

OUTTURN



The latest edition of the Creator's Collection, with the resounding name "Whispers of Spring", presents fresh floral flavours, juicy fruits and green shoots. All four are aged between 27 and 34 years and are perfect, contemplative whiskies to ponder the awakening of spring and what the year will bring us.

The bottling **8.47: Slippers 'N' Chill** is subtitled "for review by members". It is the Society's very first bottling to be reduced to 48 % ABV. We offer you some answers to frequently asked questions about this experiment and rest assured that cask strength whisky remains at the very heart of the Society.

The Heresy series continues apace – *Batch 30* bears the resounding name *Skooshy Stroopwafel* and is the result of a marriage of whiskies matured in exbourbon hogsheads and European oak sherry butts. The result is reminiscent of a dollop of whipped cream on a Dutch (or even Belgian) caramel waffle. As a contrast, a look back at *Batch 19: Frazzle Dazzle*. For this, new American oak hogsheads were filled for 5 months with "Smoked Barley Wine" (a smoky beer with 12.5 % ABV) from Tempest Brewery. Unpeated Speyside single malt was then aged in these casks for almost 3 years.

Last but not least – if you fancy a new Society gin, you're sure to find it in the **GN6.5**: C'est bon lemon or the **GN7.3**: An artist, an apothecary and a triple-sec mule.

Happy browsing and even happier drams!

Patric Lutz







Spring is in the air with the new release from The Scotch Malt Whisky Society's Creators Collection. As Duncan Gorman writes, this quartet of exquisite old whiskies captures the season when life stirs from its slumber, our senses are awakened through light and growth, and we are attuned to appreciate the delicate beauty of these four outstanding whiskies, left to mature to perfection over decades in refill wood.

Whispers of Spring: A journey of reawakening, the Society's new Creators Collection, captures the subtle yet powerful energy of the season. These whiskies invite members to rediscover the depth and diversity of Scotch, with each one of these distilleries contributing a unique expression of rebirth and transformation, offering a fresh perspective on timeless traditions. However, Whispers of Spring is more embodied by the collection's distinctive character than distillery history, as SMWS head of whisky creation Euan Campbell explains.

"Sometimes it's fun to explore the technical and process side of whisky, and sometimes it's best to let the whisky take you to a time and place and simply revel in sheer enjoyment," he says. "Our *Whispers of Spring* bottles do just that. These whiskies present you with fresh floral aromas, juicy fruits and green shoots. They all carry significant age statements and are perfect contemplative drams, to enjoy while considering the year ahead and what spring renewal will bring."

## CASK NO. 50.120 DAWN'S EMBRACE

Cask No. **50.120: Dawn's embrace** offers a delicate balance of oak, vanilla and a light, honeyed sweetness. At 34 years of age, it

has reduced naturally to a cask strength of 53.4% abv. *Dawn's embrace* is also one of the Society's ultra small-batch whiskies (USB) and has an intriguing story. Once scattered across 13 separate casks that had fallen mysteriously low in volume, this vintage spirit was vatted before being consolidated into five of the barrels, giving a new lease of life to the spirit and allowing for a longer maturation. This refill bourbon is one of those barrels. Distillery 50 also boasts its own journey of reawakening, with the distillery having been closed and reopened multiple times.

### CASK NO. 94.51 VERDANT REAWAKENING

With a complex interplay of fresh, grassy notes, citrus zest and a touch of sweetness. Cask No. 94.51: Verdant reawakening is the perfect embodiment of spring. As with every bottle in this collection, the use of a refill cask has allowed for the distillery's distillate to take centre stage, even after a maturation period of 27 years. Distillery 94 is known for producing a distillate unique from the rest of Scotch whisky, thanks to the inventive cooling ring used on its stills. The spirit is refined by additional reflux caused by the cold water pouring down the neck of the stills, a process unlike anything else in Scotland. Distilled in March 1997, this spirit has fallen to 55.8% abv within a refill bourbon hogshead, slotting nicely into our Sweet, Fruity & Mellow flavour profile. Our Tasting Panel imagined sitting in a cocktail bar in Havana, beside a beeswax-polished walnut fruit bowl piled high with pineapples, nectarines and mangoes.

### CASK NO. 72.125 BLOSSOM REVERIE

Inspired by the blooming orchards that herald the arrival of spring, Cask No. **72.125**: **Blossom reverie** is a tribute to the fragrant blossoms that adorn the Speyside landscape. Falling into the Light & Delicate flavour profile, this dram evokes the daydreams of spring, where the air is filled with the promise of new beginnings and the joy of rediscovery.

Coming in at a natural cask strength of 49.6% aby, this bottling is another addition to the Society's range of USBs and was vatted at 28 years before being matured in a refill bourbon hogshead for a further year. After nosing, the Tasting Panel found a heavenly mix of golden syrup, honeycomb and milk chocolate biscuits. On the palate a sprinkle of brown sugar tantalised the tongue before being joined by bursts of lime and chamomile petals.

### CASK NO. 105.55 CREPUSCULAR COMPLEXITY

Cask No. 105.55: Crepuscular complexity is by far the rarest bottling Whispers of Spring has to offer. With only 122 bottles to come from this refill bourbon hogshead, the Sweet, Fruity & Mellow dram truly is one to savour. This whisky's contribution to the collection is one of depth and complexity, with rich, warming notes of heather, honey and a subtle smokiness.

After 35 years in cask, this spirit has drastically fallen to just 46.2% aby, making for remarkably smooth drinking. With a beautiful label to match, we found this spirit represents the lingering light of dusk, when the day transitions to night, and the promise of renewal is reflected in the sky's colours. The Tasting Panel noted: Unmistakable age elevated the nose. Old Riesling, calvados, and peaches and cream in a cricket pavilion; Amarena cherry ice cream, green apple shisha tobacco, vanilla fudge and caramel-flavoured chocolate. After tasting they concluded: The palate was delicate but stimulating - candied lemon peel and spiced oranges in syrup, tinned pears, rhubarb rock and apricot flan - before a warm, dry finish of liquorice, nasturtium flowers, leather and wood.

Experience a taste of Whispers of Spring with Matt Bailey: youtu.be/Ho\_hjZWJejg

#### **DAWN'S EMBRACE**



# VERDANT REAWAKENING

SWEET, FRUITY & MELLOW
CASK NO. 94.51
CHF 245.—



Lowland
Refill Ex-Bourbon Barrel
34 years
26 January 1990
247 bottles
53.4 %

From the quaint kitchen of a country house, fabulous smells arose. Delicious sponge cake with a layer of strawberry jam was drizzled with elderflower syrup, while pineapple chunks were steeped in calvados and honeysuckle petals rested on a gooseberry fool. Warm custard tarts were topped with nutmeg as battenberg cake was prepared on a sideboard. A little water delivered camomile tea, before homemade cloudy lemonade was served with fresh peaches and apricots. Finally, the creamy textures of porridge merged with more custard as brown sugar melted on top and the fine tannins of black tea lingered in the background. At 28 years of age, we combined selected casks from the same distillery. We then returned the single malt into a variety of different casks to develop further. This is one of those casks.

REGION	Highland
CASK	Refill Ex-Bourbon Hogshead
AGE	27 years
DISTILLED	14 March 1997
OUTTURN	254 bottles
ABV	55.8 %

In a cocktail bar in Havana, a beeswax-polished walnut fruit bowl was piled high with pineapples, nectarines and mangoes. The smell of pipe tobacco mingled happily with heady rum vapours. Taking a sip, the sweet oils of hazelnut and coconut coated the palate, while layers of praline, cereals and black treacle rolled into dark chocolate toffee. With a little water the juicy fruit became cooked in apricot jam, stewed in rhubarb crumble, and mixed into a creamy mango lassi. Delightful notes of toasted brioche merged with fragrant sandalwood, before a tart and tangy finish introduced fresh pineapple and lemons with a sprinkle of cinnamon spice.

#### **BLOSSOM REVERIE**



REGION	Speyside
CASK	Refill Ex-Bourbon Hogshead
AGE	29 years
DISTILLED	8 February 1995
OUTTURN	319 bottles
ABV	49.1 %

A heavenly mix of golden syrup, honeycomb, and milk chocolate biscuits arrived aside a juicy procession of apricot jam, apple sauce and chargrilled pineapples. Tangy marmalade on brioche followed behind, encouraging the inclusion of dried apricots coated with yoghurt, peaches and just a hint of tobacco. Wildflowers and blossom emerged with water, blending with fragrant honey and lemon curd on toast. A sprinkle of brown sugar tantalised the tongue, with a squeeze of lime and chamomile petals in milk. So, what is the mystery? This beautiful cask of whisky arrived with us as an enigma. We knew little of its history other than the whisky had been removed from the cask before being filled back into the original wood. A riddle in a glass.

# CREPUSCULAR COMPLEXITY



REGION	Speyside
CASK	Refill Ex-Bourbon Hogshead
AGE	35 years
DISTILLED	28 December 1988
OUTTURN	124 bottles
ABV	42.0 %

Unmistakable age elevated the nose – old riesling, calvados, and peaches and cream in a cricket pavilion; amarena cherry ice cream, green apple shisha tobacco, vanilla fudge and caramel-flavoured chocolate. The palate was delicate but stimulating – candied lemon peel and spiced oranges in syrup, tinned pears, rhubarb rock and apricot flan – before a warm, dry finish of liquorice, nasturtium flowers, leather and wood. The reduced nose combined blueberry muffins and clover honey with flower meadows and oiled oak. A slightly astringent lift arrived on the reduced palate, delivering cranberry cereal bars, balsamic, fennel and grapefruit, but remaining summery, sweet, gently spiced and deserving respect.

#### FRAZZLE DAZZLE

**SMALL BATCH BLENDED MALT** 

BATCH 19 CHF 99.-



### Another collaboration, this time with our friends at Tempest Brewery in the Scottish Borders.

And since this is the 'Heresy' range, there was a need push the boundaries a bit. This time, as Euan explains: "We commissioned Speyside Cooperage to create some new American oak hogsheads, with a heavy toast and a medium char. These hogsheads were then sent to Tempest, where they were filled with an off-the-wall smoked barley wine (think 12.5% abv smoked stout!) After five months, the beer was bottled and the casks were filled with selected unpeated Speyside malts. These whiskies underwent a period of additional maturation for just under three years, before being blended together to create this unique whisky." Off-the-wall flavours, pushing boundaries – mission accomplished.

**Curiosity Corner:** If you look at this from the whisky raw ingredients and materials perspective, this experiment was meant to stretch the oak and barley combination to the limit. Which it brilliantly did, challenging standards and flavour profiles as well as our members' palates in the process.

REGION	Blended Malt
CASK	Bourbon and Smoked Barley Wine Casks
AGE	13 years
DISTILLED	29 September 2008
OUTTURN	1785 bottles
ABV	50.0 %

The initial aroma was dark like toffee, chocolate, ginger cake, black pepper, liquorice, and char. In time, an oily, slightly buttery note developed like in beurre noisette roasted potatoes. On the palate, there was a chocolate tart with blackcurrant compote and hazelnut praline as well as strawberry rhubarb Turkish delight and a slightly frazzling herbal and hoppy note in the finish. After reduction, we charred pineapple and mango slices, roasted peaches with thyme and baked homemade scones to serve with clotted cream. To taste, vanilla cheesecake, salted caramel butterscotch ice cream. In the finish we were frazzled by a whisper of maple cured bacon.

As Julien Willems reports, it's a beautiful marriage of ex-bourbon hogsheads and European oak sherry butts that brings to mind a squirt of whipped cream on a Dutch (or even Belgian) caramel waffle.

flavours we were after. This was far from disappointing, though. It was expected, in fact, as this is not the kind of profile usually associated with bourbon hogsheads. But we had a plan: we combined these into four fresh European oak sherry butts from the Juan Pino cooperage in the south of for 13 months with syrupy sweet Pedro Ximénez wine. And there we let them rest for the remainder of their maturation.

**Skooshy Stroopwafel** is one of those drams that'll keep the chill away on rainy nights you're looking for a no fuss dram with heft and generosity...a no-brainer of

SKOOSHY **STROOPWAFE** 

**BATCH 30** CHF 79.-



REGION	Single Malt
CASK	Refill Bourbon Hogsheads & 1st Fill European Oak PX Butts
AGE	11 years
DISTILLED	8 April 2013
OUTTURN	2382 bottles
ABV	50.0 %

We were reminded of popping the cork of an orange muscat wine bottle, with those typical aromas of apricots, oranges and pears next to toasted almonds on brioche and fragrant exotic wood. At first on the palate we found tingling spicy fruit flavours before we had a sip of very pleasing hot mulled white wine made with fresh orange juice, star anise, honey and cinnamon. Following reduction, we opened a tin of amaretto-infused mince pies - sweet, spicy and tart yet perfectly balanced, with mellow almond notes emanating from the liqueur. To taste, this was like a pumpkin-spiced iced coffee and "skooshy" (a very 'technical' Scottish term for cream in a can) cream on a stroopwafel.



Some whiskies hold your hand and lead you gently through an orchard of soft fruits and honeyed delights. Others might shove you into a bog, slap you round the face with a kipper, and set fire to your boots for good measure. If the latter sounds more intriguing than terrifying, then you're in good company, as Kami Newton explains.

It cannot be denied that whisky has a well-founded claim to being 'The Most Exciting Sensory Adventure in the World'. Within this realm of discovery, single cask whiskies vigorously wave the flag for obscure, unusual and enigmatic flavours. Hence, at The Scotch Malt Whisky Society, celebrating such peculiarities is at the very heart of what we do.

But it doesn't necessarily make sense. The excitement of sampling sweaty socks, tasting tar or even sipping silage would certainly seem to fly in the face of evolution. After all, natural selection has gifted us with reflexes that spontaneously reject such corrupted odours with the universal expression of disgust. So why the love?

One of the more unique challenges for the SMWS Tasting Panel is how to present such filthy nuances as welly boots, rotting vegetables and parmesan cheese in a positive light.

Reeking cheese, fermenting cabbage or

how about the alluring waft of cat urine in your sauvignon blanc? Scotch whisky may not be standing alone in this leftfield, but it undeniably leads the charge by some margin. Before we delve into why we love to sniff the farmyard whiff, let's address how such malodorous marvels end up in the glass in the first place.

What are often regarded as 'off-notes' in whisky stem from a complex interplay of raw materials, fermentation, distillation and maturation. Many of these characteristics originate at the earliest stages of production, including peat smoke. For instance, microbial activity during fermentation can lead to the formation of funky and sulphury compounds, which can contribute to aromas reminiscent of farmyards, cheese or even sweaty socks.

Sulphur compounds themselves, which are frequently associated with off-notes like burnt rubber, struck matches and cooked cabbage, can be reduced during the distilla-

tion process as they react with copper. But taking the 'spirit cut' too late into the distillation run can result in higher concentrations of 'feinty' characters – those earthy, leathery and sometimes meaty notes that appear.

Maturation further shapes the pong through oxidation, esterification and interaction with the wood. The breakdown of fatty acids and aldehydes can lead to rancid or musty notes. Even metallic flavours can result from the toasting of oak. It's in the cask that many offnote changes occur, as the spirit develops into mature whisky.

Many of these 'off-notes' shouldn't be pleasant but somehow are. Petrol, marker pens, antiseptic wipes – notes that, in theory, should send you recoiling rather than revelling. How about thick engine grease, chimney soot or creosote? Venturing into the world of industrial machinery may not embrace the idea of 'scrumptiousness' quite like a hot apple pie, but they are nonetheless flavoursome. Why?

Familiarity seems to play a significant role. Familiarity with an unpleasant odour can enhance the perceived enjoyment of it. In addition, more familiar aromas are easier to identify than unfamiliar ones, and unpleasant food odours are detected faster and more accurately than pleasant ones. In simple terms, stinky odours are easier to detect and describe, plus in time, we can learn to enjoy them – hence we often have acquired tastes.

If all this talk of industrial grease, maritime funk and cheesy delights has you intrigued rather than horrified, then you're exactly the kind of whisky drinker the Society was made for. There's a world beyond the smooth and easy, beyond the honey and vanilla. A world where challenging flavours aren't mistakes

but marvels. Where every dram tells a story that isn't just pleasant – it's exhilarating.

Whatever your proclivities, single cask Scotch whisky is an adventure that offers the most fascinating journeys into flavour and sparks conversation. So next time you pour yourself a funky Society dram and find your nose recoiling at an initial whiff of rubber or manure, don't back away. Lean in. Because that, dear whisky adventurer, is where the journey begins.



# SIMPLE PLEASURES

# THE PERFECT PAIRING: A GREAT WHISKY AND A GREAT READ

At the beginning of 2025, the team in Edinburgh decided to bring back the grandiose Unfiltered magazine in print form. I hope you are looking forward to it as much as I am!

As you are used to from the past, it always takes a bit longer for the magazines to reach us. In Scotland, they are sent directly from the printers to the members. We have to import them together with a whisky shipment first and can only plan the send out afterwards.

Three printed issues are planned for 2025 – in March, July and November. You will receive the March edition with the June Outturn, the July edition with the August Outturn and the November edition with the November/December Outturn; at least that's how we have planned it. The schedule for 2026 will be reviewed at the beginning of 2026.

Here is the slightly adapted official message from Andrew Dane, Chief Executive Officer:

Unfiltered, our printed magazine has a long history with the Society, having come out in various incarnations over the years. No doubt some of you will have your own complete collection of back issues on your shelf at home.

We put printing on pause when we entered the pandemic in 2020, and yes, it's taken us a while to get the presses rolling again. But I'm delighted that we've returned to sending our members this exclusive magazine, full of interesting and stimulating stories from across the Society, our members and the wider whisky world.

The Society has changed in the time that we last saw Unfiltered in print, with several new branches opening around the world, a big increase in membership and more outstanding whisky, festivals and events than ever before. We're now into our fifth decade as the world's leading whisky club and

have exciting plans that we're delighted for you to be a part of.

But despite the growth and developments along the way, the idea behind the Society is fundamentally unchanged since we started out in 1983, as our founder Pip Hills explains in his column.

In his own words, the Society's members are attracted by "the idea of appreciating what is generally admitted being the finest distilled liquor on the planet in agreeable circumstances".

It's as simple as that – over 40 years of access to, and enjoyment of, whisky straight from the cask and sharing the adventure with members the world over.

You will soon hold in your hands the perfect accompaniment to appreciating your own dram of the finest distilled liquor on the planet. Let's raise a glass to that, and I hope you enjoy your all-new printed members magazine.







Visit us at the Whisky Mäss Winterthur. We will be setting up our whisky bar on the gallery on May 17th with over 80 current bottlings. This area will be reserved for our members and their guests – so don't forget your membership card.

While the Whisky Mäss takes place over two days, we will be there exclusively on Saturday 17 May.

For further information visit: whiskymaess.ch

#### WHEN?

SMWS-Bar - only on Saturday, 17 May 2025 from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m..

#### WHERE?

Grosse Reithalle Winterthur

#### **DIRECTIONS**

Bus no. 2 to the Technikum stop Car park: Teuchelweiher

# FOR MEMBERS' REVIEW 8.47 - SLIPPERS 'N' CHILL

In keeping with our brand philosophy of staying curious and delivering a variety of whisky adventures, Slippers 'N' Chill is a new whisky that stands apart from our regular offerings of cask strength bottlings.

Our Whisky Team has created and bottled Slippers 'N' Chill at a slightly reduced strength (48% abv), in order to offer a choice to any of our members who may sometimes prefer a slightly lighter style of whisky and allowing them to try an alternative to our usual cask strength drams as part of their journey of discovery.

This is not about 'watering down' or diluting our product, but simply about exploring alternative ways to enjoy our whisky and giving our members a choice in the strength of their dram. We have also offered our 'Heresy' range of small-batch bottlings at 50% abv since we introduced that line in 2017.

# A COUPLE OF FAQS FROM MEMBERS:

### I thought you only produced single cask whisky?

Our signature range (green glass, white core label) is of course cask strength whisky – that is what we are known and loved for. But in the true spirit of being adventurous curators of one-of-a-kind whiskies, we also wanted to trial something slightly different. It's just another way to explore flavour in your whisky journey. Our Signature range will always be at the heart of what we do but it's good to experiment and try new things from time to time and we always welcome member feedback.

# Could I just add water to one of the cask strength whiskies I ordered and still get the same result?

You can still add water to one of your single cask drams or you can order a dram of Slippers 'N' Chill and have the dram already slightly diluted for you. It depends on what you are in the mood for but it's good to sometimes have the choice. No matter what approach you take, you're always going to taste different things and nose different aromas. That's the beauty of what we do. With water or without, you will never get the same result.

### What's the difference between cask strength and a lower abv whisky?

Cask strength whisky is a whisky that is bottled in its most concentrated form from the cask. Typically this means our whisky is bottled around the ranges of 57 – 65% abv. Lower strength whisky is usually diluted with water to reduce the abv. If you're not used to drinking cask strength then starting somewhere lighter can often be helpful. Some people also prefer whisky that is not as strong as cask strength.

# So now you're watering down your whiskies to make more profit, why should I stay a member?

This is about offering our members more choice in their whisky exploration journey. It's the only one we are planning on releasing for now but we are welcoming member feedback on it. That's what will help us decide whether we release another one or not. It's great to be able to experiment and co-create with our members as they are at the heart of everything we do. We still offer over 100,000 bottles of cask strength whisky to our Members annually through our Signature Range (green glass, white core label) and that will never change.

#### How did you get to a lower abv? Was it naturally a lower abv cask or did you add water?

We carefully selected one of our full flavour, high quality single cask whiskies and carefully added water to reduce the aby to a level that did not compromise on flavour. On sampling the whisky, we found that 48% abv meant it still met our high standards in respect of quality. That was what was most important to us in the creation of this product.

#### Why 48% and not 42%?

By bottling at 48% abv we are still able to make sure that the whisky is full of flavour, which is what was most important to us in the development of this product. We were also able to look at similar whisky products across the single malt category to give us a benchmark to work with and we really welcome your feedback if you think it should be lower or higher or if we shouldn't do it all.



#### **SLIPPERS 'N' CHILL**

**CASK NO. 8.47 CHF 69.**-



REGION	Speyside
CASK	1st Fill Ex-Oloroso Butt
AGE	8 years
DISTILLED	16 November 2015
OUTTURN	814 bottles
ABV	48.0 %

Initial nosing revealed bags of dates, dark fruit chutneys, big earthy notes, toasted walnuts and pipe tobaccos. We also detected cocoa nibs and game broth - a superbly umami and rich style of sherry. Letting it breathe, we then found buttered brown toast, dark chocolate sauce with a hint of sea salt and pickled walnuts. On the palate it was powerful and spicy, with some dense, sticky sherry notes such as old VORS cream sherry. Its earthy and gamey qualities re-emerged, along with clove-studded oranges, leaf mulch and classical, deep rancio notes

#### **BIG SHED ENERGY**

**SPICY & DRY** 

CASK NO. 73.168 CHF 95. –



REGION	Speyside
CASK	2nd Fill Ex-Bourbon Barrel
AGE	13 years
DISTILLED	19 April 2011
OUTTURN	294 bottles
ABV	55.4 %

This one gave off immediate 'earthy potting shed' energy. We all found, to varying degrees, notes of lanolin, clay, herb butter, chai tea and pine tree bark. A touch of leather polish was also noted. Reduction brought the sooty and earthier depths right to the fore, with dried cupboard spices, ginger and lemon tea, and mineral oils. The palate opened with an elegant herbal quality, backed by brittle waxiness, warming peppery notes and cooling menthol qualities such as tea tree oil and wintergreen. Water ushered in citronella wax, eucalyptus, bergamot and a gentle medicinal and herbal fusion. Lots to enjoy in this one we agreed.

### GLAZED MORNING NEWSPAPERS

**JUICY, OAK & VANILLA** 

CASK NO. 105.49 CHF 88.-



REGION	Speyside
INITIAL CASK	Ex-Bourbon Hogshead
FINAL CASK	Re-Charred Hogshead
AGE	10 years
DISTILLED	10 September 2014
OUTTURN	290 bottles
ABV	63.9 %

The morning's newspapers arrived, glazed with toffee sauce and warmed in the oven. A chunk of huckleberry taffy sat atop the radiator, tempting Panellists via sweet nostril incursions. The palate was akin to chardonnay-soaked madeira cake, California raisins, mace and fennel shavings. Introducing water offered fruity accents, lemons and green apple segments showered with nutmeg shavings and a sea breeze on the nose. And the palate followed suit, with the emphasis on green apple, limoncello and an underripe melon. After three years in an ex-bourbon hogshead, we transferred this to a re-charred refill hogshead for the remainder of its maturation.

#### EFFORTLESS MINDFULNESS

**SWEET, FRUITY & MELLOW** 

CASK NO. 19.102 CHF 205. –



This dram left us feeling calm and collected, meaning free of agitation and able to concentrate the mind on eliminating distractions – carpe diem. We conjured up childhood memories of entering a sweet shop with its vintage glass jars in rows on dusty, wooden shelves making it so hard which to choose. We decided on two Scottish classics – caramel log wafers with roasted coconut, and milk chocolate tea cakes. On growing up with them you knew life was good. With a tiny drop of water we moved into a Victorian palm house to admire all the exotic plants and, in particular, the graceful pink waterlilies effortlessly floating on the pond.

# RAMBUNCTIOUS BUT FRIENDLY

DEEP, RICH & DRIED FRUITS

CASK NO. 30.126 CHF 145.-



REGION	Speyside
INITIAL CASK	Ex-Bourbon Hogshead
FINAL CASK	1st Fill Ex-Oloroso Hogshead
AGE	16 years
DISTILLED	9 June 2008
OUTTURN	206 bottles
ABV	61.8 %

After 12 years in ex-bourbon wood, further maturation in a first fill Spanish oak oloroso hogshead turned this into an amazing sherry bomb. The nose was full of figs, raisins, fruit leathers, apricots and dried mango, plus Dundee cake, sherry trifle and bodegas. The palate – wow! – bakewell tart and boozy trifle, fig rolls, dark chocolate and sugared almonds, with a touch of Iberico pork or game pie; making it big and boisterous, but friendly. Water brought flamenco boots and old guitar interiors, date molasses, brandy snaps and devils on horseback to the nose, and hot cross buns, sangria, cigar butts and liquorice allsorts to the palate.



# A TOPIC OF CONVERSATION

**SPICY & SWEET** 

CASK NO. 80.52 CHF 119.-



REGION	Speyside
INITIAL CASK	Ex-Bourbon Hogshead
FINAL CASK	1st Fill Ex-Oloroso Hogshead
AGE	15 years
DISTILLED	27 January 2009
OUTTURN	255 bottles
ABV	58.8 %

The Panel was divided. Some got strawberry jam, yum yum cake, sultanas and prune juice, while others described it as being more like paint, chemicals, a whiff of struck matches and a sour cream dip. That divide continued on the neat palate as strawberry tarts, plum juice and a fruit loaf met sharp green apple slices, manchego cheese and fig chutney. After reduction the opposing views levelled off, as we discovered melted butter, orange liqueur and cigar boxes, as well as sweet and sour bamboo shoots. To taste, we found rice pudding and sweet and salty porridge, with a finish of sour cherry negroni. Following 11 years in an exbourbon hogshead, we transferred this whisky into a first fill American oak oloroso hogshead.

#### **CAMPING TRIP TREATS**

LIGHTLY PEATED

CASK NO. 11.56 CHF 89.-



REGION	Highland			
CASK	Refill Charred Hogshead			
AGE	10 years			
DISTILLED	9 December 2014			
OUTTURN	301 bottles			
ABV	59.1 %			

An attractive, indulgent sweet smoke reminded us of smoked chocolate truffles, smoked doughnuts and smoked honey. One Panellist mentioned multi-pastel-coloured cocktail cigarettes which drew a blank from the rest of us! To taste this was creamy, evoking Madagascan vanilla pods with the delicate sweet smoke of campfire s'mores and fluffy peanut butter pancakes. Following reduction we moved into a malt barn to enjoy cream crackers, caramelised white chocolate and Wensleydale cheese accompanied by a fruit cake. It was surprisingly cakey on the palate, as white chocolate and pecan cupcakes, and a coffee and walnut battenberg, were all washed down with a caramel cappuccino.

# FOR THE DRENCHED HILLWALKER

**LIGHTLY PEATED** 

CASK NO. 66.247 CHF 259. –



### **TEA-SMOKED SALMON**

LIGHTLY PEATED

CASK NO. 4.375 CHF 195.—



REGION	Highland			
CASK	Refill Ex-Bourbon Hogshead			
AGE	25 years			
DISTILLED	23 October 1997			
OUTTURN	242 bottles			
ABV	54.2%			
ABV	54.2%			

Up on a forested hillside by a freshly painted gate we were taking a break after a very wet ascent through peatbogs. Neat, the nose revealed fruit pastilles, heather honey and burning heather sticks in our portable barbecue, grilling a miso and molasses-glazed steak. On the final stretch back to the car, we kept our spirits up by snacking on sweet, blowtorched blackberries and toffee-glazed banana slices served on a bed of sphagnum moss with peated heather honey. With added water, we were seduced by the aromas of peat, woodland and something petrolic, with menthol and turpentine also in attendance. We then arrived at our Highland refuge by the Falls of Dochart: fireside rugs and soft leather seats with a pint and a whisky by the roaring fire provided much-needed comfort. Recovering from our day out, we treated our taste buds to the smoky waxiness of a vintage dram, chocolate-coated coffee beans, an ashy crème brûlée and a slice of almond cake, Just to whet our appetite before dinner ...

REGION	Highland		
INITIAL CASK	Ex-Bourbon Hogshead		
FINAL CASK	2nd Fill HTMC Hogshead		
AGE	19 years		
DISTILLED	26 May 2003		
OUTTURN	321 bottles		
ABV	54.7 %		

We prepared a cullen skink with lightly smoked fish, while barbecuing lobster tails as well as New York-style hot dog sausages. On the palate we were surprised by the great balance of sweet fruitiness and smokiness, reminding us of tea-smoked salmon with a smoked herbal mayonnaise. We also enjoyed key lime pie while our neighbour fired up their barbecue. Reduction introduced heather honey and grilled courgette with a chimichurri sauce, while to taste we found sweet tobacco, liquorice and sugared almonds. We all agreed it was better neat! At 16 years of age, we combined selected hogsheads from the same distillery. We then returned the single malt into a variety of different casks to develop further. This is one of those casks.



#### THE FINE PRINT

#### **ORDERS**

We are happy to accept orders by telephone, fax, email or via our online shop. Phone calls in the course of commercial transactions may be recorded.

#### **DELIVERY**

Deliveries will be carried out via Swiss Post's parcel service. The mailing costs are CHF 8.– for Economy (standard), CHF 10.– for Priority and CHF 20.– for Swiss-Express "Moon". No mailing costs will be charged on orders over CHF 400.– (mailing by Economy).

#### COMPLAINTS

Damaged goods must be returned to the post office immediately, or no later than within 7 days, and the appropriate damage report must be filled in at the post office.

#### **EXCHANGES/RETURNS**

Your order is binding. As a rule, ordered goods can neither be exchanged nor returned with the exception of goods that have sustained damage in transit, or incorrect deliveries.

#### **PRICES**

Unless otherwise stated, the prices specified by us (by telephone, in price lists, by email or in the online shop) should always be understood as being in Swiss francs including statutory VAT (VAT No. CHE-249.623.143 TVA). Price information should always be understood as referring to the specified package (in most cases, per bottle). We explicitly reserve the right to change our prices and offers, as well as delivery options.

#### **C'EST BON LEMON**

**SINGLE CASK SPIRIT** 

CASK NO. GN6.5 CHF 67.-



REGION	Edinburgh			
CASK	1st Fill Ex-Bourbon Barrel			
AGE	1 year			
DISTILLED	10 September 2020			
OUTTURN	274 bottles			
ABV	49.6 %			

Lemon sorbet and sweet limoncello brought a familiar citric zing above a bed of coriander seeds, pine needles and fragrant honeysuckle. Flavours extended the floral nuances into lavender, violets and spicy sandalwood while ground coriander joined liquorice root and oak tannins. Reducing with water emphasised the fresh citrus notes to create an explosion of lemon and zest that mellowed into thyme and memories of scented bubbles overflowing from a bath. Flavours followed suit with crushed pink grapefruit and lemon skin in fresh lemon tea while the heady fragrance of orchard blossom washed over fields of herbs and lavender.

### AN ARTIST, AN APOTHECARY AND A TRIPLE-SEC MULE

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CASK NO. GN7.3 **CHF 76.**-



REGION	England			
CASK	2nd Fill Ex-Bourbon Barrel			
AGE	1 year			
DISTILLED	10 November 2021			
OUTTURN	230 bottles			
ABV	49.9 %			

The neat nose evoked grappa and kümmel (caraway), lemon and mandarin skins, some juniper and opening an artist's paint box (paints, turps, linseed oil). The palate was smooth, juicy and fresh-flavoured, with lemon drops, pineapple, sugar-coated fennel seeds, cinnamon toothpaste and hints of cherry throat sweets. To the nose, adding water suggested an apothecary's leather bag, a waxed jacket (in a cleaning cupboard) and a triple-sec mule with lime and ginger beer. The palate seemed to become fresh and salty – clear boiled mints or licking your lips after a dip in the sea – before a dry finish of liquorice, nutmeg and sambuca.



#### **TASTINGS 2025**

TIMES TASTINGS 19:00 TO 22:00 At our tastings 5 whiskies will be presented. Some of them might have appeared in the Outturn, some might be surprises. We will also serve you bread and

cheese. You will then have the opportunity to buy drams of other whiskies from the currently available range and purchase bottles.

Price per person CHF 65.-.

CITY	LOCATION
Lausanne	Tibits (1st floor), Place de la Gare 11
Bern	Gesellschaft zum Distelzwang, Gerechtigkeitsgasse 79
Zurich	Zentrum Karl der Grosse, Kirchgasse 14
Basel	Zunftsaal im Schmiedenhof, Rümelinsplatz
Zurich	Zentrum Karl der Grosse, Kirchgasse 14
Bern	Gesellschaft zum Distelzwang, Gerechtigkeitsgasse 79
Basel	Zunftsaal im Schmiedenhof, Rümelinsplatz
Lucerne	Hotel Schweizerhof, Schweizerhofquai
Bern	Gesellschaft zum Distelzwang, Gerechtigkeitsgasse 79
Zurich	Zentrum Karl der Grosse, Kirchgasse 14
Bern	Gesellschaft zum Distelzwang, Gerechtigkeitsgasse 79
Basel	Zunftsaal im Schmiedenhof, Rümelinsplatz
St. Gallen	Hofkeller, Klosterhof 3
Bern	Gesellschaft zum Distelzwang, Gerechtigkeitsgasse 79
Basel	Zunftsaal im Schmiedenhof, Rümelinsplatz
Zurich	Zentrum Karl der Grosse, Kirchgasse 14
Lucerne	Hotel Schweizerhof, Schweizerhofquai
Bern	Gesellschaft zum Distelzwang, Gerechtigkeitsgasse 79
Lausanne	Tibits (1st floor), Place de la Gare 11
	Lausanne Bern Zurich Basel Zurich Bern Basel Lucerne Bern Zurich Bern Bern Zurich Bern Basel St. Gallen Bern Basel Zurich Lucerne Bern



Please buy your ticket online, by phone or email. Places are guaranteed only when paid. We cannot accept cancellations; however, if there is a waiting list, we will try to find another

member to take your place. We reserve the right to cancel an event if participation is insufficient. Participants at tastings must be at least 18 years of age. Members can buy tickets for and bring guests along.



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