

Established 2008

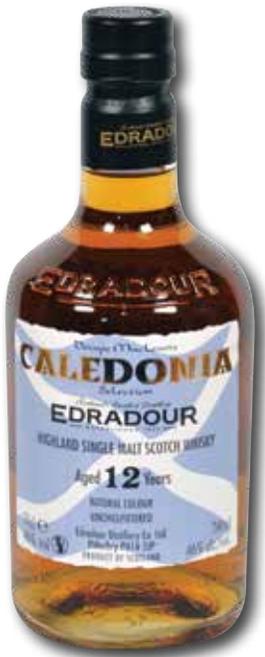


Top Shelf Tasters

November 15, 2019



EDRADOUR CALEDONIA 12YR 46% SPEYSIDE



Edradour distillery (Scottish Gaelic: Eadar Dhà Dhobhar, "between two rivers") is a Highland single malt whisky distillery based in Pitlochry, Perthshire. Its owners claim it to be the smallest distillery in Scotland, but this title now belongs to Strathearn Distillery, also in Perthshire. It has been owned by the Signatory Vintage Scotch Whisky Company since 2002, and was previously owned by Pernod Ricard. Signatory, founded in 1988, is primarily an Independent bottler and is based in Pitlochry. Established in 1825, the distillery was traditionally run by three men, but now there are just two. Only eighteen casks are produced each week. The wash still has a capacity of 4200 litres and the smaller spirit still 2200 litres.

Scotland's Smallest Distillery
EDRADOUR
— ESTABLISHED 1825 —



This Caledonia Edradour is a release specially selected by songwriter Douglas Maclean and named after his famous song, Caledonia. The cask was an Oloroso sherry cask.

Nose: Sweet, creamy and honeyed, with notes of Manuka honey, hints of dried fig and date, soft sherry and a hint of oak.

Palate: Full and rich with notes of berry fruits, and honey and butter on granary toast. More sherry, caramel and toasted almond.

Finish: Spicy, dry and sprinkled with a dusting of cocoa.

Nose:

Palate:

Finish:

SPRINGBANK PORT HOGSHEAD 21 YR 46% CAMPBELTOWN



The Springbank distillery is a family-owned single malt whisky distillery on the Kintyre Peninsula in western Scotland. It is owned by J & A Mitchell & Company, who also owns the Glengyle Distillery, the oldest independent bottler, William Cadenheads, and several blended scotch labels. Licensed in 1828, Springbank is one of the last surviving producers of single malt whiskies in Campbeltown, an area that once had over thirty active distilleries. The distillery produces three types of peated and unpeated malt whisky that it bottles under three distinct brands. The majority of its distillate is bottled as a single malt, with a small percentage sold to larger blenders or ending up in one of J&A Mitchell's own blended scotch labels, such as Campbeltown Loch.



SPRINGBANK
SINGLE MALT

A rather impressive single cask bottling of Springbank, aged in a first-fill Port hogshead for 21 years. It was bottled for the Springbank Distillery with an outturn of 252 bottles.

No notes available

Nose:

Palate:

Finish:

GLENMORANGIE SPIOS

NAS 46% SPEYSIDE



Glenmorangie (pronounced with the stress on the second syllable: the toponym is believed to derive from either Gaelic Gleann Mòr na Sìth “vale of tranquillity” or Gleann Mòr-innse “vale of big meadows”) is a distillery in Tain, Ross-shire, Scotland, that produces single malt Scotch whisky. The distillery is owned by The Glenmorangie Company Ltd, whose main product is the range of Glenmorangie single malt whisky. Glenmorangie is categorised as a Highland distillery and boasts the tallest stills in Scotland.

GLENMORANGIE

SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY



The ninth release in Glenmorangie’s Private Edition series is the Spìos (which means ‘spice’ in Scots Gaelic). This flavoursome single malt is notable for being fully matured in casks that previously held rye whiskey! Not just any rye whiskey, mind you. Glenmorangie’s Dr. Bill Lumsden picked casks used to age whiskey made from a 95% rye mash bill for six years as the maturation vessels for the Spìos.

Nose: Bright and herbaceous. Allspice comes to the fore, with peppermint and hay notes rounded off by stone fruit and soft toffee.

Palate: Mouth-coating and chewy. Herbal notes preside, with clove, nutmeg, bitter-sweet plums and a hint of creamy vanilla.

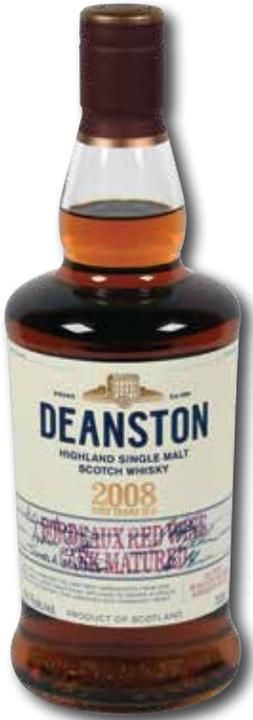
Finish: Rich and oaky, with pepper and tart cherries.

Nose:

Palate:

Finish:

DEANSTON BORDEAUX CASK 9YR 58.7% HIGHLANDS



Deanston distillery is a Single malt Scotch whisky distillery located on the banks of the River Teith, eight miles from the historic town of Stirling, at the gateway to the dramatic Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park. It is the largest distillery owned by Scotch whisky producer Distell Group Limited, who also own Bunnahabhain Distillery on the Isle of Islay and Tobermory distillery on the Isle of Mull. Deanston Distillery started life in 1785 as a cotton mill designed by Sir Richard Arkwright, and remained as such for 180 years until it was transformed into a distillery in 1966. The constant supply of pure water from the River Teith contributed to the decision to turn the mill into a distillery and Deanston is now the only distillery in Scotland to be self-sufficient in electricity, with power generated by an on-site hydro-energy facility.



A superbly straightforward idea and a delightfully delicious expression from Deanston. What we've got here is a 9 year old single malt from the Highlands-based distillery, which has been aged in casks that previously held Bordeaux red wine. Lots of yummy red fruit notes to be had here, folks - dig in!

Nose: Stewed plums and fresh strawberries, with chocolatey malt hiding underneath. Some Turkish delight, too.

Palate: Milk chocolate, sherried peels, brandied cherries and some sturdy oak warmth.

Finish: Buttered rye bread, raspberries and ginger snaps.

Nose:

Palate:

Finish:



**ALLAGASH / DUPONT “BREWERS BRIDGE”
SAISON ALE 6.1% MAINE/BELGIUM**

Brewers’ Bridge is a collaboration between two of the world’s best breweries, Belgium’s Brasserie Dupont and America’s Allagash Brewing. We’re excited to bring you this rare beer, created using time-honored Belgian brewing techniques combined with American hops and craft brewing innovation, resulting in a unique beer that highlights the best of both breweries.

Mostly clear yellow gold with a long lasting fizzy white head. Belgian spices, funky earth, lots of yeast, some lemon citrus, pepper. Bright carb, light-medium body. Zesty yeast and spice finish. Excellent.



**RODENBACH “FLANDERS RED ALE”
7% BELGIUM**

Rodenbach Vintage 2016 is a unique, unblended Flemish red ale that is matured for two years in standing oak casks (foeders). Brewmaster Rudi Ghequire then hand-selects the finest beer among the 294 foeders at the brewery in Roeslare, Belgium. This beer has an acidic, apple-like fruitiness combined with caramel, wild honey and oak, with a touch of vanilla, cherry and licorice. The aroma consists of touches of caramel and oak, as well as green apples mixed with honey and chocolate. The slightly sour, fruity aftertaste is long and nicely balanced, just like a Grand Cru wine.



**OMMEGANG “VANILLA SMOKED PORTER”
BARREL AGED 8.9% NY**

During the summer of 2017, our brewers were developing, and subsequently falling in love with, our Ommegang Smoked Porter. Sampling the first pilot batches, it was clear that this was a beer that was meant for barrel aging. Thus, when we brewed Smoked Porter to release in the winter of 2017, we also set some aside in bourbon barrels. Each individual barrel then received additions of several whole Madagascar vanilla beans to impart their rich and creamy flavors into the beer as it aged. Now, six months later, it is ready to drink. Only 100 1/6 bbl kegs of this beer were produced for distribution, making this one of our most limited releases ever. Dark brown, towering tan mousse which is slow to flatten. Full body, silky, buttery and rich texture, well hopped and carbonated, intensely and densely flavorful, lingering aftertaste, delightful finish. Bittersweet, crisp and almost tart, well balanced. Sophisticated roast flavors, coffee, hot chocolate, woody.



**FREE WILL “SPECIAL COOKIE” RUM BARREL AGED
IMPERIAL SPICED BROWN ALE 12.8% PA**

Pours a clear, deep dark mahogany coloration with a medium, frothy head. Smells of bready malt and gingerbread spices, with ginger and cinnamon standing out the most, as well as a hint of cardamon. Taste follows the nose, being dominated by bready, slightly grainy malt and gingerbread spices, with the ginger, cinnamon and cardamon equally dominating and lighter notes of vanilla and brown sugar, as well as a hint of cocoa and herbal hops. Finishes with a light bitterness and some spicy notes lingering in the aftertaste. Full mouthfeel with a medium body and carbonation. This tastes just like gingerbread cookies in a glass, which is a good thing, in my opinion. There’s a decent complexity with a rather nice balance to this, although the ginger and cardamon are perhaps standing out a little too much. Amazingly well-hidden alcohol level, although there is a very light booziness to this, I never once in a million would I have guessed this to have almost 13% ABV, yikes!

KILCHOMAN STR WINE CASK 7 YR 50% ISLAY



The distillery began production in December 2005, and was the first to be built on the island of Islay in 124 years. The distillery uses barley grown on site at Rockside Farm and malted at the distillery, as well as malt from the Port Ellen maltings and releases separate bottlings depending on the source of the grain. It is one of only six Scottish distilleries still doing traditional floor-maltings, and is currently unique in completing all parts of the whisky making process – growing barley, malting, distilling, maturing and bottling on Islay, making it the only true ‘Barley to Bottle’ experience in Scotland. The distillery first filled casks on 14 December 2005 and the distillery began bottling 3-year-old single malt in September 2009. The first official Kilchoman, the “Inaugural release” was released in 2009 and the first 100% Islay whisky released in 2011. The whisky produced by the Port Ellen maltings are peated to the same levels as Ardbeg 50ppm, while the malt peated on their own floor maltings will be approximately 20 ppm.



A creation of the late Dr. Jim Swan, STR refers to a specific formula for the Shaving, Toasting and Re-Charring of Red Wine Hogsheads. A total of 43 casks filled were selected by Anthony Wills, Kilchoman’s Founder and Managing Director, bottled at a strength of 50% abv without chill-filtration or colouring.

The process of shaving, toasting and re-charring has had a huge influence on these casks and the flavours of the resulting single malt. We released a full maturation Red Wine Cask release which took on lots of the big and bold wine flavours, however the STR cask provides a different approach. The shaving has reduced some of the bolder flavours on the surface of the oak, producing a more subtle red wine influence. Once shaved, the casks were then toasted and charred over a natural oak fire, fuelled exclusively using oak chips from used staves. These processes remove harsh tannins and undelivered flavours and break down unwanted chemical bonds such as lignin, celluloses and hemicelluloses, replacing them with sugars, vanilla and spice notes.

Nose: Summer fruit compote, rich, buttery toffee and maritime aromas with swirls of peat smoke, baking spices and salted caramel.

Palate: Waves of runny caramel building into sweet summer berries, a dusting of cinnamon, thick lemon curd, buttery shortbread and maritime peat smoke.

Finish: Lingering sweet notes of floral honey and caramel biscuits with fragrant baking spices.

Nose:

Palate:

Finish:

LAGAVULIN DISTILLERY EXCLUSIVE

NAS 54.1% ISLAY



Lagavulin Distillery was established in 1816 by John Johnston on the rocky south coast of the Isle of Islay. In 1908 the Malt Mill Distillery was built next to Lagavulin Distillery but closed in the early 1960s and, whilst some of its buildings remain as part of Lagavulin, the Malt Mill is now a lost distillery. Lagavulin has four stills and produces superbly balanced peated whiskey. The core range is limited to the Lagavulin 16 Year Old and Distillers Edition with a limited edition single cask bottling produced each year for Feis Ile, the Islay Festival of Malt and Music.



LAGAVULIN™
ISLAY SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY

A cask strength single malt from the Lagavulin distillery on the isle of Islay, originally sold at the distillery itself. A collectible piece for lovers of Lagavulin...

Nose: Lovely, very typical Lagavulin with loads of citrus, ship's rope, toasted oak, peat smoke and vanilla. Very clean. Gummy bears at the campfire! Dried apricots, wet wood and almonds kick in. Candied orange peel. Lovely!

Palate: It is creamy and mouth coating, fairly picquant on a lot of woodspice. Tar and soot kick in with a vengeance, but it does remain fruity and sweet. The oak is a little louder than expected, just like the peat. The smoke becomes quite grand. Salted caramel, oranges again... ah, this is truly wonderful.

Finish: Very long, dark and sweet and smoky on an extra load of ashes.

Nose:

Palate:

Finish: