



# WHISKIES





## Scotch Whisky

What is whisky? Put simply, whisky is fermented grain (similar to beer), which is distilled and then aged in oak barrels. Different parts of the World have different traditions and processes, as well as differing laws governing its production. However, in essence all whiskies fit the above process.

In Scotland, the first written record of whisky dates back to 1495, but it was without doubt being produced before that. Under EU law, Scotch Whisky must be produced in Scotland from water and grain, which have been processed, fermented and distilled in Scotland. It must be aged in oak barrels for a minimum of 3 years and nothing may be added except water to reduce the alcohol to a minimum of 40%.

There are 3 key types of Scotch Whisky:

**Single Malt:** can be a blend of different casks and ages but all have to be from a single distillery, using only malted barley and local water. It must be a minimum 3 years old, and if it carries an age statement that is the age of the youngest whisky in the blend.

**Single Grain:** can be distilled from grains other than barley, although they must contain some malted barley. They again can be a blend of different casks of different ages but can only be from one distillery, and must be at least 3 years old.

**Blended Scotch:** This can be a blend of both malt and grain whiskies from multiple distilleries across Scotland, as long as they abide by the rules above.

Scotland's unique landscape and climate has a huge impact on the whiskies produced, arguably more so than anywhere else on the earth making whisky. The environment and local resources are a key part of the process and many distilleries owe their identity and character to the environment around them influencing the whisky.

One of these local factors is the water source. Most distilleries in Scotland will be deliberately located near a stream or river. This is because water is so vital to whisky production, and is needed in every process. Scotland also has some of the purest natural mineral water in the World, and this is used to great effect by many distilleries. For example, on Islay the water runs over many layers of peat, imparting a medicinal quality to the water and thus the whisky, such as with Laphroaig.

The different regions of Scotland also produce particular characteristics. For example with coastal distilleries, like Clynelish, the proximity of the warehouses to the sea means the whisky picks up salt and brine flavours from the sea air. Indeed some distilleries actually leave their warehouse doors wide open to pick up some of those qualities.

Peat is another local influence on Scottish whisky. When drying malted barley, you need a heat source. Peat is found across large parts of Scotland, and is the result of thousands of years of natural organic matter decomposing. Ultimately if left it would become coal. This was used widely across Scotland as a source of heat for the furnaces used to dry the barley, and in doing so would create smoke which would rise up through the malt imparting those flavours. At one time all distilleries in Scotland would have followed this process, but as modern processes came in less and less distilleries use peat.

Finally the type of barrels used impart a large amount of the final flavours. All scotch has to be aged in oak barrels. Most commonly used are former bourbon barrels, which in the USA by law in bourbon are only allowed to be used once. Therefore they are cheap and readily available. Bourbon barrels impart flavours of vanilla, caramel, and sweetness. European Sherry casks are the next most commonly used, particularly by distilleries in Speyside. These impart spicy, fruitcake and dark fruit flavours to a whisky. However, distilleries also experiment with many different barrel types like rum, port, wine and beer.



## Blended Scotch Whisky

Blended Scotch accounts for close to 90% of all Scotch whisky sales around the World. Its huge popularity is most notable with brands such as Johnnie Walker, Bells and Grant's. It is created through blending malt whiskies from different distilleries across Scotland as well as with Scottish grain whisky. There's a huge skill and art to blending whisky. Some of these brands have existed for many decades and the expectation is that the product should always be the same. A blender will have to source whiskies from all over Scotland to make up the profile of their particular blend, despite stock shortages or even the closure of some distilleries, always maintaining its consistency.

	abv	35ml
Grant's Ale Cask	40.0%	£3.90
Monkey Shoulder Vatted Malt Whisky	40.0%	£4.50
Compass Box Great King Street Artists Blend	43.0%	£5
Compass Box Oak Cross	43.0%	£6
Compass Box The Peat Monster	46.0%	£6.50
Blue Hangar 9th Release	45.6%	£10
<b><u>Rare / Vintage Bottlings</u></b>		
Grant's 21 Year Old - 1970's bottling	43.0%	£9
Cutty Sark - 1960's bottling	43.0%	£17.50



## The Lowlands

This region is in the south of Scotland and is defined by a rough line that runs from the Clyde Estuary to the River Tay. Once home to many distilleries, there are now only a handful still operating, but thankfully new distilleries are in the pipeline. Generally the malts made here are soft and grassy with hints of lemon grass and fresh green fruit.

Glenkinchie 12 Year	43.0%	£5.50
Auchentoshan Three Wood	43.0%	£6.50
The Girvan Patent Still No.4 Single Grain Whisky	42.0%	£7.50

## **Rare / Vintage Bottlings**

The Littlemill distillery dates back to the mid 1700's, situated on the border between the Lowlands and Highlands. After changing hands numerous times in the 20th century, the distillery was sadly closed for the third and final time in 1997, and later burnt down in a fire in 2004. They produced 3 different styles of whisky during their existence: Littlemill, a classic light Lowland style whisky; Dungallass, a full bodied peated whisky; and Dumbuck, a heavily peated whisky. We have 2 bottlings available.

Littlemill 1967	43.5%	£50
Dungallass 1967	43.5%	£50



## The Highlands

*By far the largest of the Whisky producing regions of Scotland. Due to its size, it has many different variations in styles. The Whiskies produced on the west are often made in very exposed distilleries on the North Sea coast, picking up a marine quality in the whisky. The far north in contrast makes whisky with a spicier, robust character, and the more sheltered eastern and southern highlands produce a fruitier style.*

Glen Garioch Founders Reserve	48.0%	£5.50
The GlenDronach 15 Year Old Revival	46.0%	£6
Royal Brackla 10 Year Old	40.0%	£6.50
Royal Lochnagar 1998 Distillers Edition	40.0%	£8
The Dalmore 15 Year Old	40.0%	£8
Edradour 2006 9 Year Old Single Cask Bottling	59.6%	£10.50
Old Pulteney 21 Year Old	46.0%	£11.50
<b><u>Rare / Vintage Bottlings</u></b>		
The Dalmore 12 Year - 1980's bottling	40.0%	£20
Balblair 1975	46.0%	£30
Brora 1982, 28 Year Old, Connoisseurs Choice	43.0%	£40



## Speyside

*This is a sub-region of the Highlands, and acknowledged as being the heartland of Scotch whisky production as it contains half of all the distilleries in Scotland. The area lies between Inverness and Aberdeen, encompassing much of the Cairngorms national park, and sits on granite mountains that sweep down onto heathery moorland. The whiskies are noted for their elegance, floral honey-heather notes and, at times, a restrained, fragrant peatiness.*

Cragganmore 12 Year Old	40.0%	£5
Cragganmore 2001 Distillers Edition	40.0%	£7
Glen Moray Elgin Classic	40.0%	£5
The Balvenie DoubleWood 12 Year Old	40.0%	£7
Glenfiddich 21 Year Old Gran Reserva	40.0%	£13
<b><u>Rare / Vintage Bottlings</u></b>		
Glenfiddich Clan Montgomerie 1980s special edition	40.0%	£9
Glenfiddich Clan Sinclair 1980s special edition	40.0%	£9
Glenfiddich Clan Drummond 1980s special edition	40.0%	£9
Glenfiddich Special Reserve 12 Year Old 1980s	40.0%	£11.50
Glenfiddich Caoran Reserve 12 Year Old	40.0%	£12.50
Glenfiddich 125th Anniversary Bottling	43.0%	£15.00



## Islay

*The most famous of whisky isles, the Isle of Islay on Scotland's western coast, is just 25 miles long and yet has 8 distilleries! It has very peaty soil, and is very exposed to the sea, with some warehouses sitting right on the coast, fully exposed to the waves. As a result they make bold, peaty, smoky whiskies.*

Bruichladdich Scottish Barley - The Classic Laddie	50.0%	£6.50
Port Charlotte Scottish Barley - Heavily Peated	50.0%	£6.50
Caol Ila Moch	43.0%	£7
Caol Ila Distillers Edition 2002 Moscatel Cask Finish	43.0%	£7.50
Lagavulin Distillers Edition 1997 Sherry Cask Finish	43.0%	£10
Ardbeg Uigeadail	54.2%	£8
Ardbeg Galileo	49.0%	£20

### Rare / Vintage Bottlings

Bruichladdich 1984	46.0%	£15
Bruichladdich 15 Year Old - 1980's bottling	43.0%	£20
Laphroaig 1981 27 Year Old Sherry Cask	56.6%	£175



## Campbeltown

*Once known as the 'Whisky Capital of the World', and originally home to over 30 distilleries. Sadly today there are just 3 left. The Mull of Kintyre where it sits is narrow and exposed to the elements. As a result the whiskies produced here are briny and salty from the sea.*

Hazelburn 12 Year Old	46.0%	£7
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### Rare / Vintage Bottlings

Springbank 1995 - 18 Year Old Sherry Cask	46.0%	£25
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## Islands

*These include the Orkney Isles (Highland Park), the Isle of Jura (The Jura Malt), the Isle of Skye (Talisker), the Isle of Mull (Tobermory) and the Isle of Arran (The Arran Malt). These malts are often impacted by the sea surrounding them, but produce a variety of different flavours and styles.*

<b>Tobermory 10 Year Old</b>	46.3%	£5
<b>Talisker Distillers Edition 2005 Amoroso Cask Finish</b>	45.8%	£7
<b>Talisker 57° North</b>	57.0%	£9

### Rare / Vintage Bottlings

<b>Talisker 1977 35 Year Old</b>	54.6%	£55
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## Irish Whiskey

*Whiskey has been distilled in Ireland since the 12th century. At its peak in the 18th century there were over 2,000 stills in operation. Sadly over the years the industry was heavily hit by a number of factors leading to that number falling to single digits in the 1960s. The industry in the last 5 years has gone through a resurgence with new distilleries opening and its popularity on the rise. Irish whisky takes different traditions to Scotch, particularly their use of different grains other than barley, and many triple distilling their spirits creating a lighter, fragrant style of whiskey. Something to note with Irish Whiskey is the use of an 'e', as oppose to in Scotland with no 'e' in whisky.*

<b>Tullamore D.E. W.</b>	40.0%	£4.50
<b>Teeling Small Batch</b>	46.0%	£5
<b>Green Spot Single Pot Still</b>	40.0%	£6
<b>Jameson Select Reserve Black Barrel</b>	40.0%	£6
<b>Redbreast 12 Year Old</b>	40.0%	£6.50
<b>Yellow Spot 12 Year Old</b>	46.0%	£9.50
<b>Connemara 12 Year Old</b>	46.0%	£11

### Rare / Vintage Bottlings

<b>Middleton Very Rare Barry Crocket</b>	40.0%	£15
<b>Middleton Barry Crocket Legacy</b>	40.0%	£16
<b>Teeling Vintage Reserve 21 Year Old</b>	40.0%	£16



## Japanese Whisky

*The Japanese whisky industry originates with two men: Masataka Taketsuru and Shinjiro Torii. Masataka went to Scotland in 1918 to study at university and while there spend time working at a number of Scotch distilleries. When he returned to Japan in 1923 he recognised the similarities between Japan and Scotland and decided it would be the perfect place to make whisky. With the financing of Shinjiro they opened the Suntory in the Yamazaki Valley. In 1934 Taketsuru left Suntory to start his own distillery: Nikka, and the two remain the leading Japanese whisky producers to this day.*

Hakushu Distillers Reserve	46.0%	£6.50
Hakushu 12 Year Old	40.0%	£10
Nikka Coffey Grain .	40.0%	£7.00
Nikka Black 8 Year Old	46.0%	£8.50
Togouchi 12 Year Old	40.0%	£9
Yamazaki 12 Year Old	46.0%	£10
<b><u>Rare / Vintage Bottlings</u></b>		
Chichibu 2012 Floor Malted	40.0%	£12.50
Ichiro's Malt Double Distilleries	40.0%	£12.50



## American Whiskey

*For many years after prohibition, American Whiskey production has been dominated by a few major producers and brands. However, America are now leading the way with a new wave of craft distillers over the past 2 decades helping to push the number of distilleries over 200. There are many different styles of American Whiskey, the most famous being Bourbon. Bourbon Whiskey must be made from majority corn, aged exclusively in brand new American oak barrels, and aged for a minimum of 2 years. 'Straight' whiskey means that no spirit, colouring or flavouring has been added to the whiskey, and that it has been aged for a minimum of 4 years. One of the other key styles is Rye Whiskey, which has a spicier and richer character than Bourbon. To be a Rye Whiskey it has to follow similar rules to Bourbon but instead of majority corn it has to be majority rye.*

### **Bourbon Whiskey**

Evan Williams Extra Aged Kentucky Straight	43.0%	£3.90
Elijah Craig 12 Year Old Kentucky Straight	40.0%	£5.00
Old Grand-Dad 114 Kentucky Straight	57.0%	£6
Makers 46	46.0%	£7
Wild Turkey Rare Breed Kentucky Straight	54.1%	£7
Sonoma County West of Kentucky Bourbon	47.5%	£7
Michter's No 1 Small Batch Bourbon	45.7%	£7.50
1792 Small Batch Kentucky Straight	46.8%	£8.50
Hudson Baby Bourbon	46.0%	£11
Hudson Four Grain Bourbon	46.0%	£11

**Rye Whiskey**

Rittenhouse Straight Rye	40.0%	£4.50
Knob Creek Straight Rye	50.0%	£5.00
Templeton Rye	40.0%	£5.50
Sazerac Straight Rye	45.0%	£5.50
Corsair Ryemageddon Rye	46.0%	£6.50
Copper Fox Rye	45.0%	£6.50
Sonoma County Rye	48.0%	£7
Old Potrero 18th Century Style Rye Spirit	51.2%	£10
WhistlePig 10 Year Old Straight Rye	50.0%	£11
Hudson Manhattan Rye	46.0%	£11

**Wheat / Single Malt / Other Whiskey**

Bernheim Original 7 Year Old Kentucky Straight	45.0%	£8
Sonoma County 2nd Chance Wheat	47.1%	£7
Wasmund's Single Malt Spirit	62.0%	£6.50
Montana Pure Malt Whiskey	45.0%	£8
Balcones No 1 Texas Single Malt Whisky	53.0%	£10
Tin Cup Blended American Whiskey	40.0%	£5

**Rare / Vintage Bottles**

Elmer T Lee Single Barrel Kentucky Straight Bourbon	45.0%	£7
Hancock's President's Reserve Single Barrel Bourbon	44.5%	£10.50
Elijah Craig 12 Year Old Barrel Proof Straight Bourbon	69.4%	£12
Rebel Yell Kentucky Straight Bourbon - 1980's bottling	40.0%	£15
Elijah Craig Single Barrel 18 Year Old Straight Bourbon	45.0%	£18
Lost Spirits Leviathan II American Peated Single Malt	53.0%	£8.50
Lost Spirits Umami Amerian Peated Single Malt	59.0%	£9.50
Parker's Heritage 8 Year Old Straight Malt Whiskey	54.0%	£18
Thomas H Handy Straight Rye (2011 Release)	64.3%	£15



## World Whisky

*The ever growing popularity of whisk(e)y, coupled with the boom in craft distillers has led to whisky now being produced all around the World. Taking inspiration from different traditions, as well as creating their own new traditions. Below is our selection of some of the globes best whiskies.*

Zuidam Millstone Barrel Proof Rye (Holland)	52.7%	£9.50
Millstone 8 Year Old - French Oak (Holland)	40.0%	£9.50
Mackmyra Brukswhisky: The Swedish Whisky	41.4%	£6
Mackmyra Special 6 Summer Meadow (Sweden)	46.8%	£11
Mackmyra Preludium (Sweden)	46.0%	£17
Spirit of Hven Organic Whisky (Sweden)	45.0%	£15
Kavalan Classic Single Malt (Taiwan)	40.0%	£9
South Island 21 Year Old 1990 (New Zealand)	40.0%	£12.50
Paul John Edited Single Malt Indian Whisky	46.0%	£5.50