



Outturn

Peaking: April 2, 2021

Issue 114



GO WILD AT SMWS.CA



HOW TO USE OUTTURN

out-turn n. **1** The number of Society bottles produced from a cask. Varies from cask to cask. A finite number that will, sooner or later, run out. **2** The name given to Society bottling lists, containing Tasting Notes for each recently released Society bottling of which only a limited number are ever available (see above).

Each Society bottling is unique. And each can be identified by its markings. The flavour profiles give you an insight into what you might expect from each whisky (or other spirit), and are the best place to start.

You may find yourself drawn to “Sweet, Fruity & Mellow” or have a preference for “Juicy, Oak & Vanilla.” Maybe your instincts lead you to a dram that’s “Oily & Coastal” or perhaps to “Peated.”

These descriptors are your best clue to what you’ll find within each bottle, and are expanded upon in greater detail in the Society’s fun and quirky tasting notes.

With a varied selection of whiskies (and other spirits) coming every month, it’s not surprising that some members find it hard to focus on their perfect bottlings. Thankfully it’s not cheating to ask for help. Just call Kensington Wine Market at 403-283-8000 (email: scotchguy@kensingtonwinemarket.com) in Calgary or Keg n Cork at 780-461-0191 in Edmonton (email: dave@kegcork.com) or email us at curious@smws.ca for advice of an expert nature.

ENJOY OUR PRODUCTS RESPONSIBLY - NO DRINKING AND DRIVING

GET ACQUAINTED WITH OUR FLAVOUR PROFILES

Exploration is the greatest joy of Society membership, roaming the broad vistas of flavour and aroma represented in our single cask whiskies. But exploration without a map can be frustrating.

So we have created 12 distinct flavour categories, each represented by its own colour, from Young & Spritely to Old & Dignified; Light & Delicate to Heavily Peated. These 12 categories offer an alternative to the more traditional method of categorizing whiskies by their region of origin (Islay, Speyside, etc).

Our flavour map gives whisky lovers a far better way to navigate our vast and ever-changing selection of bottlings, many of which are not typical of their region.

YOUNG & SPRITELY

SWEET, FRUITY & MELLOW

SPICY & SWEET

SPICY & DRY

DEEP, RICH & DRIED FRUITS

OLD & DIGNIFIED

LIGHT & DELICATE

JUICY, OAK & VANILLA

OILY & COASTAL

LIGHTLY PEATED

PEATED

HEAVILY PEATED

SPICY & SWEET

HILL-WALKING HAPPINESS

CASK NO. 68.41

\$137.99



GIVING SPIRIT BOTTLE (see p. 11)

REGION *Highland*

CASK TYPE *1st Fill Hogshead*

AGE *11 Years*

DATE *17 October 2008*

OUTTURN *295 Bottles*

ABV *54.8%*

A clean, fresh nose of cereal and wood (tea chests, polished wood, cardboard, straw, weaving looms and ‘my outdoor gear cupboard’) – then sugared almonds, donuts and chocolate raisins to balance. Our palates tingled with ginger snaps, cinnamon stick, leather and nutmeg – plus chocolate toffee éclairs, vanilla and cinnamon swirls.

Adding water, our noses found burlap, dried herbs, liquorice root, orange oil and putty, with ice-cream wafers and Tunnock’s Snowballs (chocolate and coconut-covered marshmallows). The palate now became sweeter – toffee, walnut whip, spun sugar and apple crumble topping; with wood spices, beeswax, white pepper and lemon cough drops to finish.

OILY & COASTAL

HEILAND COUP D'ETAT

CASK NO. 26.149

\$154.99



REGION	Highland
CASK TYPE	2nd Fill Barrel
AGE	8 Years
DATE	19 September 2011
OUTTURN	252 Bottles
ABV	58.1%

We found this one superbly fresh and full of fabrics, smashed seashells, wet rocks, surf-drenched beach pebbles, chalk, bitter lemon and limoncello with soda water. Lots of white coastal flowers, sandalwood and scented waxiness. Classical and effortlessly brilliant. Reduction elevated the coastal freshness. Lots of dried lavender, lemon peel, pink grapefruit, citrus oils, watermelon liqueur and some tart gooseberry acidity.

The mouth opened with overflowing fruity abundance. Pineapple, bubble gum, blue raspberry popsicles, cream soda, and illegally sweet Irn Bru candy bars from the 1990s. With water there was fennel, lime curd and a generally more savoury, umami and punchy herbal quality. Putty, waxes, limestone and green pepper warming the aftertaste. Makes you excited for the future of whisky; a revolutionary spirit!

JUICY, OAK & VANILLA

A DESERT ISLAND DR(E)AM

CASK NO. 35.275

\$364.99



REGION	<i>Speyside</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>1st Fill Toasted Hogshead</i>
AGE	<i>25 Years</i>
DATE	<i>24 November 1994</i>
OUTTURN	<i>180 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>59.6%</i>

“Spectacular opulence, irresistible, luscious luxury and a simple wow” were just a few of the ‘useful’ descriptors from the Panel members. A classic French loaf, pain d'épices, full of warm, comforting aromas thanks to the generous amount of honey and mixed spices (ginger, nutmeg, cinnamon, mace and cloves) in the bread's batter.

The taste neat had a fiery temper with plenty of exotic wood spiciness but at the same time that deep rich sweetness of a steaming cup of camomile, honey and vanilla herbal tea. A drop of water and it turned very juicy and very fruity – a desert island dr(e)am! Final comment “goddammit it is good”!

DEEP, RICH & DRIED FRUITS

MONKBERRY MOON DELIGHT

CASK NO. 68.28

\$123.99



REGION	<i>Highland</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>Re-charred Hogshead</i>
AGE	<i>8 Years</i>
DATE	<i>11 June 2010</i>
OUTTURN	<i>283 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>58.1%</i>

This one noses beyond its years with an initial wealth of figs, shoe polish, old school cream sherry, new leather shoes, plum wine, five spice, wine cellar must, cognac spilled on old furniture and coconut cream. Water brings out more tertiary complexities such as strawberry wine, paper ash, dry earth, sawdust, old toolbox, metal polish, blueberry cheesecake, black forest gateaux and a creamy pint of stout.

The mouth opens on bourbon biscuits, grape must, liquorice, milk chocolate, black tea, wasabi dusted biltong, pencil shavings in apple juice and blood orange. With water there's pineapple upside-down cake, caramelized demerara sugar, poached peaches, apricots and hints of fruity red chili and hot paprika.

DEEP, RICH & DRIED FRUITS

GOING THE EXTRA MILE(S)

CASK NO. 4.257
\$219.99



REGION	<i>Highland Island</i>
INITIAL CASK	<i>Ex-Bourbon Hogshead</i>
FINAL CASK	<i>1st Fill PX Hogshead</i>
AGE	<i>15 Years</i>
DATE	<i>17 January 2005</i>
OUTTURN	<i>256 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>56.6%</i>

We imagined finishing the Camino de Santiago trail that leads to the shrine of the apostle St. James in the cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in NW Spain. As we sat on a pew, ‘tired but happy’, the giant incense-burner started to swing. On the palate we were going the extra mile(s) to the coast, to Finisterre, the end of the known world in the Middle Ages.

After a drop of water we had very old sweet wine extremely concentrated, sweet, sour and smoky – but all perfectly balanced! This we had with Idiazabal cheese, lightly smoked with a smooth and nutty flavour as we watched the sunset over the Atlantic. After 13 years in an ex-bourbon hogshead we transferred this whisky into a 1st fill Pedro Ximenez hogshead.

LIGHTLY PEATED

JE SUIS BÛCHERON ET JE VAIS BIEN

CASK NO. 66.176

\$163.99



REGION	Highland
INITIAL CASK	Ex-Bourbon Hogshead
FINAL CASK	2nd Fill Barrique
AGE	14 Years
DATE	9 March 2006
OUTTURN	264 Bottles
ABV	60.1%

The panel noted a boisterous and playful aroma full of poster paints in an artist's studio, old oxidatively aged wines, smoked blackcurrant, sautéed frog legs in butter, miso broth, mushroom powder and black peppered biltong. With reduction, we encountered a lumberjack's woodshed, full of cold axe heads, freshly split logs and oiled chainsaw. Add to that roof pitch, freshly laid tarmac and fermenting lemons.

The palate was surprisingly saline with salt-baked venison, caviar, salted pistachios and sheep wool oils. Water brought the warmth of horseradish, English mustard powder, Belgian farmhouse ale, duck eggs, pickled ginger and sweetened cough medicine. Matured for 12 years in a bourbon hogshead before transfer to a 2nd fill red wine barrique.

PEATED

INTENSE SEASIDE EXPERIENCE

CASK NO. 53.329

\$187.99



REGION	<i>Islay</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>Refill Hogshead</i>
AGE	<i>12 Years</i>
DATE	<i>24 September 2007</i>
OUTTURN	<i>287 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>56.5%</i>

A myriad of aromas; peat smoke drifting towards the harbour, seared scallops and salted prawns, treacle tart, Big Red gum, antiseptic cream and Olbas Oil. The palate is that classic combo of intense sweet and smoky flavours, with salt and pepper savouriness, followed by liquorice and bonfire embers on the finish.

The reduced nose gets seaside swimming pools, ships timbers and tarry ropes, but with liquorice Allsorts and Jamaica cake sweetness and pulled pork with barbecue sauce (including the barbecue too). The palate becomes sweeter and easier (though still mouth-drawing) – blackberry jam, cinnamon swirls, hot cross buns, kippers, ash and soot.

UPDATE - THE *GIVING SPIRIT* PROGRAM

In January we introduced our “Giving Spirit” program: each quarter, SMWS Canada will donate to charity 100% of its profit from the sales of a designated bottle.

There’s no doubt 2020 took the wind out of everyone’s sails and like many small businesses, we took a hit last year as in-person tastings were sidelined and people tightened their wallets (rightfully so!) amid months of uncertainty.

That said, though, we’re still here and believe in paying things forward and giving back.

Our members stepped up, and the sales of 85.64 “Baked bananas and burnt bacon” from January’s Outturn resulted in our being able to donate \$1464.75 to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada, an organization close to our hearts. THANK YOU!

This quarter, we’ve chosen 68.41 “Hill-walking happiness” as the Giving Spirit bottle, with 100% of our profits going to the Canadian Cancer Society. We hope you’ll continue to support the program by buying a great bottle of whisky and helping a worthy cause at the same time.

A new bottling and a new charity will be selected in July so keep an eye on our Outturns to see which delicious bottle is selected as the Giving Spirit bottle, and know that you’re contributing to a great cause when you buy one.

Now that’s something to raise a glass to!



**THE SCOTCH MALT
WHISKY SOCIETY**



WHERE TO BUY

The exclusive retail stores of The Society in Canada:

KENSINGTON WINE MARKET

1257 Kensington Road NW, Calgary, AB

Phone: 403-283-8000 (1-888-283-9004)

Email: scotchguy@kensingtonwinemarket.com

www.kensingtonwinemarket.com

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