



Outturn

October 2020

Issue 108



RAISE YOUR GLASS AT SMWS.CA



HOW TO USE OUTTURN

out-turn n. **1** The number of Society bottles produced from a single 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 tasting notes give you an insight into the characteristics of each whisky, and are the best place to start.

You may find yourself drawn to a “Cowboy’s delight” or have a preference for “Big and tingly.” Maybe your instincts lead you to a dram that’s “Like a hug from your Mom” or perhaps to “BBQ smoke by a rolling sea.”

These curious descriptors are your best clue to what you’ll find within each bottle, and are at the heart of The Society’s *raison d’être*.

With The Society’s monthly selection of single cask malts 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 in Calgary at 403-283-8000 (email: scotchguy@kensingtonwinemarket.com) or Keg n Cork in Edmonton at 780-461-0191 (email: dave@kegncork.com) or email us at curious@smws.ca for advice of an expert nature.

PLEASE ENJOY OUR PRODUCTS RESPONSIBLY

ARE YOU 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 single cask 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

JUICY, OAK & VANILLA

SUNSHINE AFTER THE RAIN

CASK NO. 82.22

\$136.99



REGION	Highland
CASK TYPE	2nd Fill Barrel
AGE	8 Years
DATE	16 March 2011
OUTTURN	235 Bottles
ABV	62.6%

An intriguing start brought us green bell peppers, nettle tea and gorse bushes in bloom alongside apple sauce, ginger and rhubarb with a squeeze of lime. Flavours danced on the tongue with chilies, cloves and the fizziness of fermenting apples before sweeter characters of madeira cake and honey emerged.

After a dash of water however we found ourselves in a shower of sherbet, fruit jelly sweets and cherry cola. Caramel and honey rained down in a precipitous display of sweet delights and splashed onto blueberries, blackcurrants and juniper beside cranberry jam and coriander before the finish arrived donned in strong green tea, dark chocolate and tree bark.

SPICY & SWEET

SPOCK'S EARWAX

CASK NO. 59.59

\$132.99



REGION	Highland
CASK TYPE	New Oak Hogshead
AGE	10 Years
DATE	29 September 2008
OUTTURN	297 Bottles
ABV	55.2%

There's sweet pastries and runny honey at first. Then molten toffee, salted caramel, coconut wafers, gorse, heather flowers, talcum powder and shilling ales. A hearty dollop of fruity muesli too. A little water brings turmeric and dried thyme. A bouquet garni of herbs, shoe polish, new leather, pine cones and Earl Grey tea. Some bandages wrapped around a light sootiness and some slabs of wet concrete.

The palate fizzes like lemon vitamin tablets in soda water. There's sheep wool, soft medical waxes, butter biscuits, aged calvados, green banana, heather honey and lemon balm. After reduction there's more warm spices, lime pith, pink grapefruit, tarragon, wax, tobacco leaf, green pepper and potpourri. Matured for nine years in a bourbon hogshead before transfer to a "number 4" heavily charred new oak hogshead.

ARMAGNAC

MUSK-COATED CANDYFLOSS

CASK NO. A5.2

\$166.99



REGION	France
CASK TYPE	Armagnac Barrel
AGE	2005
DATE	N/A
OUTTURN	606 Bottles
ABV	59.4%

A pool of burnished teak and maple syrup. The nose starts with a savoury crème brûlée crust, served on a pecan tart and grated grapefruit zest. In the background is a wrapping of musk and dark bottled aftershave. A journey of night into day, in the distance a wisp of smoke lingers and introduces a syrup coated lift.

The palate starts with candyfloss dissolving in the mouth, closely followed by a slap of citrus fruit zest dusted with a soft effervescence. It finishes on a burning sweet note with the zest faded away, bringing back the caramel from the beginning.

DEEP, RICH & DRIED FRUITS

TARANTELLA TONGUE DANCING

CASK NO. 37.131

\$183.99



REGION	<i>Speyside</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>1st Fill Barrique</i>
AGE	<i>15 Years</i>
DATE	<i>5 November 2003</i>
OUTTURN	<i>251 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>58.3%</i>

The nose is a cracker – treacle tart, syrup sponge and Toffifays; caramel latte, sherry trifle (with orange jelly), coffee kisses, flowers and wine-soaked oak. The palate is deep as Mariana and weighty as Nigerian Guinness in a clay pot – burnt fruit cake, raisins flamed in spiced rum, clove-flavoured gingerbread and leather.

With water, the nose gets spice-laden incense, liquorice bullets, brandy snaps, espresso and Battenberg cake. The palate is easier but still tannic – caramelized sugar, barbecued pineapple, Butterkist popcorn and tar – dancing the tarantella on the tongue. After 15 years in ex-bourbon wood we transferred this to a 1st fill shaved, toasted and re-charred barrique.

LIGHTLY PEATED

OUT OF LEFT FIELD

CASK NO. 29.257

\$514.99



REGION	<i>Islay</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>1st Fill Oloroso Hogshead</i>
AGE	<i>21 Years</i>
DATE	<i>26 November 1996</i>
OUTTURN	<i>175 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>45.8%</i>

This one is really out of left field – unexpected and unusual but we all gave it thumbs up. The nose has fruity perfumes riding a tame wave of clean smoke – tar on a raspberry bush, fruity hookahs, salted blackcurrant, crab claws with grapefruit, waxed lemons and melissa – oh, and hospital corridors.

The palate is a sharp, citric smoke bomb; the usual soot, tar, ash and liquorice co-existing with astringent fruits – salty lemon, passion fruit, crab apples and blackcurrant; something slightly mentholic and medicinal, and then a seriously dry finish of ginger, wasabi, leather, humbugs and coltsfoot rock. Single cask samples do not always conform to the template. After 19 years in an ex-bourbon hogshead we transferred this whisky to a 1st fill Oloroso hogshead for the remainder of its maturation.

PEATED

BATTLE AXE

CASK NO. N/A

\$129.99



REGION	<i>Islay Blended Malt</i>
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CASK TYPE	<i>Refill Hogsheads</i>
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AGE	<i>8 Years</i>
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DATE	<i>27 April 2011</i>
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OUTTURN	<i>1957 Bottles</i>
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ABV	<i>50%</i>
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This whisky is a celebration of our love for those heavily peated whiskies produced on the island of Islay. It is unapologetic in its intensity and spans across the earthy, floral, coastal and medicinal elements that can be found in this style. We hope you enjoy it as much as we do!

The blacksmith clinked and clanked industriously at the anvil, bending black metal to his will. Axes, spears and lucky horseshoes were forged in stifling temperatures in preparation for battle. We travelled from our settlement at the bay, beyond the tar pit to the battleground, where peat bog goblins pelted us mercilessly with pears poached in petrol and flaming lemons studded with liquorice root. By the time the battle was won the sky was filled with purple plumes of heather fuelled smoke, the earth scorched, the surrounding flora ablaze.

Back home we found comfort around campfires and celebrated with oysters and mead. Retiring to bed, our stone huts exuded heavy aromas of damp earth and our peat fires were at their smouldering end as we drifted off into slumber. Someone stoked the flames with camphor, eucalyptus and dried heather. By morning our PPM levels were significant.

PEATED

COSY CONTENTMENT

CASK NO. 16.41

\$143.99



REGION	Highland
CASK TYPE	Re-charred Hogshead
AGE	9 Years
DATE	16 December 2009
OUTTURN	264 Bottles
ABV	61.4%

We huddled around burning logs as heather crackled in the heat and the earth scorched beneath the embers. Sweet smells came from sizzling bacon and honey-glazed ham whilst walnuts and macadamias toasted in a pan over the flames. Then through the smoke came a fruity note of black cherries with a spicy edge of rye bread with honey. A constant suggestion of steam engines heralded puffs of smoke combined with oily rags and old boots but sweetness prevailed with a maple syrup and pecan Danish.

A few drops of water delivered nutty notes as tawny port joined walnut bread and later praline. The bacon now had a more salty character that mixed with coal dust and burnt wood that remained onto the finish to be joined by delicious chocolate brownies.



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

KEG N CORK LIQUOR COMPANY

3845 - 99th Street, Edmonton, AB

Phone: 780-461-0191

Email: dave@kegncork.com

www.kegncork.com

THE STRATH ALE, WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS

919 Douglas Street, Victoria, BC

Phone: 250-370-9463

Email: whisky@strathliquor.com

www.strathliquor.com

LEGACY LIQUOR STORE

1633 Manitoba Street, Vancouver, BC

Phone: 604-331-7900

Email: Darryl@legacyliquorstore.com

www.legacyliquorstore.com