 by Amy Hopkins - <http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com/>

The leader of a criminal gang that stole more than US\$100,000 worth of Bourbon from the Buffalo Trace and Wild Turkey distilleries has pleaded guilty to amended charges.



The case has been on-going since 2014

As reported by [The Guardian](#), former Buffalo Trace employee Gilbert Curtsinger faces up to 15 years in prison after entering the plea in Franklin County Circuit Court to charges including theft by unlawful taking and receiving stolen property.

Curtsinger, described as the "ring leader" of a criminal syndicate that pilfered barrels of whiskey from Buffalo Trace and Wild Turkey, was first charged in 2015.

His initial charges included receiving stolen property of over US\$10,000, four counts of possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. Among those indicted were Curtsinger's wife Julie and her father, Robert McKinney.

Police uncovered the syndicate, reportedly formed by people who knew each other through softball, after five stolen barrels of Wild Turkey Bourbon worth US\$30,000 were [discovered in the backyard of Curtsinger](#).

Authorities linked the discovery of the Wild Turkey barrels to the [theft of US\\$26,000 worth of rare Pappy Van Winkle Family Reserve Bourbon](#) – which authorities had long thought to be the result of an inside job.

Police estimate the total amount of Bourbon stolen through the scheme, which operated for several years, amounts to US\$100,000. The stolen liquid may be destroyed, authorities have previously said.

Curtsinger will be sentenced after the case against one last defendant – former Wild Turkey Distillery worker Mark Searcy – is concluded.

Buffalo Trace parent company Sazerac and Wild Turkey's owner Gruppo Campari have been approached for comment.

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### Glencairn hits £10m revenue for first time

13th June, 2018 by Melita Kiely - - <http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com/>

Crystal and glassware producer Glencairn has exceeded £10 million (US\$13.32m) in revenue for the first time with its largest percentage growth since the company was established in 1981.

The Glasgow-based company reported a 20% year-on-year increase for 2017, which was the first year that the business experienced export sales overtake the domestic market.

Exports for 2017 accounted for 60% of overall sales, compared to 49% in 2016, which Glencairn has attributed to a "sizeable" increase in the luxury decanter and glassware arm of the business, which grew 40% year on year.

The firm also hailed growing interest in Glencairn Glass, which grew 29% year on year.

Glencairn has also expanded its employee base, and now boasts 60 full-time members of staff.

Scott Davidson, new product development director, said: "Our premium decanter and bottle business places us a world leader in this market. Coupled with our strong relationships with distilleries and businesses in the USA, Europe and the Far East has meant that we have exceeded all of our business expectations.

"In addition, consumers, globally, are looking to enhance their spirit drinking moments, to savour and learn as they enjoy their whisky and, as part of the serve experience, they are seeking quality glassware that is proven to enhance their favourite dram. Growth in demand for Glencairn Glass is testimony to that."

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### Beam Suntory to launch Little Book whiskey range

21st September, 2017 by Amy Hopkins - <http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com/>

Beam Suntory is set to release blended straight whiskey range Little Book – an annual limited-edition series created by Freddie Noe, eighth generation Beam family member.

Little Book The Easy is the first release in the new limited edition range

Freddie Noe, who is also son of current Beam master distiller Fred Noe, named the new series after the childhood nickname given to him by his grandfather, founding distiller Booker Noe.

The inaugural batch release of Little Book, called The Easy, features four components: uncut and unfiltered corn, rye and malt whiskies – representative of the three grains commonly found in Bourbon - balanced with uncut, unfiltered Kentucky straight Bourbon whiskey.

Bottled at 18.2 proof, it is made with four-year-old Kentucky straight Bourbon whiskey, 13-year-old corn whiskey, about six-year-old 100% malt whiskey, and six-year-old high-rye whiskey.

Noe worked on the final recipe for over a year and tried more than 25 different blends of the liquid before settling on the final product.

The Easy is described as leading with "caramel and oak" notes, before moving into notes of "toasted nuts and hints of corn grain". The finish is "long and packed with peppery rye". It is recommended served neat, over ice or with a splash of water.

"I'm humbled and honoured to share Little Book with the world," said Freddie Noe, the distillery's fermentation manager.

"When I joined the family business five years ago, I told Dad I wanted to learn everything there was to know about making



whiskey. Along the way, I discovered I'm particularly fascinated by the endless taste profiles that can be created through blending. I'm excited for whiskey fans to taste the first batch of this annual release, and I look forward to sharing new, one-of-a-kind blends every year. It's a real honour to carry on my family's legacy, and I hope I've done them proud."

Fred Noe added: "It's exciting to watch my son, Freddie, follow in the family footsteps and share his passion for blending with the release of Little Book.

"My dad, Booker, and I used to always say that if Freddie ever decided to join the family business, his distinct palate and nose, along with his eagerness to learn, would take him far. Freddie's coming into his own as part of the next generation of whiskey makers, and I couldn't be more proud to support him as he launches his first product."

Little Book The Easy will be available across the US from October in limited quantities with an RRP of \$US79.99 for a 750ml bottle.

## Van Winkle rye left out of annual collection

27th October, 2017 by Amy Hopkins - [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

Buffalo Trace has revealed details of its annual Van Winkle Bourbon collection, which this year will not include the Van Winkle Reserve 13 Year Old due to a "gap in barrel inventory".



*Buffalo Trace will release its annual Van Winkle collection without a rye expression*

The producer said this year's yields were "a bit higher" for the Van Winkle 10-, 15-, and 23-year-old whiskeys. The annual collection will also include a 12-year-old and 20-year-old Bourbon.

"We have a one year gap in barrel inventory for the Van Winkle rye," commented Kris Comstock, senior marketing director for Buffalo Trace. "Our current barrels are 12-years-old. So rather than compromise on quality or remove the age statement, we decided it would be best to hold off this year and bottle them next year as the 13-year-old rye whiskey fans have come to expect."

Most of this year's offering will be available exclusively in the US, despite its global popularity.

Julian Van Winkle, president of the Old Rip Van Winkle Distillery, said retailers have been asked to not mark up the RRP's of the whiskeys. "We have not raised prices and do not intend to do so drastically in the future," he added. "We are committed to our quality and our pricing and hope retailers will honour what we suggest as retail pricing."

Buffalo Trace has also warned consumers against buying products listed as Van Winkle whiskeys on Craigslist and private Facebook groups, stressing that it is illegal to buy and sell products if you are not a licensed retailer, and that some bottled may be counterfeit.

Earlier this month, Buffalo Trace [revealed that it had invested more than US\\$500,000](#) in tackling online sales of counterfeit Van Winkle whiskeys in the last 12 months alone.

This year's Van Winkle special releases will be available starting next month November and will be "hard to find".

Details of the whiskeys and their prices are listed below:

**US\$59.99 – Old Rip Van Winkle Handmade Bourbon 10 Year Old 107 proof**

**US\$69.99 – Van Winkle Special Reserve Bourbon 12 Year Old**

**US\$99.99 – Pappy Van Winkle's Family Reserve Bourbon 15 Year Old**

**US\$169.99 – Pappy Van Winkle's Family Reserve Bourbon 20 Year Old**

**US\$269.99 – Pappy Van Winkle's Family Reserve Bourbon 23 Year Old**

## Beam Suntory releases Jim Beam Distiller's Cut

14th November, 2017 by Nicola Carruthers - [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

Beam Suntory has launched Jim Beam Distiller's Cut, a limited-edition Kentucky straight Bourbon aged for five to six years.



Jim Beam Distiller's Cut is bottled at 100 proof

Bottled at 100 proof, Jim Beam Distiller's Cut features a "medium" body and combines "caramel sweetness with charred oak, enriched with light fruit notes".

After ageing, Bourbon typically goes through a chill filtration process, which involves forcing the liquid through a dense filter to remove fatty acids formed during distillation. Jim Beam Distiller's Cut removes this step, resulting in a "fuller taste".

Jim Beam Distiller's Cut offers a "smooth and complex mouthfeel with a warm, lightly

charred oak finish". It has aromas of "soft charred oak, sweet caramel, vanilla and hints of dried fruit".

"We skipped the chill filtration process, so the liquid gets from barrel to bottle a little differently," said Fred Noe, seventh generation master distiller.

"The result is unique to other Jim Beam offerings, with a fuller taste and longer finish compared to your typical Bourbon."

Rob Mason, vice president of North American whiskey at Beam Suntory, added: "At Jim Beam, we are consistently innovating to offer our consumers a wide range of products. Jim Beam Distiller's Cut is different from our other products because of the post-aging process."

"Our master distiller has decided to release this batch at a time when Bourbon drinkers, more than ever, are anxious to discover something unique."

Jim Beam Distiller's Cut is available at select retailers in the US at a suggested retail price of US\$22.99 for 750ml.

In August this year, Beam Suntory expanded its Jim Beam Bourbon range with the [launch of a vanilla-flavoured expression](#) in the USA.

## Heaven Hill to launch 27-year-old Bourbon

4th July, 2018 by Nicola Carruthers [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

Heaven Hill Distillery is set to release a "rare" limited edition 27-year-old barrel-proof Bourbon, priced at US\$399.

*Heaven Hill will release a 27-year-old Bourbon this autumn*

Heaven Hill 27-Year-Old Barrel Proof Small Batch Bourbon was distilled at the Old Heaven Hill Springs Distillery before it was destroyed by fire in 1996.

Only 41 barrels filled in 1989 and 1990 passed taste testing for inclusion in the Bourbon.

Five of the barrels were aged on the first and second floors of the building, where "increased humidity and evaporation caused the proof to drop".

Bottled at 47.35% abv, it is said to have an aroma of dried

fruits and baking spices, with pipe tobacco notes. The palate, meanwhile, offers an "explosion of vanilla and floral flavour with traces of pepper and clove", followed by a "long and soft" finish.



The Bourbon will be presented in a wooden box bearing two H's on each side to symbolise the Heaven Hill name.

"As stewards of the Bourbon movement we take pride in the perseverance that is a hallmark of Heaven Hill's 83-year history," said [Heaven Hill president Max L. Shapira](#).

"We remain committed to an enduring legacy of quality and patience, just as we have since 1935."

Heaven Hill 27-Year-Old Barrel Proof Small Batch Bourbon will be available this autumn in limited markets for a suggested retail price of US\$399.00.

#### 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)

## ***KSMS Financials since April 2008***

**Monthly Dinner:** In April 2008 Monthly Dinners cost members \$50. The cost rose to \$60 on September 2010 where it has remained. In 2008 the cost of Dinners averaged \$34.94 and this past year have risen to an average of \$42.57, an increase of 21.8%.

**Robbie Burns Dinner:** In January 2009 the Robbie Burns Dinner cost members \$60. The cost rose to \$70 on January 2011 where it has remained. In 2009 the cost of Robbie Burns Dinner was \$42.42 and has risen to \$46.00, this past January, an increase of 8.4%.

**BBQ Dinner:** In June 2008 the BBQ Dinner cost members \$50. The cost rose to \$60 on September 2009 and then \$70 on September 2010 where it has remained. In 2008 the cost of the BBQ Dinner was \$35.86 and has risen to \$50.00, this past June, an increase of 39.4%.

**Conclusion:** As a result, the allowance for purchasing Single Malts has diminished. It is only through the introduction and continued success of our raffles that we have managed to offset price increases to members.

"If you had invested in the top 500 performing bottles at auction in 2008, and in 2013 if you had sold them, you would have made a gain of 250 per cent over their original retail prices."

[cbc.ca/news/business/scotch-whisky-market-booming-investors-say-1.2677304](http://cbc.ca/news/business/scotch-whisky-market-booming-investors-say-1.2677304)

#### **Membership and Dinner prices Effective September, 2018 Dinner**

##### Membership and Dinner prices for 2018-2019

Membership Fee:	\$50 (singles) \$75 (couples)
One Time Initiation Fee:	\$15
Standard Dinner Fee:	\$70 (member) \$85 (non-member)
Christmas Dinner Fee:	\$75 (member) \$90 (non-member)
Robbie Burns Dinner Fee:	\$80 (member) \$95 (non-member)
June BBQ Dinner Fee:	\$80 (member) \$95 (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 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 dinner date as an example:
- Dinner invitations will be sent out Friday August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018. 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 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 @ 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 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 @ 6pm will be removed from the list.
- Anyone canceling between Friday September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 @ 6pm and Monday September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 will be expected to pay for the cost of the dinner and scotch (\$70). 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 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 dinner without having cancelled and been successfully replaced will be expected to pay the full cost (\$70). A member will be responsible for their guest's cancellation (\$80).
- If a member asks to be included at the dinner between Friday September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 @ 6pm and Monday September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 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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