

Kingston Single Malt Society

www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.com

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

SEPTEMBER 15th, 2014

VOLUME 8; NUMBER 3



Upcoming Dinner Dates

October 20th, 2014 - Speyside - River Mill
November 17th, 2014 - Highlands - VIMY
December 8th, 2014 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill
January 19th, 2015 - Arran - Robbie Burns - VIMY
February 9th, 2015 - Islay - River Mill
March 16th, 2015 - St. Patrick's (Irish) - River Mill
April 20th, 2015 - Islands - VIMY
May 25th, 2015 - Highlands - River Mill
June 22nd, 2015 - BBQ (Final Exam) - VIMY
July 20th, 2015 - 4rd Annual Bourbon Night - River Mill
Friday August 21st, 2015 - 8th Annual Premium - River Mill
September 21st, 2015 - Campbeltown/Lowland - VIMY
October 19th, 2015 - Speyside/Highlands - River Mill
November 16th, 2015 - Highlands - VIMY
December 14th, 2015 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill

This evening's menu with Single Malts from
CAMPBELTOWN / LOWLAND / ISLANDS

Soup: Tomato Roasted Red Pepper Bisque

1st Nosing: Campbeltown - LONGROW PEATED
(introduced by: Conrad Falkson)

Salad: Greek Salad

2nd Nosing: Lowland - AUCHENTOSHAN VIRGIN OAK
(introduced by: John Leighton)

Entree: Chicken Mediterranean (stuffed w/Spinach & Feta)

Potato, Rice and Pasta Choice:

Seasoned Oven Roasted Potatoes

3rd Nosing: Lowland - AUCHENTOSHAN VALINCH
(introduced by: John Creber)

Dessert: Chocolate Lava Cake

4th Nosing: Island - Mull - LEDAIG 19 YEARS OLD
(introduced by: Bart Gauvin)

COST OF THE MALTS

I know members are always interested in the cost of the single malts we taste. Plus the \$75 Special Occasion Permit and the 16% levy charged by the LCBO for all alcohol served at the dinner.

- **LONGROW PEATED** CAMPBELTOWN SINGLE MALT VINTAGES
180158 | 700 mL bottle **Price \$ 86.95** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Single
Malt Scotch 46.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **AUCHENTOSHAN VIRGIN OAK** LCBO 366021 | 750 mL bottle
Price \$ 136.45 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Single Malt Scotch 46.0%
Alcohol/Vol.

- **AUCHENTOSHAN VALINCH** LCBO 364471 | 750 mL bottle **Price \$**
67.55 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Single Malt Scotch 57.5% Alcohol/Vol.

- **GORDON AND MACPHAIL PRIVATE COLLECTION LEDAIG**
1993 ST JOSEPH WOOD FINISH; DISTILLED 1993; BOTTLED
2012 LCBO 941068 | 700 mL bottle **Price \$ 114.95** Spirits,
Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch 45.0% Alcohol/Vol.

Results of the Leif Erikson Highland Park

August Premium Dinner Raffle

The bottle was graciously donated by Paul
Charbonneau and Anthony Johnson.

The winner of the bottle was Tim Rickards.

During the course of the raffle a total of \$225 raised.

Thank you everyone!

Results of the Speyburn 25 Year Old JUNE Raffle

A total of \$450 was raised.

Winners at the June BBQ
Grand Prize winner of the Speyburn 25
Anne Holley-Hime

Perfect Attendance Award Winners
Roberto Di Fazio alongside John Creber; Conny &
John Leighton; & Anne Holley-Hime



Final Exam Winners (out of 18 points)

Marci McMullen (9 of 18; with an assist from Karin Gorham) - Ardbeg Ardbog
Mary Jane O'Donovan (8 of 18) - Blair Athol 15yo
Conrad Falkson (7 of 18) - Blanoch 16yo
Scott Drummond (7 of 18) - Macallan Cask
Jeff Gatke (6 of 18) - Liquer
Robert Smithyman (6 of 18) - Highland Park 10yo
John Leighton (6 of 18) - Hazelburn CV
Bruce Malcolm (6 of 18) - Bladnoch 16yo



Picking Your (Friend's) First Bottle of Scotch

Posted on July 28, 2014 by Jim - <http://scotchaddict.com/>

Whenever a friend who doesn't drink a lot of Scotch finds out I have a blog about Scotch, they want me to help them get into it. I'm all for being an ambassador! But rather than repeat myself over and over again, I thought this blog post could do the repeating for me.

Where to Start

For picking your first, or picking a first for a friend, it's valuable to know their preferences as compared to other beverages.

If they're a fan of whiskey to begin with, you're basically 95% of the way there because, as you know, Scotch is whisky produced in Scotland! I know a lot of people who love Bourbons because it's relatively cheap (being made in the US means you avoid a lot of taxes!) without sacrificing much in the way of quality. Bourbon is sweeter because of the higher sugar content of corn and so a nice introduction would be something on the sweeter, fruitier, floral side of the Scotch spectrum.

The same logic could be applied to gins and vodka, which differentiate themselves from one another based on those fruit and floral notes. Rums are often sweeter too since it's made from sugar/molasses. Skip the islands, where you get more smoke and medicinal flavors from the phenols.

At this point, it sounds like anything you could possibly think of them liking points you towards Speysides/Highlands and away from Islays and the Islands. Well, if they're a fan of craft beer, do they prefer hoppy beers like IPAs? Or wheat beers? Or do they enjoy them all?

If the answer is IPAs, like Dogfish 120 Minute IPAs and 90 Minute IPAs (IBUs of 120 and 90 respectively) then you might introduce them to an Islay. Islays have a powerful flavor profile because of the phenols and they won't be put off by it.

The goal with picking the right first bottle of Scotch for someone new to Scotch is to make sure it's a gentle introduction. It's a first date, not a proposal. So it's about finding something that closely fits what they enjoy and then let the experimentation come after.

The three factors I think about

I like to break it down into several factors:

- Overall flavor profile
- Alcohol content
- Price

Overall Flavor Profile

As mentioned earlier, I like to match it with something they already enjoy. This is where your experience will have to come into play – based on what you know, try to match them with a Scotch production area that meets the general profile. From within that area, you can pick a distillery you're familiar with.

The major areas are Lowland, Speyside, Highland, Campbeltown, and Islay. My basic rule is that if they like fruity and floral, go with Speysides and Highlands. If they like a bit of punch, a campfire-ness, go with an Islay.

As an aside, these rules are very very general. Not all Speysides are the same, just as not all Islays are the same, but I use these shortcuts because they're good enough. For example, pop open a Highland Park and you'll get a little bit of smoke despite it being a Highland.

On Finishes: Finishes are tricky for a first bottle because they're often more expensive (more on price later) and they introduce characteristics that can be fun, especially if your friends enjoy the other finish. For example, I love port so [Laphroaig Cairdeas](#) was a great bottle for me but it vaguely resembles a Laphroaig. I would hold off on a finish until later with the exception of sherry oak.

Alcohol Content

Try to stick with the 40-43% ABV standard and avoid any [cask strength expressions](#).

If they're new to enjoying Scotch neat, then sipping a beverage that's 40% alcohol will be a bit of a shock. Even if you add a few drops of water or an ice cube (please don't add an ice cube... please please please don't), it's still a lot.

Give them a beverage that's 58.5% abv (Macallan's Cask Strength) and you'll likely burn their taste buds off.

Go gentle and go low.

Price

I like to stick with the middle of the road in terms of price.

I don't want those super-cheap blends but I don't want to start my friends off with a Macallan 18 YO at \$180 a bottle. It's not that I'm cheap and don't want to share an expensive dram, it's that I don't want ruin average Scotches for them.

Macallan 18 YO is a good Scotch, you can ask anyone regardless of their preferences, but how does it compare with a Glenmorangie 10? Glenmorangie 10 is a perfectly fine whisky, I enjoy it often and I love their line of finishes to boot, but it doesn't compare. It can't compare. Glenmorangie 10 costs only \$37 while Macallan 18 costs a whopping \$180. It's like pitting the a AAA baseball team against a Major League team – it's just not fair.

And it's not fair to your friend! He or she has now sampled this awesome Scotch, now loves Scotches, but everything he or she will buy that's not \$180 a bottle will taste bad by comparison.

It's better to introduce them to a \$37/btl dram and then move your way up the price spectrum so they can appreciate it properly.

My first bottle recommendations

These recommendations are based on my experiences but also what I think is widely available and easy to get.

If your budget is the lowest of the named single malts, which is around \$35-45 a bottle, then the best introduction is the \$40 per bottle Glenfiddich 12 YO. Glenlivet 12 is nice too but the spicy finish might put someone off and have them mistaken the spiciness for high alcohol content.

Interestingly enough, if my memory serves me correctly, my first bottle of Scotch was actually a Balvenie DoubleWood 12. It's a 12 YO that's finished in ex-sherry and ex-bourbon barrels and very affordable, very tasty, and already breaks the guideline I mentioned in the section on finishes! (Heck, I might as well really break the rule, if your friend is a fan of sweetness, give Auchentoshan Three Wood a try... it's pricier, more like \$60-65 a bottle).

If they want to know what [smokiness and peatyness](#) is, go with a Laphroaig 10 YO (~\$50). You have smoke and peat but it's not overwhelming if you like that sort of thing (if you don't, it is overwhelming). It's not as medicinal as a Lagavulin and not nearly as peaty as Ardbeg, so you have a sense of Islay without being overwhelming in any one area.

If they want smoky but are a little scared of an Islay, Highland Park 12YO (~\$50) is a nice compromise. It's like a richer

floral sweetness with smoke, without the smoke being dominant and pushing everything else out.

Ten of the world's oldest distilleries

10th April, 2014 by Amy Hopkins - www.thespiritsbusiness.com

The historical roots of distilleries around the world are somewhat muddled, but these 10 sites are generally thought to be some of the oldest distilleries in the world.



Identifying the origins of distillation can be a tricky business, but these are 10 of the world's oldest distilleries. Historians, distillers and spirits fans have long debated which is the world's oldest distillery for various spirits categories, with no definitive conclusion.

Tumultuous historical events such as war and Prohibition mean that official documentation of early distillation is rare, while illicitly-made spirits also elude records.

However, we have endeavoured to put together a list of those which are generally considered to be the oldest distilleries in the world.

Old Bushmills Distillery, est: 1608

Now owned by UK drinks giant Diageo, the Old Bushmills Distillery, based in Bushmills, County Antrim, Northern Ireland, is the world's oldest licensed distillery.

The Irish whiskey brand was officially given a registered trademark in 1784, yet its origins date back to 1608 when King James I granted Sir Thomas Phillips – landowner and Governor of County Antrim – a license to distil.

The distillery therefore claims to be the oldest licensed distillery currently in existence and has the date 1608 printed on its bottles.

All of the whiskey bottled under the Bushmills whiskey brand is produced at the Old Bushmills Distillery.

Mount Gay Rum Distillery, est: 1703

Mount Gay rum is the world's oldest rum brand and its Barbados distillery is the oldest on the island having been established in the early 18th Century.

The brand and distillery is named after Sir John Gay Alleyne, 1st Baronet of Four Hill and trusted friend of John Sober who inherited the Mount Gilboa Plantation and Distilleries in 1747. Sir John Gay Alleyne became the manager of the company, which was given his name in 1801.

Last month, Mount Gay's parent company Rémy Cointreau was forced to issue a statement to assuage fears that the distillery was closing down following inaccurate reports in local Barbados press.

Mount Gay Distilleries was acquired by French spirits group Rémy Cointreau in 1989.

Buffalo Trace Distillery, est: 1773

Said to be the oldest continuously operating distillery in the US, the Buffalo Trace distillery is based at a site which first started production in 1773.

Based in Frankfort, Kentucky, Buffalo Trace is named as such because it was erected where ancient Buffalo once roamed. The main building of the Buffalo Trace distillery was built when Prohibition was first declared in the US in 1920, and was one of just a handful permitted to stay open to produce liquid for "medicinal purposes"

The oldest building on the site, the Riverside house, was constructed in 1792 by Commodore Richard Taylor and is still standing.

Glenturret Distillery, est: 1775

Although the beginnings of the Glenturret Scotch whisky distillery are rather vague, it is thought the site received an official license to make and sell whisky in 1775, making it Scotland's oldest whisky distillery.

Some historians have placed the beginning of whisky production at the distillery in the early 18th Century, when it is thought smugglers illegally operated the site.

However, the distillery cannot beat Strathisla's title as the oldest continuously operating Scotch whisky distillery. It was closed for a large part of the 20th century due to the effects of the US prohibition and eventually fell silent in 1921.

The distillery's stills were, however, fired up once again in 1959 when it was acquired by Rémy Cointreau. The distillery, which makes The Famous Grouse, is now owned by Edrington.

Bowmore Distillery, est: 1779

Established in 1779, Scotch whisky distillery Bowmore began production over two centuries ago and is Islay's first ever distillery.

Distilled on the South Eastern coast of the Inner Hebrides island, Bowmore's peated single malt is owned by Morrison Bowmore Distillers, itself a subsidiary of Japan's Suntory Holdings.

The distillery has an annual capacity of 2,000,000 litres, with fermentation undertaken in traditional wooden washbacks before the liquid is passed through two wash stills and then through two spirit stills.

It recently expanded its stable of assets on Islay with the acquisition of the Harbour Inn.

Laird Distillery, est: 1780

Laird Distillery, based in New Jersey, was the first licensed distillery to be opened in the US in 1780.

The distillery is now the country's last remaining producer of Applejack, a spirit that is distilled from apples and is aged for around 3 to 4 years in oak.

It claims to not only be the oldest distillery in the US, but also the 14th oldest family-run business.

Abraham Lincoln is said to have served Applejack at his tavern in the 1830s.

Strathisla Distillery, est: 1786

Strathisla claims to be the oldest continuously operating distillery in Scotland, having first been established in 1786.

The name Strathisla first came into being as the nickname given to the spirit from the Milton Distillery. However, the name was formally adopted by the distillery in 1870.

Founded as the Milltown Distillery on land leased by the Earl of Seafield, the distillery was acquired by Chivas Brothers at auction for £71,000 in 1950.

The outer appearance of the distillery is said to have changed little since its inception, from its old cobbled courtyard to its double pagodas.

Plymouth Gin Distillery, est: 1793

Also known as The Blackfriars Distillery, the Plymouth Gin distillery is based in a converted Dominican Order monastery which was first built in 1431.

The distillery itself has been in operation since 1793 and is the last distillery in Plymouth.

Its prevalence soared during the Victorian era thanks to its popularity among the Royal Navy based in Plymouth.

Opening onto the city's Southside Street, the original building still sits in the heart of Plymouth and displays its original distillation equipment.

Glen Garioch Distillery, est: 1797

The official opening year of Highland whisky distillery Glen Garioch is printed in every one of its Scotch whisky bottles as 1797.

However, conjecture has abounded the distillery's official opening, which may have been a little earlier than claimed since records show that the *Aberdeen Journal* printed on 1 December 1785 that the distillery has commenced production.

Surrounded by what is thought to be some of the best barley in Scotland, Glen Garioch sits in the sleepy Aberdeenshire village Old Meldrum.

The distillery has changed hands many times over the years and temporarily closed down in 1968. However, Stanley P Morrison, of what is now Morrison Bowmore Distillers, brought the distillery back from the brick of obscurity when he purchased it in 1970.

La Rojeña Distillery, est: 1812

Producer of Diageo's Jose Cuervo Tequila, Jalisco's La Rojeña distillery was officially founded in 1812 and is the oldest operating distillery in Latin America.

However, the first *Vino Mezcal de Tequila* de Jose Cuervo was made in 1795 when Don Jose Antonio de Cuervo's son Jose Maria Guadalupe de Cuervo was granted a permit from Spanish King Carlos IV to produce the spirit commercially.

Tequila was known as "mezcal de tequila" until 1893, when tequila makers and the Mexican government dropped "mezcal" from the name.

Glasgow to get first distillery in 100 years

3rd July, 2014 by Amy Hopkins www.thespiritsbusiness.com



Plans to build Glasgow's first Scotch whisky distillery in 100 years have been given the green light.

The Glasgow Distillery – the first whisky distillery to be built in the city in 100 years – is due to open next autumn. The £10 million Glasgow Distillery and Visitors' Centre will be led by former Morrison Bowmore man Tim Morrison, now owner of the AD Rattray Scotch

Whisky Company, and will be developed on the banks of the River Clyde.

Morrison will guide a group of industry experts in the development, transforming an iconic pump house into a small-batch single malt Scotch distillery and "interactive and educational" visitors' centre.

Glasgow City Council has approved plans and work is hoped to be complete by autumn 2015.

The development will aim to educate visitors about Scotch whisky and its production, as well as benefit the local community through increased tourism.

Those behind the project also include Andrew Morrison, director of AD Rattray in the US; Kenny McAllister, chartered accountant and business advisor; Glen Moore, marketing consultant and former Bowmore brand marketing director, and Harry Cockburn, distillery production engineer.

"The city was once home to many whisky distilleries and we think the Glasgow Distillery will put Glasgow right back on the Scotch whisky map, said Morrison.

"My great-grandfather John Morrison built the pump house in 1877 and it gives me great pleasure to now have the opportunity to bring the building back to life, restore it to its former glory and give the building and the surrounding area the respect and status it deserves."

The Glasgow Distillery is expected to employ 25 people once it opens, while over up to 300 jobs are expected to be created during the building phase.

JUNE - KSMS Financial Statement

(Money expected from 60 June attendees) = \$4200.00
June dinner 60 persons = \$52.00/ea = \$3120.00
Special Occasion Permit @ LCBO = \$75.00
(Money remaining for buying Single Malt) = \$1005.00
Cost of Single Malts: = \$1467.75
KSMS Monthly operational balance = -(\$462.75)
Cost per person 90 attendees (All inclusive) = \$77.71

Just a note because we care.

Please drink responsibly.

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.

Reservation policy

- Our contract with the Officer's Mess Kitchen requires that we provide seven (7) business days notice for them to guarantee accommodation for our requested numbers. Each month an invitation will be sent out to all members of the Society in the first week of the respective month in which the dinner will be held. 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. After that members will be placed on a waitlist.

- For these individuals the process will be as follows, using the Monday September 15th, 2014 dinner date as an example:

- Dinner invitations will be sent out Friday August 15th, 2014. 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 (613-634-0397).

- Accommodation at the dinner will be guaranteed for all members who respond by Thursday August 28th, 2014 @ 6pm.

Cancellation policy

- Using the same example as above, anyone who cancels anytime prior to Thursday August 28th, 2014 @ 6pm will be removed from the list.

- Anyone canceling between Thursday August 28th, 2014 @ 6pm and Monday September 15th, 2014 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 available, then the member will be asked to pay for 50% of their dinner cost.

- Anyone who fails to attend the Monday September 15th, 2014 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 Thursday August 28th, 2014 @ 6pm and Monday September 15th, 2014, their name will be placed on a wait-list and be accommodated on a first-come first-serve basis.

Membership and Dinner prices for 2013-2014

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)
	(includes donation to RMC Pipes & Drums with Highland Dancers)
June BBQ Dinner Fee:	\$70 (member) \$80 (non-member)

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



Kingston Single Malt Society

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