

BARBECOA

JAMIE OLIVER

WHISKEY COMPENDIUM

Whiskey is a spirit distilled from fermented grains and aged in oak barrels, which give it most of its colour and flavour.

Our whiskey compendium is a humble tribute to this great spirit that is made and enjoyed all around the world.

“The water was not fit to drink. To make it palatable, we had to add whiskey. By diligent effort, I learned to like it.”

- Winston Churchill -

OUR COLLECTION

- 1 - AMERICAN WHISKEY
- 2 - TRADITIONAL (RYE) BOURBON
- 3 - WHEATED BOURBON
- 4 - SMALL BATCH BOURBON
- 5 - SINGLE BARREL BOURBON
- 6 - VINTAGE AND UNIQUE BOURBON
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AMERICAN WHISKEY

- 1 -

A SHORT HISTORY OF AMERICAN WHISKEY

American whiskey is regulated by some of the strictest laws of any spirit in the world. Its heritage began when early American settlers preserved their extra rye crops by distilling them. Although different to the barley they were used to in Europe, rye still made damn good whiskey. It was in the 18th Century, when a quarter of a million Scottish and Irish immigrants arrived, that whiskey became serious business and the tax collectors were, of course, quick to notice.

If new settlers planted corn and built a cabin in the new state of Kentucky, they would be entitled to 400 acres of land, so tax-evading "whiskey rebels" jumped at the opportunity and moved to the bluegrass state. Rich soil, pure water and huge forests for making barrels made Kentucky any whiskey man's dream, and the legend of their corn-based whiskey travelled fast.

The Mississippi river offered an easy way to transport whiskey barrels to New Orleans. These were marked "From Bourbon County" and since the whiskey spent a year ageing on its journey, the result was a rich, smooth drink, further increasing the fame of Bourbon.

In 1919 prohibition was enforced across the U.S. which meant it was illegal to produce, sell or drink alcohol in the whole country. Many distilleries were forced to shut down, but a few were still licensed to produce whiskey for medicinal use. It's no big surprise that more than six million prescriptions for pints of whiskey were written by the time prohibition ended in 1933.

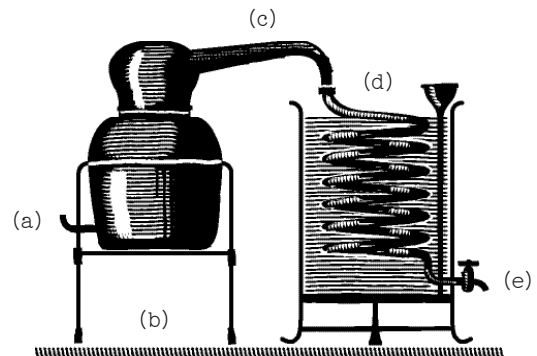
Bourbon, rye and Tennessee whiskey are as popular today as ever, and we are proud to showcase some of the finest and rarest American whiskeys on the market.

WHISKY OR WHISKEY?

The Irish and Americans spell whiskey with an "e". The Scots, Japanese and Canadians spell whisky without.

EASY DISTILLATION

Distillation is a way to separate alcohol from water, by boiling fermented grains (called mash) and condensing its vapour. Alcohol has a lower boiling point (78°C) than water (100°C), so if the temperature is controlled smartly, you can vaporize most of the alcohol before the water and then simply cool down the steam to catch the good stuff when it condensates.



- (a) Mash is inserted here.
- (b) Pot is heated to 78°C.
- (c) Alcohol vapour passes into water tank.
- (d) The vapour condenses as it cools.
- (e) The liquid whisky is removed here.

BOURBON

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TRADITIONAL (RYE) BOURBON

BUFFALO TRACE 40%
£6

EVAN WILLIAMS EXTRA AGED 43%
£6

BULLEIT 40%
£6.50

JIM BEAM DOUBLE OAK 40%
£7

FIGHTING COCK 6YO 51.5%
£7.50

OLD GRANDAD 43%
£7.50

WILD TURKEY 101 8YO 50%
£8.50

WOODFORD RESERVE 45.2%
£8.50

OLD FORESTER 43%
£10

OLD GRANDAD BONDED 50%
£11

I W HARPER 41%
£12

JAMES E. PEPPER 15YO 46%
£20

AMERICA'S FAVOURITE WHISKEY

Bourbon is a whiskey distilled from at least 51% corn and needs to spend more than two years in charred new oak barrels. Most people believe it can only be made in Kentucky, but it can actually come from anywhere in the U.S.

'THE MASH BILL'

Four types of grain can be used to make Bourbon, this is known as 'the mash bill'. 51% of the mash has to be corn; the other 49% will be mostly rye or wheat and a little malted barley.

The use of rye is more traditional and gives us spicy, floral and citrusy bourbons, while using wheat (page 3) tends to make softer, honeyed and nutty flavoured whiskey.

BUFFALO TRACE 40% £6

Thought to be the oldest continually operating distillery in the United States - and one of the few to remain open during prohibition - Buffalo Trace is home to some of the most exciting whiskies in the world. Their flagship and namesake bourbon boasts a depth and complexity you don't usually find at this pricepoint. With notes of vanilla, toffee and oak, you'll also discover some hidden fruit and spices.

BOURBON

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'EASY SIPPIN' WHISKEY'

When wheat is used in the mash bill instead of rye, you get a softer and sweeter bourbon. If you like honeyed, nutty and rich whiskeys, then "wheated bourbon" is definitely for you.

WHEATED BOURBON

MAKER'S MARK 45%
£7.50

DAVID NICHOLSON 1843 50%
£10

MAKER'S 46 47%
£10.50

W.L. WELLER 12YO 45%
£14

OLD RIP VAN WINKLE 10YO 53.5%
£17

WILLIAM LARUE WELLER
UNCUT / UNFILTERED 70.1%
£30

PAPPY VAN WINKLE
FAMILY RESERVE 23YO 47.8%
£80

PAPPY VAN WINKLE FAMILY
RESERVE 23YO 47.8%
£80

At 23 years, this is as old as bourbon gets. Julian van Winkle has handpicked the best barrels from 1986 to make this remarkable whiskey with notes of toffee, dark fruits and sweet espresso.

SMALL BATCH BOURBON

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A LITTLE BIT OF T.L.C.

Small batch and craft whiskeys show off some of America's best micro-distilleries and the finer products from the larger whiskey makers. These whiskeys are a blend of just a few special barrels that were handpicked by the master blender. No law places an exact limit on how many barrels can be used, but it's common practice to use 10-20.

FOUR ROSES SMALL BATCH 45%
£7

EVAN WILLIAMS 1783 43%
£7.50

KENTUCKY VINTAGE 40%
£8

REBEL YELL SMALL BATCH
RESERVE 45.3%
£8

CORNER CREEK 44%
£8.50

ELIJAH CRAIG 12YO 47%
£9

KNOB CREEK 9YO 50%
£9

JIM BEAM SIGNATURE CRAFT 43%
£9

JOHNNY DRUM PRIVATE STOCK 47%
£9.50

ROWAN'S CREEK 50.05%
£10.50

BAKER'S 7YO 53.5%
£11

BASIL HAYDEN'S 40%
£12

BIB & TUCKER 46%
£12

NOAH'S MILL 57.15%
£13

RIDGEMONT RESERVE 1792 46.85%
£13

RUSSELL'S RESERVE 10YO 45.1%
£14

BOOKER'S 63.5%
£18

GEORGE T. STAGG 70.7%
£25

EAGLE RARE 17YO 45%
£25

HIRSCH 1987 20YO 48%
£26

SINGLE BARREL BOURBON

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AN ACT OF MOTHER NATURE

Single barrel whiskeys are created when the blender finds a barrel that he deems too good to mix in a blend. The barrel is put aside and bottled under a single barrel label.

These spirits truly showcase just how good American whiskey can be.

EVAN WILLIAMS
SINGLE BARREL 43.3%
£9.50

1792 SINGLE BARREL 49.3%
£10

WILLET'S SINGLE BARREL 47%
£10.50

WATHEN'S
SINGLE BARREL 47%
£11

BARBEOA 10YO
SINGLE BARREL BOURBON 45%
£14

EZRA BROOKS 12YO 49.5%
£14.50

BLANTON'S
GOLD RESERVE 51.5%
£18

BLANTON'S ORIGINAL 46.5%
£15

FOUR ROSES SINGLE BARREL
LIMITED EDITION 2014 54%
£20

ORPHAN BARREL
BARTERHOUSE 45.1%
£20

EVAN WILLIAMS SINGLE
BARREL 23YO 53.5%
£25

ORPHAN BARREL RHETORIC 45%
£30

BARBEOA 10YO SINGLE BARREL BOURBON 45%
£14

Hand-selected by our on-site whiskey lovers, this incredibly versatile barrel of Eagle Rare 10YO was bottled exclusively for Barbecoa by the Buffalo Trace distillery. It's an exceptional bourbon, with aromas of orange peel, toasted marshmallow and charred wood that lead to a palate full of vanilla and honey with subtle hints of pepper. This is one of the best value whiskeys we've ever tasted, and your only chance to try it is right here.

VINTAGE & UNIQUE BOURBON

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VINTAGE BOURBON

We have been lucky enough to procure some great whiskeys from a time long gone. Unlike Scotches, you rarely see releases of bourbons older than 20 years. This is due to many reasons, one being that bourbon doesn't age too well past this point – most native Kentuckians will tell you that any red liquor older than 8 years is no bourbon. So to taste the American whiskeys of the past, we have to open up bottles that were produced 30-40 years ago. Below is a selection of fine Bourbons from the golden age of American whiskey.

UNIQUE BOURBON

There are many laws in place when it comes to making bourbon. This is to ensure a level of consistency and quality which most distilleries adhere to. However in recent years the trend of experimental whiskeys, especially Scotch, has persuaded the master distillers in Kentucky to try some experimenting of their own. These groundbreaking whiskeys are bourbons, but not as you know them.

AMERICAN VINTAGE

FOUR ROSES 1980 40%
£20

BOURBON DE LUXE 1970 43%
£20

WILD TURKEY 8YO 1970 50.5%
£22

I W HARPER GOLD 1980 43%
£25

SCHENLEY 80 PROOF 1980 40%
£25

WALKER'S DE LUXE 1970 43.4%
£25

OLD CROW 1970 40%
£40

BOURBON BUT DIFFERENT

JIM BEAM SIGNATURE SIX GRAIN
44.5%
£9.50

HIGH WEST AMERICAN
PRAIRIE RESERVE 46%
£10

DRY FLY 101 WASHINGTON
BOURBON 50.5%
£13

KING'S COUNTY
PEATED BOURBON 45%
£14

HEAVEN HILL 15YO
ISLAY CASK FINISH 53.8%
£22

HUDSON BAY BABY
(100% Corn) 46%
£22.50

HUDSON BAY FOUR GRAIN 46%
£22.50

BUFFALO TRACE EXPERIMENTAL
SINGLE OAK PROJECT 45%
£45

TENNESSEE WHISKEY

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THERE'S MORE TO AMERICA THAN BOURBON

It certainly is their flagship spirit, but there are many other fine whiskeys made across the pond. We've got our hands on some fabulous straight rye and Tennessee whiskies.

TENNESSEE WHISKEY

GEORGE DICKEL NO.12 45%
£9.50

GEORGE DICKEL
BARREL SELECT 43%
£17

JACK DANIEL'S OLD NO.7 40%
£6

GENTLEMAN JACK 40%
£9.50

JACK DANIEL'S
SINGLE BARREL 45%
£12

JACK DANIEL'S
SILVER SELECT 50%
£13

JACK DANIEL'S RESTED RYE 40%
£17

THE THING ABOUT JACK DANIEL'S...

As many of his loyal fans may well know, JD is not bourbon, it's a Tennessee whiskey. So what's the difference? Bourbon laws don't allow any flavour to be added to the whiskey, while Old Jack and his lesser-known Tennessee neighbour, George Dickel, are both mellowed in maple wood charcoal for 10 days before ageing. This is known as the 'Lincoln County process' and gives Tennessee whiskey its famous sweet, smoky flavour.

SO WHAT'S 'SOUR MASH' WHISKEY THEN?

While they don't always put it on the label, all bourbons are sour mash. This simply means that a little bit of the 'sour' mash left over in the still after the distillation will be added to the new 'sweet' batch before fermentation. It ensures a consistent product and also controls the acidity of the mash, creating the ideal environment for the yeast to ferment.

RYE WHISKEY

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AMERICA'S ORIGINAL WHISKEY

Straight rye is predominantly made in the north-eastern states. It follows the same strict laws as bourbon but is distilled from at least 51% rye, giving it a drier and spicier flavour. After prohibition and two world wars halted production, straight rye whiskey almost disappeared completely, but it has experienced a return to popularity recently. Try it in a lovely Manhattan or Sazerac cocktail as it was originally served back in the day.

Don't mistake straight rye with the Canadian blended whisky, which they confusingly call rye too!

PIKESVILLE RYE 40%
£6.50

JAMES E. PEPPER 50%
£13

EZRA BROOKS 45%
£7

MICHTER'S US*1 42.4%
£14.50

OLD OVERHOLT 40%
£7.50

WHISTLE PIG 10YO 50%
£15

BULLEIT RYE 45%
£8

MICHTER'S BARREL STRENGTH 56%
£18

RITTENHOUSE 100 PROOF 50%
£9

RUSSELL'S RESERVE 6YO 45%
£19

SAZERAC 45%
£9.50

HUDSON BAY MANHATTAN 46%
£22.50

TEMPLETON 45%
£10

THOMAS H. HANDY
SAZERAC (2008) 63.75%
£25

KNOB CREEK RYE 50%
£10

SAZERAC 18YO 45%
£25

GEORGE DICKEL RYE 45%
£10.50

E.H TAYLOR STRAIGHT 50%
£28

FEW RYE 46.5%
£11

WHISTLE PIG III PROOF 55.5%
£35

HIGH WEST RENDEVOUZ 46%
£12.50

VINTAGE 23YO 47%
£40

OTHER AMERICAN WHISKEY

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SIZE DOES MATTER

Micro-distilleries are small distilleries that are currently popping up all over the US, creating fabulous craft whiskeys. Our American single malts are some of the great expressions from these smaller producers that don't stick with the traditions of American whiskey.

MICHTER'S #1 UNBLENDED 41.7% £12

This American whiskey, from Michter's in Kentucky, is matured in barrels which have previously held bourbon - and so cannot legally be labelled as bourbon. It does have a mash bill that follows the laws of bourbon, and you can expect notes of butterscotch, vanilla and a hint of caramel. The finish is a mix of dried and ripened fruit.

CHARBAY RELEASE III 66% £70

This whiskey is distilled from ready-to-drink beer, with hops added towards the end of the distillation process for extra aroma. Made in Napa Valley, CA, it will take you on an amazing journey of flavours. With only a limited number of bottles produced, and none being sold in the U.K., this truly is a once-in-a-lifetime dram.

OTHER AMERICAN WHISKEY

FIREFLY MOONSHINE 50.35%
100% Unaged Corn Whiskey
£8.50

WASMUND'S 40%
Single Malt
£10.50

CORSAIR TRIPLE SMOKE 40%
Triple-Smoked Single Malt
£12

MICHTER'S #1 SOUR MASH 43%
£12

MICHTER'S #1 UNBLENDED 41.7%
£12

CLEAR CREEK MCCARTHY'S 63%
Peated Single Malt
£12.50

BERNHEIM 45%
100% Wheat Whiskey
£13

BALCONES BABY BLUE 46%
100% Corn Whiskey
£14

BALCONES BRIMSTONE 53%
100% Corn Whiskey
£16

MONTANA ROUGHSTOCK 63%
Single Malt
£15

PARKER'S HERITAGE 13YO 63.4%
100% Wheat Whiskey
£17

STRANAHAN'S COLORADO 40%
Single Malt
£18

CHARBAY RELEASE III 66%
Distilled from Pilsner
£70

SCOTCH WHISKY (WHERE IT ALL BEGAN)

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A SHORT HISTORY OF SCOTCH WHISKY

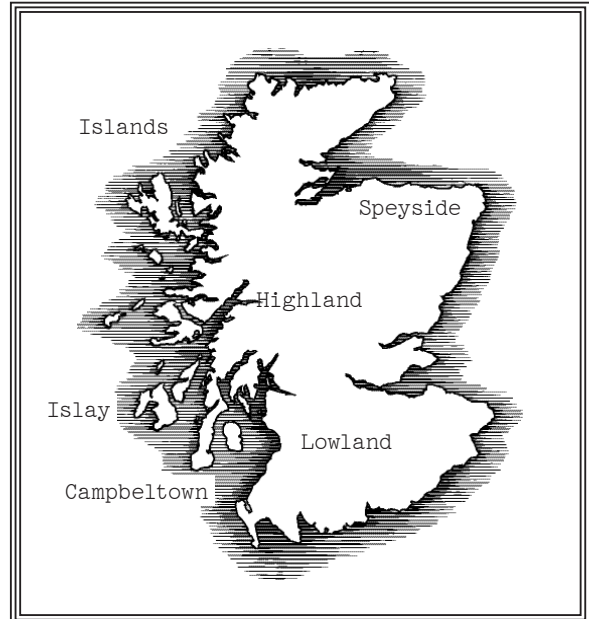
Whether the Scots learnt it from the Irish or not will always be a heated debate, but they surely know their stuff. The history of Scottish and Irish whiskies can be traced back over almost 700 years, and is thought to have started with monks trying to distil beer in search for the secret of eternal youth. In fact, the name whisky is derived from the Gaelic term for water of life: 'Uisge Beatha'.

Drinking whisky quickly became a favourite pastime for many households, but more for simple pleasure than a quest for youth. It became a way to keep warm during the cold Scottish winters and a welcome to offer to your guests.

The history of whisky is coloured with years of harsh tax laws which turned distillers into smugglers and gave birth to the moonshiners. Distilleries were forced to move to different parts of Scotland and, over time, developed their own distinctive styles. Although not a hard and fast rule, a whisky from each region can often be associated with a certain style and flavour profile.

With the invention of the patent still in the early 1800s came the dawn of grain whisky. Clever merchants started to mix the lighter grain whisky with single malts, introducing the world to a more accessible blended whisky.

Thanks in part to a phylloxera epidemic in the late 19th century, which destroyed many French vineyards, Scotch whisky was soon well on its way to replacing brandy as the world's favourite spirit.



INTRODUCTION OF TAX LAWS

As whisky became more and more a part of everyday life for the Scots, Parliament introduced a tax, not only on the malts, but also on the finished product.

Following The Act Of Union with England in 1707, taxes began to rise further. A new malt tax introduced by the House of Commons in 1725 would lead to the Malt Tax Riots in Scotland.

Eventually, many distillers were driven underground and a long - and often bloody - battle arose between the excisemen and the illicit distillers.

BROTHER JOHN COR

"To Friar John Cor, by order of the King, to make aqua vitae, VIII bolls of malt"
- Exchequer Rolls of Scotland, 1st June 1495

This quote is the first written evidence of the distillation of aqua vitae - or as it was said in Gaelic, Uisge Beatha.

Interestingly, this amount of malt would result in roughly 1500 bottles, suggesting that distillation was well established in the late 15th century.

BLENDED WHISKY

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BLENDED MALTS

Blended malts are, as the name suggests, a marriage of two or more single malt whiskies. Until 2009, they were usually called 'vatted' or 'pure' malts.

A truly innovative category within the conservative world of Scotch whisky, distillers will often let their imaginations run wild with blended malts, attempting to combine the diverse characters of individual distilleries.

The resulting whiskies are uniquely complex and cover the entire flavour spectrum of Scotland's distillery map.

BLENDED SCOTCH

Blended Scotch is the staple of Scotland's whisky production and is simply a mix of malt and grain whisky. Grain whisky does not have to be made from malted barley and has a lighter flavour, giving great blenders a platform to truly showcase their talents. Blending is a fine art and the best early blenders made Scotch whisky world famous. Some of their names, like Alexander Walker, Arthur Bell and James Chivas, are still well known today.

With typically lighter and more accessible flavour profiles, these whiskies offer a great starting point for anyone who's curious about Scotland's greatest export.

BLENDED MALTS

MONKEY SHOULDER 40%
£8

SHACKLETON
BLENDED MALT 40%
£10

TIMOROUS BEASTIE 46.8%
£10

SWEET WEE SCALLYWAG 46%
£10

ROCK OYSTER 46.8%
£12

SCALLYWAG
CASK STRENGTH 53.6%
£14

MACKINLAY'S RARE
OLD HIGHLAND MALT 47.3%
£25

BERRY'S ISLAY RESERVE 46%
£26

BLUE HANGAR 45.6%
£26

GHOSTED RESERVE 26YO 42%
£75

BLENDED SCOTCH

JOHNNIE WALKER
BLACK LABEL 40%
£7

DEWAR'S 12YO DOUBLE AGED 40%
£8.50

COMPASS BOX
THE SPICE TREE 46%
£11

COMPASS BOX
ASYLA 40%
£11

BALLANTINE'S 17YO 43%
£13

JOHNNIE WALKER
BLUE LABEL 40%
£40

JOHNNIE WALKER BLUE LABEL
KING GEORGE V 43%
£80

JOHNNIE WALKER
RED LABEL 1978 43%
£25

JOHNNIE WALKER
BLACK LABEL 1978 43%
£30

THE ANTIQUARY 1970 40%
£30

JAMES BUCHANAN'S
BLACK & WHITE 1950 40%
£40

SINGLE MALTS OF SCOTLAND (SPEYSIDE)

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SINGLE MALT WHISKY

Single malt whisky is only distilled from malted barley and only at one distillery. Malting is the process where barley is soaked in water and allowed to germinate in order to naturally convert its starches to fermentable sugars.

SPEYSIDE

Speyside is probably the most famous region in Scotland. Known for its brilliantly sweet and rich whisky, it accounts for two-thirds of the country's single malts. The whisky history of this little corner of Scotland goes back more than two centuries, when the mountains provided a safe hideaway for dodgy whisky distillers evading English taxmen.

GLENFIDDICH

In the summer of 1986, William Grant set out to realise a lifelong dream - to make the 'best dram in the valley'. Along with his nine children and one stone mason, they began to build the distillery.

Today the ever-innovative Glenfiddich distillery are leading the Scotch whisky world in creativity and have even released single malt whisky rested in a cask that previously held IPA beer.

Now one of the most award-winning Scotch whiskies in the world, we reckon William succeeded in his dream!

SPEYSIDE MALTS

GLENROTHES SELECT RESERVE 40%
£9

MACALLAN GOLD 40%
£11

BALVENIE 12YO DOUBLE WOOD 40%
£10

ABERLOUR A'BUNADH BATCH 50
SHERRY OAK 59.6%
£12

GLENFIDDICH 15YO 40%
£12

GLENFIDDICH IPA 43%
£12

BENRIACH 15YO 46%
£12

BALVENIE 12YO SINGLE BARREL 47.8%
£13

GLENFIDDICH PROJECT XX 47%
£13.50

GLENFIDDICH 18YO 40%
£17

BALVENIE 21YO PORT WOOD 40%
£25

TORMORE 1996 43%
£26

GLENFARCLAS 25YO 43%
£30

GLENLIVET 21YO ARCHIVE 43%
£35

BENRIACH 25YO PEATED MALT 46%
£35

THE MACALLAN
SHERRY OAK 18YO 43%
£35

KININVIE 23YO 1991 42.6%
£60

GLENROTHES 1978 43%
£80

SINGLE MALTS OF SCOTLAND (HIGHLAND & LOWLAND)

- 13 -

THE HIGHLANDS

The Highlands can be one of the trickiest styles to pin down, as it's such a big region. Taking in most of the mainland and all of the islands, you can draw an imaginary line between Dundee and Greenock, dividing the High and Lowlands. In the past, this was for tax reasons – allowing the north to have smaller stills than the south, which resulted in a more charismatic spirit. Expect anything from mild peat and heather notes (Highland Park) to smooth and fruity (Glenmorangie and Glenury).

THE LOWLANDS

The Lowlands are in the south of Scotland. The whiskies are soft and malty with a dry finish, and make excellent aperitifs.

In days gone by, lighter-tasting whiskies were appreciated more by Scotland's southern neighbours. This, along with the high demand for grain whisky, led to industrialisation of most Lowland whisky makers. Sadly, today we are left with only four Lowland malt distilleries who have stuck to their roots.

LOWLAND MALTS

AUCHENTOSHAN 12YO 40%
£9

AILSA BAY 48.9%
£11

AUCHENTOSHAN
THREE WOOD 43%
£12

AUCHENTOSHAN 18YO 43%
£20

ROSEBANK 12YO 43%
£35

GLENKINCHIE
20YO 1990 55.1%
£40

HIGHLAND MALTS

DALWHINNIE 15YO 43%
£9

GLENMORANGIE 10YO 40%
£9

GLEN GARIOCH 48%
£10

DALMORE 15YO 40%
£13

GLENDRONACH CASK
STRENGTH 55.3%
£14

GLENMORANGIE 18YO 43%
£20

OLD PULTENEY 21YO 46%
£23

DALMORE 18YO 43%
£26

GLENGOYNE 21YO 43%
£28

GLENMORANGIE SIGNET 46%
£32

GLENMORANGIE EALANTA 46%
£40

GLENURY ROYAL 1970 57.2%
£85

GLENUGIE 1980 30YO 52.13%
£90

GLENGOYNE 21YO 43%
£28

Glengoyne is known for distilling slower than anyone else in Scotland. They also air-dry their barley – never using peat. After 21 years in the finest hand-selected sherry casks, this is the perfect after-dinner dram. Toffee and red apples give way to warm oak and cinnamon with a long spicy finish. We're sure you'll agree it's a joy to drink.

SINGLE MALTS OF SCOTLAND (ISLAY & CAMPBELTOWN)

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ISLAY

Islay is considered the birthplace of Scottish whisky. It's known for its huge smoky and peaty flavours. You either love Islay or you hate it, but it's definitely not for the faint-hearted.

ISLAY MALTS

LAPHROAIG 10YO 40%
£9

BUNNAHABHAIN 12YO 40%
£9.50

BRUICHLADDICH CLASSIC 50%
£10

PORT CHARLOTTE
SCOTTISH BARLEY 50%
£12

KILCHOMAN MACHIR BAY 46%
£12

PORT ASKAIG 100 PROOF 57.1%
£12

LAGAVULIN 16YO 43%
£12

BUNNAHABHAIN TOITEACH 46%
£15

LAPHROAIG 18YO 48%
£25

OCHDAMH-MOR 5YO
EDITION 06.1 57%
£35

BRUICHLADDICH BLACK ART 46%
£60

BOWMORE 1989 PORT CASK 50.8%
£60

BRUICHLADDICH BLACK ART 46%
£60

Working secretively, with the finest selection of oak casks handpicked by the master distiller, this unusually unpeated Islay single malt delivers on all fronts. Expect honey on the nose, coconut and tangerine on the palate, and grilled peach and apricot on the finish.

CAMPBELTOWN

Campbeltown was once the whisky capital of Scotland, with 23 distilleries at the start of the 20th century. However, during prohibition, overproduction for US export ruined the reputation of this fine region, and sadly today only three of its distilleries remain in operation.

CAMPBELTOWN MALTS

KILKERRAN 12YO 46%
£9

GLEN SCOTIA VICTORIANA 51.5%
£15

HAZELBURN 10YO 46%
£9

LONGROW PEATED 46%
£12

SPRINGBANK 10YO 46%
£10

SPRINGBANK 15YO 46%
£15

SPRINGBANK 18YO 46%
£18

PEAT

Peat is an important source of fuel to the Scots. Simply put, it's compressed vegetation that is harvested from just beneath the ground's surface. Burned in kilns and fireplaces, in whisky making it's used to dry the barley after the malting process, giving Scotch its distinct smoky flavour.

SINGLE MALTS OF SCOTLAND (THE ISLANDS)

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THE ISLANDS

Although not a region that's officially recognised by the Scotch Whisky Association (SWA), the islands surrounding Scotland are known for producing some of the most unique and interesting malts in the UK. Often mistakenly compared to peaty Islay whiskies, the few distilleries on the more northern islands produce an astonishing range of flavours, from fresh, peppery peat (Talisker) to creamy, with citrusy spice (Isle of Jura). Expect few similarities here.

ARRAN 14YO 46% £11

The Isle of Aran has a long-standing history with illicit distilling, and there are many tales of bravely fought battles against the excise officers. Known throughout the years for its pure water, the distilleries here were held in the same high regard as the esteemed Glenlivet.

These days there is only one distillery on the island, which was founded in 1993 by Harold Curri. Their first release came in 1998, and they have since grown from strength to strength with a core range consisting of six expressions. The 14-year-old expression is one of the most rounded we have ever tried. Lots of spicy summer fruits and a smooth creamy body are apparent, before a lingering nutty finish slowly dries the palate.

THE ISLANDS

TALISKER 10YO 45.8%
£9

HIGHLAND PARK 12YO 40%
£9

ARRAN 14YO 46%
£11

ISLE OF JURA 16YO 40%
£12

ISLE OF JURA 21YO 44%
£26

HIGHLAND PARK 18YO 43%
£30

HIGHLAND PARK 30YO 48%
£100

TALISKER 10YO 45.8%
£9

The Isle of Skye is the home of this surprisingly peaty, yet tantalisingly spicy, single malt. Complexity is the key word here. Fresh and fragrant on the nose – look for green apple and salty seaweed with an added kick of smoke on the taste buds. A consistent high achiever and holder of many recognised accolades, this 10-year-old offering is sure to surprise you.

SINGLE MALTS OF SCOTLAND (INDEPENDENT BOTTLERS)

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INDEPENDENT BOTTLERS

It has become customary in Scotland for distilleries to sell barrels of whisky to blenders and independent bottlers as a means of making additional income.

In fact, some distilleries exist solely to serve independent bottlers, and do not market any brands themselves.

Distilleries also pass on barrels of whisky to ensure consistency. When blending whisky, they ensure consistency by using barrels with similar flavours. If a particular flavour is notably different, it may be deemed uncharacteristic of the distillery and as such cannot be used in "official" product bottlings. Whiskies bottled by independent bottlers may or may not be labelled with the distillery of origin, but tend not to use the distillery's trademarks such as logos, fonts and images as they may not have the authorisation to do so.

Below is a selection of some of the finest independent bottlings out there. From silent distilleries to ones currently in operation, we have a wide selection for all tastes.

BW6 ELEMENTS OF ISLAY 55.2%

Distilled in 1999, this Islay whisky is fresh and fruity with maritime and smoky notes. A must try for any Islay fan.

£10

BENNRINNES 1998 CONNOISSEURS CHOICE 46%

Tasty Benrinnnes single malt, distilled in 1998 and bottled in 2016 by Gordon & MacPhail. This Speyside dram is full of spicy ginger and clove.

£14

CLYNELISH 1996 20YO 46%

Distilled in 1996, and bottled in 2017 by Signatory, this un-chilled, filtered Highland malt is ripe with waxy fruit, sea air and plum.

£16

NORTH BRITISH 1991 24YO 49.4%

Distilled in 1991 and bottled by Douglas Laing, This grain whisky's limited release only saw 256 bottles produced.

£17

BENNRINNES 20YO TIME SERIES II 50%

Another fine whisky from the Benrinnnes Distillery. Aged in ex-bourbon casks and exclusively bottled for The Whiskey Exchange – expect meadow flowers, fruit and gentle spice.

£18

IMPERIAL 1996 43%

A fantastic whisky from the now silent Imperial Distillery. This Speyside whisky is bottled by Gordon & MacPhail.

£18

CLYNELISH 1997 18YO 48.4%

Another limited release from Douglas Laing, this time producing 298 bottles. Black tea, sherried raisins and red apples linger on the palate.

£19

BLAIR ATHOL 1988 55.7%

Distilled in 1988, and bottled by Signatory, this 27yo single malt Highland whisky was hand selected by The Whiskey Exchange.

£30

GLEN MHOR 1978 65.3%

This 10yo Highland single malt is very hard to come by. Bottled in the 1980s by Gordon & MacPhail, it was originally intended for the Italian market.

£100

PORT ELLEN 1981 17YO 43%

Since its distillery's closure in 1983, Port Ellen is one of the most sought-after single malts in the world, This 1981 vintage, bottled by Signatory, is a truly exceptional whisky.

£150

SINGLE MALTS OF SCOTLAND (RARE & PRESTIGIOUS)

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ST MAGDALENE 24YO 50% Lowlands

Like many others, this distillery was lost to the world in the 1980s. Linthigow, as it's also known, has become one of the most sought-after single malts out there. Supplies are fast becoming scarce and this particular expression was bottled in October 2002.

Nose: Herbal, Aromatic, Grassy | Palate: Liquorice, Vanilla, Nuttiness | Finish: Robust, Peaty

25ml £65 / 50ml £130

PORT ELLEN 24YO - 3RD EDITION 2003 57.3% Islay

A single malt so famous that it almost needs no explanation. This legendary distillery was closed in 1983 and now operates as a malt house - supplying all the Islay distilleries. It is generally considered to be one of the most prestigious distilleries in history.

Nose: Coastal, Smoky | Palate: Pepper, Ginger, Sweet, Earthy | Finish: Peated, Long

25ml £87.50 / 50ml £175

SPRINGBANK 21YO - 2005 BOTTLING 46% Campbeltown

If you love Springbank, then chances are you know the significance of this bottling. Reserves were running low by 2005 and the 21 year old took a seven year break before reappearing again in 2012. Many have proclaimed this expression to be the greatest of all Springbanks and believe it's yet to return to its former glory

Nose: Vanilla, Orange, Subtle Peat | Palate: Light Nuttiness, Warm Oak, Slight Salt |
Finish: Long, Warm

25ml £60 / 50ml £120

GLENFIDDICH 40YO - 2015 BOTTLING 48% Speyside

With only 600 released every year, collectors and connoisseurs alike wait with great excitement for a chance to get their hand on this one. An exceptionally unique dram from one of the most awarded and recognisable distilleries in the world, we're sure you'll love it just as much as we do.

Nose: Dried Fruit, Dark Chocolate, Coffee |
Palate: Rich Fruitcake, Stewed Apple, Dry Oak, Subtle Peat | Finish: Long, Complex

25ml £175 / 50ml £350

THE DALMORE CONSTELLATION 1989 22YO 52% Highlands

One of the finest whiskies to come from the legendary Dalmore distillery. Matured for 17 years in a bourbon cask before resting for a further five years in a Matusalem Oloroso sherry butt, this cask-strength whisky is full of character.

Nose: Marzipan, Vanilla, Cinnamon | Palate: Fruity, Hint of Coffee, Treacle | Finish: Big, Warm

25ml £190 / 50ml £380

WHISKEYS OF THE WORLD (IRELAND & CANADA)

- 18 -

IRISH WHISKEY

Irish whiskey is typically triple distilled, giving it a smoother flavour that's favoured by those looking for a lighter alternative to Scotch. There are currently 12 distilleries in Ireland that produce a wide range of blended, single malt and pure pot still whiskey.

IRISH WHISKEY

BUSHMILLS ORIGINAL 40%
£6.50

BUSHMILLS BLACK 40%
£7

BUSHMILLS
SINGLE MALT 10YO 40%
£8.50

RED BREAST 12YO 40%
Pure Pot Still
£10

GREEN SPOT 40%
Single Pot Still
£10

GLENDALOUGH 7YO 46%
£11

GLENDALOUGH 7YO
PORTER FINISH 46%
£12

POWERS
JOHN'S LANE 12YO 46%
Pure Pot Still
£12.50

DINGLE SINGLE MALT
BATCH NO.2 46.5%
£17

GLENDALOUGH 13YO 46%
£18

KINAHAN'S 10YO
SINGLE MALT 46%
£24

MIDDLETON
VERY RARE 40%
£30

DINGLE SINGLE
MALT BATCH
NO.2 46.5%
£17

The second release of this famous Irish single malt. This small batch whiskey is produced in the town of Dingle on the Irish west coast. This expression was drawn from a trio of bourbon, Olorosso sherry and Pedro Ximenez casks.

PURE POT STILL

Pure pot still whiskey is a purely Irish product. Its secret lies not in the fact that it's made in a pot still, but rather in the grains used. Instead of using 100% malted barley like single malts, it uses a mix of malted and unmalted barley, giving it a spicy and fruity character.

CANADIAN WHISKY

Canadian whisky is often labelled as rye – but should not be confused with the American version, which has to contain a minimum of 51% rye. Canada produces some fantastic blends that are becoming increasingly popular.

CANADIAN WHISKY

CANADIAN CLUB 30YO 40%
£20

WHISKIES OF THE WORLD

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JAPANESE WHISKY

It all started with a man called Masataka Taketsuru who studied Chemistry at Glasgow University, hoping to learn the secrets behind Scotland's whisky.

After an apprenticeship at the Springbank Distillery, he returned to Japan and joined Shinjiro Torii in 1923 to build a distillery at Yamazaki, on the outskirts of Kyoto. Torii later opened the Hakushu distillery, where they produce the famous Hibiki blend.

The Japanese have created their own unique style, and in the past few years have gained great respect around the world (even from the Scots). They've received almost every award in the industry with their innovative single malt and blended whiskies.

INTERNATIONAL WHISKY

Whisky was put on the map by countries like Scotland and America, but that doesn't mean good quality whisky can't be made elsewhere in the world.

Lots of distilleries are popping up all over the world, from India and Southeast Asia, to Sweden and South Africa.

Each country has its own unique climate or 'terroir', which affects the whisky and results in some very interesting drams indeed.

AMRUT FUSION 50%

£12

This outstanding Indian whisky earned third place in Jim Murray's 2010 whisky bible with its incredible balance and body. Fusing malted barley from both Scotland and India, expect light peat with tropical flavours and a lengthy finish – at a bargain price.

JAPANESE WHISKY

NIKKA COFFEY GRAIN 45%
£12

NIKKA FROM THE BARREL 51.4%
£14

THE YAMAZAKI
SINGLE MALT 12YO 43%
£15

THE HAKUSHU
SINGLE MALT 12YO 43.5%
£16

SUNTORY HIBIKI 17YO 43%
£55

THE YAMAZAKI
SINGLE MALT 18YO 43%
£50

KARUIZAWA 1967
10TH ANNIVERSARY 58.4%
£350

INTERNATIONAL WHISKY

MACKMYRA 41.4%
SWEDEN, £10

PENDERYN MADEIRA 46%
WALES, £10

THREE SHIPS 10YO
SINGLE MALT 43%
SOUTH AFRICA, £11

AMRUT FUSION 50%
INDIA, £12

STARWARD MALT WHISKEY 43%
AUSTRALIA, £12

MICHEL COUVREUR
OVERAGED MALT 43%
FRANCE, £14

SPIRIT OF HVEN
TYCHO'S STAR 41.8%
SWEDEN, £15

SPIRIT OF HVEN SEVEN STARS
no.4 MAGREZ 45%
SWEDEN, £20