

Mannerston's Inaugural Whisky Tasting

TASTING NOTES - 1 April 2016

STRAIGHTFROMTHECASK - GLEN ORD 15 YEAR OLD - AT 57.3% abv.

Nose: An immense toffee aroma with citrus notes and a hint of spice

Palate: Again massive toffee and home made tablet with chocolate orange notes and a hint of pepper and spice. Also a fruity, bubble gum and toffee apples at a funfare notes.

Finish: Sweet, long and warming with a hint of spice, cinnamon perhaps? Also grassy, woody notes at the end. Extremely more-ish.

JOHNNIE WALKER "DOUBLE BLACK" AT 40% abv.

Nose: Slightly smoky and almost medicinal on the nose, it offers up hints of vanilla, a little tar, a touch of barbecue sauce, citrus and malt.

Palate: Good body and very creamy with a sublimely malty core. It offers up a surprising level of peat smoke which works really well. Creamy sweetness, hints of soft wood smoke, salty butter, custard and cereal grains.

Finish: Good length with notes of malt, boiled sweets, black pepper and cool smoke.

GLENGARIOCH 15 YEAR OLD (OLD STYLE- SOLD OUT!) AT 43% abv.

A 15 year old from the Glen Garioch distillery with markedly old-fashioned packaging. This is a fruit-rich dram with plenty of body.

Nose: Perfumed. Floral. smoky heather. Cereals, malt. Spicy, herbal.

Palate: Full, malty, supple peat. Peppery. Oak.

Finish: Good length, oak, spice builds, soft peat, balancing barley sweetness.

BALBLAIR 10 YEAR OLD (OLD STYLE -SOLD-OUT!) AT 40% abv.

A rare, discontinued bottling from the Balblair distillery, this 10 year old was released before the standard vintage range of whiskies. Expect plenty of spice, malt and a hint of smoke.

Nose: Peppery nose, with crème caramel, malt, cinnamon, orange marmalade and maple syrup.

Palate: Gingerbread, malty and peppery, golden syrup, rum spices. Vanilla, a touch of burnt orange peel.

Finish: Spicy, malty finish.

BRUICHLADDICH SCOTTISH BARLEY “THE CLASSIC LADDIE” AT 50% abv.

Created by Jim McEwan from whisky matured in American oak casks alongside Lochindaal, and chosen to represent the classic, unpeated distillery style. Bruichladdich's new signature bottling is made with 100% Scottish barley.

Nose: Opening with barley sugar and a hint of mint before leading into the most wonderful notes of freshly cut wild flowers; buttercup, daisy, meadowsweet, myrtle, primrose and cherry blossom. After some four or five minutes and with the addition of a little water, caramelised fruits drift onto the scene; lemon drops and honey, tangerine and tablet

Palate: refreshing, the sweet oak and the barley arriving together sending the taste buds into raptures. A combination of ripe green fruit, brown sugar and sweet malt bring closure.

Finish: Unforgettable! Its best enjoyed in good company, you just don't want the evening to end. It brings warmth to the heart and soul. The clock slows down and the cares of tomorrow disappear into the dawn.

PEAT CHIMNEY WEMYSS BLENDED MALT AT 46% abv.

The Peat Chimney blended malt Scotch whisky is a warming, subtly coastal expression from Wemyss Malts. It's not an in-your-face blast of peat - Peat Chimney focuses on the elegantly smoky side of things, with a good balance between the sweet and savoury notes you can catch in peated whiskies. Very handsome stuff, this is. Has over TEN single malts in the recipe!

Nose: Like standing on the sea-shore with hemp rope and driftwood. Lime infused saddle soap, leather and creosote.

Palate: Peat smoke puffs over lemon salted fish. With water, the salty and smoky notes come to the fore.

Finish: A sweet smoke slowly sizzles to a softer finale.