

LINKLATERS MILAN

TASTING NOTES - 10 April 2017

BRUICHLADDICH - STRAIGHT FROM THE CASK - SHERRY CASK - AT 60.4% abv.

Limited to only 283 bottles this Bruichladdich, 11 year old, has been matured in a Sherry Hogshead 2nd fill for 8 years then another first fill sherry cask for another 3+ years.

Nose: Sweet, sherried smooth with a hint of toasted oak and dark chocolate. A distinct sulphurous note of burnt matches, aka Mortlach!, with spicy overtones.

Palate: Smooth, rich, spicy fruit with vanilla tones and rich sultanas and raisins. A peppery note also detected and black cherry, liquorice, with an oily mouthfeel.

Finish: Again smooth and peppery with a long warming finish. Better with a touch of water to bring down to around 55% abv.

Food Match: capes ante marinate con salsa al curry
polpettine con chili piccante
cioccolato fondente a prezzi

OLD PULTENEY - 17 YEARS OLD - AT 46% abv.

This 17 year old from the Pulteney distillery in Wick was a double gold winner at the 2006 San Francisco World Spirits Competition. A delicious Highland dram, this 17yo is comprised of 90% refill bourbon casks with the remainder being from oloroso casks.

Nose: Clean and fresh with great balance. There is a profusion of fruit, from fruit salad with honeydew melon and pear to dried fruits, sultanas in a hot cross bun, fresh from the oven, a lightly salted butter melts over it with notes of fudge and a hint of something vaguely green. There is a lovely creaminess to the nose with notes of soft whirling smoke and crème fraîche.

Palate: Quite full and very sweet with sugared citrus peels and toffee. There are some notes of beeswax and honeycomb and fudge rises with malted barley and cereal sweetness.

Finish: Long with a herbal edge and a chewy oak.

Food Match: tartare di tonno con mango
branzino marinato at melograno

ABERLOUR 15 YEAR OLD - SELECT CASK RESERVE- AT 43% abv.

A 15 year old Aberlour single malt, usually found on mainland Europe but some of these tasty rascals have drifted out to our little island. Matured in a mixed of sherry and bourbon casks, lending fruity sweetness to the whisky.

Nose: Masses of sherry influence. Plump raisins and thick honey.

Palate: Heavy vanilla and more honey-dipped raisins. A little hint of almond and orange peel.

Finish: Refreshingly drying. Citrus lasts.

Food Match: Zabaione freddo con fragole

HIGHLAND PARK - 12 YEAR OLD - AT 40% abv.

Nose: Fresh, clean and very aromatic. Floral notes abound the senses with a light grassiness. Notes of creamy Manuka honey and a touch of juicy citrus with cream and a well-balanced sweetness.

Palate: Rather full with a pleasant depth. Lurking somewhere in the substratum a grilled orange lies. Notes of granary toast and green tea with jasmine. A touch of sweetness.

Finish: Quite long with peppery spice and wood shavings.

Food Match: bocconcini di guanciale con pure di sedano rapa
testina di vitello con salsa verde

MONKEY SHOULDER - BLENDED MALT - AT 40% abv.

A superb blended malt whisky from William Grant, made with single malts from three famous Speyside distilleries. The result is a smooth, creamy, supple and very malty Scotch which works superbly well neat, over ice, or in whisky cocktails (where it really excels). Used as base for "Rob Roy" cocktail with Vermouth and ice and bitters.

Nose: An elegant, stylish nose of marmalade, Crema Catalana (apologies, but it really is there), cocoa and malt. Plenty of vanilla and a sprinkling of winter spice (nutmeg, cloves and cinnamon) alongside a mouth-watering hint of aniseed.

Palate: Very malty, creamy delivery with a suggestion of berry fruit. Juicy toasted barley, cloves and butterscotch. Manuka honey, hot-buttered-toast and dried apricot develop.

Finish: Medium length, spicy oak and a hint of peppermint on the tail.

