



THE SCOTCH MALT
WHISKY SOCIETY

OUTTURN

Explore: August 2025 Issue 166



WHISKY WITH
A MAP IN HAND

ADVENTURES IN FLAVOUR AWAIT AT [SMWS.CA](https://smws.ca)

GET ACQUAINTED WITH THE SMWS FLAVOUR PROFILES

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

So we have 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 endless 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

SWEET, FRUITY & MELLOW

CRANBERRY REVERIE

CASK NO. 28.108

\$191.99



REGION	Highland
CASK TYPE	1st Fill Ex-Bourbon Barrel
AGE	12 Years
DISTILLED ON	21 May 2012
OUTTURN	206 Bottles
ABV	60.9%

Sliced pears soaked in cranberry juice, and honeydew melon chunks mingled with sliced apples, were to the fore while nosing this dram. On the palate, we folded vanilla bean into the mix, along with plum and orange peel.

Adding water was like being handed a bouquet of flowers: sweet peas, geraniums, tangerine blossom, lilacs and vanilla pods. The palate now echoed the initial nose, taking us back to cranberry, but now with added lime zest and clotted cream.

SPICY & SWEET

INVIGORATING AND REFRESHING

CASK NO. 162.5

\$168.99



**FIRST APPEARANCE FROM THIS
DISTILLERY FOR SMWS CANADA**

REGION	<i>Highland Island</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>New Chinkapin oak barrel</i>
AGE	<i>5 Years</i>
DISTILLED ON	<i>4 October 2019</i>
OUTTURN	<i>265 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>61.1%</i>

There was plenty going on here with aromas of blackberry citrus cranberry jam, cloves, tobacco and high cocoa-content chocolate next to wood glue and staves dipped in maple syrup. On the palate we took a large bite of a cherry cola cupcake and washed it down with an Old Fashioned cocktail garnished with orange zest and two cocktail cherries.

After reduction we stewed rhubarb in red wine, found oak shavings in our wild cherry fruit tea and had a slice of blackcurrant, lime and coconut cheesecake. This was mouthcoating like a mango lassi with yogurt, cardamom, lime and honey – very invigorating and so refreshing!

DEEP, RICH & DRIED FRUITS

MELTS IN THE MOUTH

CASK NO. 89.22

\$234.99



REGION	<i>Speyside</i>
INITIAL CASK	<i>Ex-Bourbon Hogshead</i>
FINAL CASK	<i>1st Fill Oloroso Hogshead</i>
AGE	<i>15 Years</i>
DISTILLED ON	<i>21 April 2009</i>
OUTTURN	<i>271 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>61.4%</i>

Plump dark fruits, pine needle tea, butterscotch and custard-filled croissants greeted the Panel's noses, followed by a slice of battenberg cake. All of the above was translated on to the palate, with accents of cracked black pepper and sea salt leading to a melt-in-the-mouth chunk of Turkish Delight.

Water added rich mahogany to the nose, along with dates, red wine and mixed nuts on the palate. After 13 years in an ex-bourbon hogshead, we transferred this to a 1st fill American oak oloroso hogshead for the remainder of its maturation.

LIGHTLY PEATED

WANDERING ALCHEMY

CASK NO. N/A

\$176.99



REGION	<i>Blended Malt</i>
CASK TYPES	<i>Bourbon, oloroso, PX & HTMC barrels & hogsheads</i>
AGE	<i>10 Years</i>
DISTILLED ON	<i>10 June 2014</i>
OUTTURN	<i>1531 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>58.4%</i>

We set ourselves the challenge of creating a small-batch blended malt using ingredients from each of the five Scotch whisky producing regions. The resulting whisky has bags of character, wisps of smoke, and an abundance of honey. Reminiscent of "old-school" blends of the past, we thought.

What witchcraft and molten japery is this? At least, that's what our raised eyebrows and throaty musings queried. Surely this dram was much older and much more 'old style' that it had a right to be? We detected deep and enticing notes of soft, heathery peat smoke. Then encroaching medicinal charms, pine wood, camphor, cooling bonfire embers and tendrils of seaweed! Water dialed up the charm vibes to 'Roger Moore': elegant wood smoke, fragrant phenolics, old herbal and tar liqueurs and a kiss of cask-aged mead.

The palate was decadently rich and mouthcoating, yet warming and gentle. Its rich herbal character mingled with more medicines, dried mint, mineral oils and fatty sheep wool oils. Reduction brought us wood spices, resinous hardwood extracts, smoked black olives, pure tar, burlap and a lovely medley of aniseed, salted liquorice and soy sauce - what despicable chemist brewed this sorcery!?

LIGHTLY PEATED

CAMPFIRE CONVERSATIONS

CASK NO. 10.268

\$284.99



REGION	<i>Islay</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>Refill Ex-Bourbon Hogshead</i>
AGE	<i>18 Years</i>
DISTILLED ON	<i>1 December 2006</i>
OUTTURN	<i>218 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>59.1%</i>

Our relaxed, late afternoon on the beach around a fire with friends turned to early evening as we started packing up and dousing the smouldering peat slabs with seawater. On the palate was a reminder of the warming, life-affirming campfire conversations we had all enjoyed in those last few magical hours sitting together to share food, drink and stories.

On adding a tiny drop of water we left the beach, passing tidal pools, to head over the sand dunes and across the machair to the cottage where we stayed to savour peat-smoked salmon burnt ends cured overnight in brown sugar, salt and honey.



WHERE TO BUY

The exclusive retail stores of The Society in Canada:

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