

LWAS - PLATFORM 3 WHISKY TASTING THURSDAY 13TH AUGUST 2017

GLENDRONACH "THE HIELAN" 8 YEARS OLD AT 46% abv

Nose: Honey'd malt, vanilla fudge and citrus peels. Slightly chocolate-y raisin notes and a little cinnamon.

Palate: More spice comes through on the palate, but the vanilla-rich buttery elements remain up front. Freshly baked biscuits topped with almonds and plump sultanas.

Finish: Quite long, with Sherried fruit and ginger lasting.

PIKESVILLE - 6 year old - 110 PROOF STRAIGHT RYE WHISKEY AT 55% abv.

A fantastic rye whiskey produced in Kentucky, the Pikesville brand dates back to 1895 in Maryland. This 6 year old 110 proof was released in 2015, receiving a Double Gold at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition, an "Extraordinary, Ultimate Recommendation" from the Ultimate Spirits Challenge and was named the Second Finest Whisky in the World in Jim Murray's Whisky Bible 2016 as well as the World's Best Rye Whisky at the World Whiskies Awards 2016 - Heaven Hill also won Distiller of the Year at the Icons of Whisky 2016!

"one of the aromas of the year... after that nose, the delivery just had to be majestic. And it is... those wonderful, bustling, fizzing spices... the best from Heaven Hill for some time"

Nose: Some dusty spice, a touch of Norwegian hand cream and cocoa at first with sweet liquorice, Curaçao, vanilla custard and crème caramel developing.

Palate: Fruity, then wonderfully spicy rye. Sweet liquorice again (specifically the coconutty/nougat-y pink Liquorice Allsorts that have a black bit in the middle), plenty of oak and then clove drops on the tail.

Finish: Vanilla with cinnamon and apricot Danish.

CAOL ILA - 15 YEAR OLD DISTILLERS EDITION AT 61.5% abv.

Nose: Very creamy with milk bottle sweets, subtle citrus and hints of butterscotch.

Palate: Warming and a little more toffee'd now with hedgerow greenery and fruit.

Finish: Milk chocolate and soft oak provide a clean finish.

TOMATIN - CASK STRENGTH AT 57.5% abv.

Introduced in early 2015, this is the first cask strength bottling to join Tomatin's core range, and is matured in a combination of bourbon and Oloroso Sherry casks. With their range growing more and more, it's certainly exciting days for the distillery in the Highlands.

Nose: Opens with home-made ice-cream drizzled with caramel and crushed walnuts, then moves on to Seville orange, red berries and black pepper.

Palate: Crystallised ginger, green apple and a touch of salty sea air. Sweet chocolate and cooking spices, growing intense on the mid-palate.

Finish: Lasting notes of vanilla pod and crumbly fudge.

GLENFIDDICH - SMALL BATCH - 18 YEAR OLD AT 40% abv.

Nose: Loads of fruit. Zesty grapefruit, baked toffee apples. Dry, chocolate Flake-y wood and cinnamon.

Palate: Candied fruits and Glenfiddich freshness balances richer notes of dried apricot, more cinnamon and toffee, ginger and dry Sherry.

Finish: Peels and a touch of salted toffee.

ARRAN - RUM CASK FINISH - SMALL BATCH EDITION - AT 55.8% abv.

Nose: Lovely heather and barley dancing on the nose. Creamy manuka honey and well-balanced toffee sweetness pave the way for a gloriously glutinous dram.

Palate: Chewy and unctuous, lots of crystallised ginger and heavy spices, like the rum from whence it came, yet the mouth feel is certainly Arran.

Finish: Long and sweet with honeyed notes and more of that beautiful spice.

