

"A Taste of the Scotland"

7 Single Malt Tasting & Heavy Bites - \$45 Pay At The Door (RSVP) - October 17, 2018 (Wednesday @ 7:00 PM)
Landmark Diner (Buckhead), 3652 Roswell Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30305 - Ph: (404) 816-9090

Whisky #1 **SPEYBURN** Single Malt / 'Arranta Casks' (USA Market Exclusive) / NAS / 46% ABV / NCF / OB / Dist
Owner: Inver House Distillers Ltd. (International Beverage Holdings Ltd.) / Speyside (Rothes)



Speyburn Distillery

Rothes, Aberlour, Banffshire AB38 7AG

SCOTLAND

Pronunciation: 'SPEY-burn' or 'Spay-bur-n' - SWA Whisky Map Location: #89

Translation: Uncertain 'Thorn-infested brook' ("Spey" may mean 'thorn'; "Burn" means spring)

Slogan: "Simply too good to keep to yourself"

Motto: "Glumen Bires Est" (The river is strength)

Region (District): Speyside (Rothes) - Neighbors: Glenrothes, Glen Grant, Caperdonich, Glen Spey

Established: 1897 - Date of First Distillation: December 20, 1897

Founder: John Hopkins and his brother Edward Hopkins (brothers) and cousin Edward. Broughton. They did business as John Hopkins & Company.

Status: Active/Producing - House Style: Heathery, floral and herbal

Location: Situated in a lovely small leafy glen on the edge of Rothes. Strategically located near the Elgin-Aberdeen railway line and the Rothes and Elgin road in the rolling hills of Speyside. Due to the smallest of the available site (3-acres), a 2-story distillery was built.

Water Source: Granty Burn, a major tributary of the River Spey, which is famed for its purity and world-class salmon fishing (for Process and reduction); Broad Burn (for Cooling).

Barley: Optic (Burghead Maltings or Portgordon Maltings)

Malt Spec (Phenols): 0-ppm (Unpeated)

Gristmill: 1 Boby Mill 4-roller malt mill (Robert Boby Ltd); 10-ton.

Mashtun: 1 s/s semi-Lauter tun @ 25,000-L (6.25-ton); new in 2015.

19 Washbacks: 4 Douglas fir + 15 s/s WBs @ 35,000-L (charged @ 25,000-L).

Yeast: Dry Distiller's Yeast - Fermentation: At least 72 hours (increased from 48-hours in 2015)

3 Pot Stills: 1 Wash (new) @ 30,000-L (12,500-L), 2 Spirit @ 13,160-L & 17,300-L; EnviroJet boiler heated.

Condensers: 2 s/s worm tubs w/104-m of copper piping (spirit still); 1 shell-and-tube condenser (wash still)

Cask Entry Strength: 69% ABV - Casks: Bourbon hogsheads (refill)

Warehouse: There is only 1 remaining on-site two-story dunnage WH (2,000 cask capacity for SM); a former warehouse was converted into a mashing room with 15 new s/s washbacks.

Vatting & Bottling: New make for blends tankered to IH's HQ in Airdrie for filling and maturation; the remainder is filled into cask on-site and stored in one of the on-site WH's.

Capacity: 4.5-Mlpa per year (since Spring 2015)

Current Output: 4.1-Mlpa in 2017 (95% is tankered away for off-site cask entry and maturation)

Visitor Center/Tours: No; by appointment only (I just tried!) - OBs: 10, 25, Solera, Bradan Orach & Arranta Casks

Blending Role: 2% Single Malt, 98% Blends

Blend Partner: Inver House, Catto's, Hankey Bannister, Mac Arthur's, Heather Cream. 'Hankey Bannister Blended Scotch' is named after its founders Beaumont Hankey and Hugh Bannister. It's made from Speyside malt whiskies from all 5 of IHD's distilleries.

Parent-Owned Distilleries (5): Balblair, Balmenach, Knockdhu, Pulteney & Speyburn.

Parent-Owned Blends: Blairmhor BM, Catto's, Hankey Bannister, Inver House Green Plaid & MacArthur's.

Notations: (1) In 1897, the first malt distillery in Scotland to install a pneumatic drum malting system. Last used in 1967 and now listed for protection by Historic Scotland as the last remaining example. (2) This is one of the few distilleries in Scotland that still uses so-called 'worm tubs' to cool the vapors and condensed spirit from the running stills. This feature was once common, but not anymore. Balmenach, Benrinnes, Cragganmore, Dalwhinnie, Edradour, Glen Elgin, Glenkinchie, Mortlach, Oban, Old Pulteney, Royal Lochnagar, Speyburn, Talisker & Springbank. (3) Some locals still refer to the distillery as 'The Gibbet' because of its location near the ancient 'Cnock na Croiche' or 'Hill of the Gibbet'. The word 'gibbet' was originally synonymous with gallows, but in later use could also mean an upright post with a projecting arm from which the bodies of criminals were hung in chains after execution. (4) 2014 Upgrade: replacement of mashtun, 6 additional s/s washbacks & 2 additional stills thus increasing its capacity to 4-Mlpa, as a result of the £4.5 million investment. Speyburn's spirit is destined largely for blended Scotch whiskies.

Management Team: Distillery Manager: Bobby Anderson - Assistant Manager: Andy Fiske

Legal Name of Distillery: Inver House Distillers Ltd.

Owner (Parent): Inver House Distillers Ltd. (International Beverage Holdings Ltd.)

Distiller Licensee: Inver House Distillers Ltd. - Importer: 375 Park Avenue Spirits (Sazerac Company, Inc.)

Elevation: 83m MSL (272 feet above mean sea level)

ARRANTA: Inspired by the Gaelic word meaning 'intrepid' and 'daring,' Arranta Casks Single Malt is crafted using specially selected, first fill ex-bourbon casks, which help shape its pronounced and unique flavor profile. A limited release available exclusively in USA; now out-of-market and seemingly gone forever.

Malt Spec (Phenols): Unpeated (zero)

Cask: Bourbon (charred American White oak; 1st fill)

Age: NAS - Release Date: 2015 (USA)

Official Tasting Notes:

EYE: Rich and Golden

NOSE: Toffee, vanilla honey, coconut and spice

PALATE: Brimming toffee and vanilla flavors are followed by spice notes. Bold and full-bodied.

FINISH: Long-lasting finish comprised of spicy, citrus and honey notes.

AWARDS: Gold Medal @ International Spirits Challenge (2016); Top 100 Spirits of 2015 @ Wine Enthusiast; 94 Points / Excellent, Highly Recommended & Great Value @ Ultimate Spirits Challenge (2017).

Whisky #2 **KILKERRAN** Single Malt / 12-year (2017 Release) / 46% ABV / NCF / OB: Glengyle Dist / Dist Owner: Mitchell's Glengyle Ltd. (J. & A. Mitchell & Co., Ltd./Hedley Wright) / Campbeltown Region



OFFICIAL TASTING NOTES:

Age: 12-years-old

Malt Spec: 12-ppm

Casks: 70% matured in ex-bourbon barrels and 30% in sherry casks.

EYE: Bright amber; some thickness.

NOSE: Oak notes are dominant, followed by toasted marshmallows and dried fruit pudding, as well as cherries, marzipan and a hint of peat.

PALATE: Initially fruity with citrus notes and orange peel, then: vanilla, butterscotch, honeycomb and digestive biscuits can all be tasted and enjoyed.

FINISH: Velvet and smooth with lemon meringue, to conclude, there's an oiliness and a saltiness you'd expect from a Campbeltown dram.

Comments: "The bourbon/sherry balance is as perfect as it gets. Oh, my word! The pepper on the nose and the palate is just sublime. Could it be the best quality whisky value on the market at £35?"

Awards: Recommended @ Whisky Magazine (2017): its experts awarded it 92-points (Chris Goodrum) & 90-points (Joel Harris).

Glengyle Distillery
Glengyle Street, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6EX
SCOTLAND

Pronunciation: 'Glen Gahj' - SWA Whisky Map Location: #9

Translation: *Glengyle* is 'Hill of warning' whereas 'Kilkerran' is derived from the Gaelic *Ceann Loch Cille Chiarain*, the name of Saint Kerran's original religious settlement which is where Campbeltown now stands. Kilkerran is thought to be a suitable name for a new Campbeltown malt since it was unusual for the old Campbeltown distilleries to be called after a Glen, a custom (with a few exceptions) associated with Speyside distilleries.

Region (District): Campbeltown (there are no designated districts for the small Campbeltown region)

Neighbors: Springbank & Glen Scotia

Established: 1872 (closed in 1925); Purchased by J&A Mitchell Ltd./Hedley G. Wright in November 2000.

Date of First Distillation (re-opening): March 2004

Founder: William Mitchell. Owner Hedley G. Wright (age 85) is William Mitchell's great-great nephew.

Status: Active License/Producing

Location: Situated in the northern end of Loch Katrine, the birthplace of Rob Roy, on the southern end of the narrow Kintyre peninsula in southwest Scotland. Born 'Robert MacGregor' (1671-1734), Rob Roy was a Highland freebooter known as the Scottish Robin Hood who was made immortal by Sir Walter Scott's book, 'Rob Roy'.

House Style: Waxy, lightly smoky nose with hints of leather. Heavier than SB, oily, meaty, sweet with cereal notes.

Water Source: Crosshills Loch (Production & Cooling)

Heat Source: Central boiler provides steam for its indirectly-fired stills (steam kettles and coils)

Barley: Golden Promise, Optic & Chalice

Malt Spec (Phenols): 12-ppm (from Springbank Distillery maltings); Whiskypedia lists 8-10 ppm.

Gristmill: 1 Porteus Malt Mill (rated @ 1.5-tons per hour)

Mashing Equipment: 1 s/s semi-Lauter Forsyth tun (3.75-ton)

Yeast: AB Mauri's Pinnacle 'M' Dry Distiller's Yeast (Cereform Ltd and Associated British Foods plc dba AB Mauri)

Washbacks: 4 Boatskin larch WBs @ 30,000-L (charged @ 22k-30k L) - Fermentation: 72 to 110 hours
2 Pot Stills: 1 Wash @ 18,000-L (charged @ 11,000-L), 1 Spirit @ 15,000-L (charged @ 10,800-L); purchased from Ben Wyvis Distillery and re-shaped by whisky legend Frank McHardy, SB's now retired Production Director.)

Casks: Bourbon & Sherry (1st & Refill) - Condensers: 2 conventional shell-and-tube condensers

Warehouse: Springbank's bonded WHs - New Make: 68-69% ABV; reduced with R/O water to 63.5% ABV.

Vatting & Bottling: Springbank bottling hall

Capacity: 750,000-Lpa (only if they worked 24/7 for 48-50 weeks a year)

Current Production: 60,000-Litres (2017)

Visitor Center/Tours: Must be booked at Cadenhead's Shop (owned/operated by Springbank)

OBs: Kilkerran's core 12-yr single malt was launched in 2016. Special Releases: triple distilled; peated; wine cask. Blending Role: 90% Single Malt, 10% Blends - Sister Distillery: Springbank Distillery

Notations: (1) In November 2000, Glengyle distillery was bought by the great-great nephew of William Mitchell, Hedley Wright, owner of J&A Mitchell & Co Ltd dba Springbank Distillery. Reconstruction of the distillery started in 2001. The stills, spirit safe and spirit receiver were purchased from the Ben Wyvis distillery and a used malt mill was bought from the Craigellachie Distillery. The other equipment (e.g., mash tun, washbacks) were purchased new. The distillery was inaugurated on March 25, 2004 and the first spirit was distilled in 2004.

(2) Glengyle Distillery was closed from 1925 to 2004 (79-years). (3) Every 8-weeks, SB's entire production crew moves over too Glengyle to work that distillery for 2 weeks. MASC's tour goes to both distilleries. They are 150m apart and definitely 2 separate distilleries albeit Glengyle is a part-time op manned by SB's production staff. (4) *Did you know?* The UK government will not accept the return of a distilling license until stillhouse roof has been removed. (5) In order for the still's copper to adequately rejuvenate (thereby providing its full purification function) between runs, a still must be cooled for at least 2 hours or less if the have a still cooling unit. Don't run them hot!

Management Team: Distillery Manager: Gavin McLachlan - Retail Shop Mgr: Janet Blair

Sales Managers: Mairi Paterson, Melanie Stanger & David Allen - Production Director Emeritus: Frank McHardy

Sales & Marketing Director: Ranald Watson - Chairman & CEO: Hedley G. Wright

Legal Name of Distillery: Mitchell's Glengyle Ltd.

Owner (Parent): J. & A. Mitchell and Co., Ltd. (Hedley Wright, since 2000)

Distiller Licensee: J. & A. Mitchell and Co., Ltd.

U.S. Importer: Pacific Edge Wine & Spirits, Los Angeles, CA (as of June 1, 2012)

Elevation: 8m MSL (26 feet above mean sea level)

Whisky #3 **BEN NEVIS** Single Malt / 'McDonald's' / 46% ABV / NCF / OB / Dist Owner: The Nikka Whisky Distilling Co. Ltd. (Asahi Breweries, Ltd./Asahi Group Holdings, Ltd.) / Highland (Western)



Ben Nevis Distillery (Port William) Ltd.
Lochy Bridge, Fort William, Inverness-shire PH33 6TJ
SCOTLAND

Pronunciation: ben NE-vis - SWA Whisky Map Location: #17

Translation: 'Malicious mountain'

Slogan: "Scotland's Finest" "The perfect dram"

Region (District): Highlands (Western) - Neighbors: Glenloch, Oban & Ardnamurchan

Established: 1825

Founder: John McDonald aka 'Long John', the 6' 4" (193-cm) descendant of the ruler of the western Scottish kingdom of Argyll. In 1692, 38 McDonalds, including a lot of women and children, were slaughtered by the infamous Campbells on behalf of the English King William, Prince of Orange.

Status: Active/Producing

Location: Nestled at the foot of Ben Nevis, Britain's highest mountain, Ben Nevis, 4,409-feet MSL (1,344-m) in the western Highlands. If you visit Oban, you'll pass BN; stop there! House Style: Fairly full, nutty and chocolatey. (It is an absolute stunner!)

Water Source: Allt a' Mhuilinn Burn (Mill Burn) via *Coire Leis* and *Coire Na Ciste* lochs. From 230m piped to distillery (for Production); from 100m (for Cooling).

Barley: Optic and Chalice from Bairds of Inverness

Malt Spec (Phenols): 0-ppm is standard; some 3-5 ppm (lightly peated)

Gristmill: 1 twin-roller Porteus mill

Mashing Equipment: 1 full-Lauter mashtun (8.5-ton)

8 Washbacks: 6 s/s @ 50,000-L + 2 OR pine. 27,276-L of wash @ 8% ABV.

Yeast: Combo of 2 dry yeast strains: 'Kerry Distillers MX' (faster acting) and 'Kerry Distillers M' (slower acting). 75-kg of MX is used to start @ 21°C.

Fermentation: 48-hours in both wooden and steel washbacks.

4 Pot Stills: 2 Wash @ 25,000-L (charged 21,000-L); 2 Spirit @ 20,000-L (charged 12,500-L)

Runs: Wash @ 4-hours; Spirit @ 6.5 hours (1 foreshots, 4 middle cut & 1.5 feints)

Average Strength: 67% ABV

Entry Strength: 63.5% ABV

Casks: Oloroso sherry butts (European & American oak) & Bourbon barrels/HH (refill).

Warehouse: 10 bonded dunnage warehouses

Blending & Bottling: Indie bottlers (Dalmore, Tobermory & Glen Elgin SM and Invergordon SG are used in Glencoe & Dew of Ben Nevis)

Capacity: 2.0-Mlpa per year

Current Output: 2.0-Mlpa (2017; including 30,000-L of heavily peat @ 35+ ppm). Up to 50% of BN's production (*Coire Leis spirit*) is bulk shipped to Japan for the Nikka Black blend.

Owner (Parent): The Nikka Whisky Distilling Co. Ltd. (Asahi Breweries Ltd.)

Visitor Center/Tours: Yes

OBs: 10-year, McDonald's and 30-year

Blending Role (Malt production): 30% Single Malt; 70% Blends

Blend Partner: Glencoe & Dew of Ben Nevis (Blue Label)

Sister Distillery: N/A (Ben Nevis has an on-site column still operation)

Notations: a *burn* is a creek or stream; a *lade* is a man-made canal; a *ben* is a mountain; a *loch* is a lake; a *firth* is an estuary (river) or lake with inlet to the sea; a *dram* is a shot of whisky.

Management Team:

Distillery Manager: Colin Ross, Managing Director (Whisky Magazine HOF, 2015 inductee)

Visitor Centre Manager: John Carmichael

Legal Name of Distillery: Ben Nevis Distillery (Port William) Ltd.

Owner (Parent): Nikka Whisky Distilling Co. Ltd. (Asahi Group Holdings, Ltd.)

Distiller Licensee: Ben Nevis Distillery (Port William) Ltd.

U.S. Importer: None

Elevation: 10m MSL (33 feet above mean sea level)

A special edition whisky from Ben Nevis to celebrate its 185th anniversary. An attempt at recreating Long John McDonald's Traditional Ben Nevis (lightly peated) which was a popular dram in the 1880s.

TASTING NOTES - Hartist: Age: NAS (5+ yrs)

Casks: Ex-Bourbon barrels and hogsheads.

Malt Spec: 12-14 ppm - Style: Moderately peated as was whisky of the late 19th century. Nose: A cocktail of ripe fruit (peaches, apricots), citrus fruits (especially oranges), of exotic fruits (papaya), summer fruits (sherry cask) and algae butter.

PALATE: Mouth thick, creamy, full-bodied and spicy with a dominant nuts-citrus and one (other than that of Islay) oak-y note.

FINISH: Fairly long and scented with a few hints of sour candy, a hint of zest and sea spray.

AWARDS: Gold Medal @ Liquid Gold / Jim Murray's Whisky Bible (2014); Gold Medal & Outstanding @ IWSC (2012).

Whisky #4 **FETTERCAIRN** Single Malt / 1996 Vintage (19-yr) / CS 57.4% ABV / NCF / SC# 91131 (474 Bottles) / IB: Chieftain's Choice (Ian Macleod Distillers) / Dist Owner: Whyte & Mackay (Emperador) / HL (Eastern)



The label declares it to be Oloroso Sherry Cask 'Finished', thus suggesting that it was initially matured in another cask (ex-Bourbon puncheon?) for up to 19-years and then re-racked into an Oloroso Sherry butt for an unknown period of time. Whether it was conventionally aged for 19-yr in a sherry butt or merely finished in a sherry butt for months or years, we will determine by its taste.

Malt Spec: 0-ppm (unpeated).

Cask(s): Unknown: Matured entirely in single Oloroso sherry cask -or- Bourbon puncheon aged and sherry butt finished.

TASTING NOTES - DivingForPearl.com:

Fettercairn 1996 Vint. 19-yr (1996-2015) Oloroso Sherry Butt @ 57.4% ABV

NOSE: Insane. Coming across as if it's almost peated, the nose also shows hints of floral soap, peppery sulphur, red Starburst candies, toffee pudding, caramel chews, and Loch Lomond-style industrial funk. With water, there's a rumble of peat and sulphur. Then dark chocolate, toffee, newspaper ink, and cheap cigars. It smells old and musty. The dirtiest sherry imaginable. Kristen's notes on the nose! Smoke, dried apricots, and marshmallows. **PALATE:** "Wow," my notes read. Big chocolatey sherriness meets a bitter herbal liqueur. Almond torte, stewed prunes, and hot pepper sauce. A bit of an industrial edge makes the whole thing feel like GlenDronach-meets-Springbank. With water, it gets nuttier and more peppery, with no sweetness to be found. Maybe some hints of dried cherries and prunes. It's earthy and herbal as hell. **FINISH:** Massive. Some of the nose's dusty sulphur meets up with bitter dark chocolate, prunes, and toasted oak. It's almost smoky. With water, it gets a little drying and bitter. Some dried fruits and dirt. Gorgeous dirt. **RATING:** 89/100

Fettercairn Distillery (*I love Fettercairn and buy every bottle that I find... It's distinctively delicious.*)
Fettercairn, Laurencekirk, Kincardineshire AB30 1YB
SCOTLAND

Pronunciation: fetter-CAIRN - SWA Whisky Map Location: #24

Translation: 'Foot of the mountain' 'Wooded slope'

Region (District): Highland (Eastern)

Neighbors: Glencadam, Glenesk, and Glenury Royal.

Established: 1824 - Founder: Sir Alexander Ramsay, owner of Fasque Estate, founded the distillery in 1824 to replace an earlier distillery of the same name just 2-miles away. It was licensed to and operated by James Stewart & Company from 1825 to 1830. At that time, Ramsay sold the estate and distillery to Sir John Gladstone, father of England's celebrated Prime Minister William Ewart Gladstone. (That was of great significance as his family's ownership of Fettercairn made PM Gladstone intimately aware of the governmental regulation on malt distilleries.) Fettercairn continued to be owned by the Gladstone family until 1939, more than a century.

Status: Active/Producing

Location: Sits at the foot of the Grampian mountains in the village of Fettercairn on the east coast of Scotland. It's near Laurencekirk and the river North Esk which soon flows into the sea at Montrose. -

House Style: Earthy, sulphur-y and nutty.

Distinction: "I would tell consumers to not judge the whiskies we produce at Fettercairn based on other people's opinions. I would rather that they try it for themselves and realize what a wonderful spirit Fettercairn is. It is a distillery which has been a sleeping giant and it is ready to be woken up and enjoyed throughout the world. Fettercairn whisky is special in my opinion as we have stuck to traditional methods when it comes to crafting our whisky. We have been utilizing the same water source for the past 193 years (since 1824) and all the staff we have had working at the distillery are passionate about their jobs and the whiskies that we produce." Stewart Walker, Distillery Manager

Water Source: 2 Springs in the Cairngorm Mountains (for production and cooling).

Barley: Optic/Braemar/Concerto/Propino.

Malt Spec (Phenols): 10% of production is heavy peated 55-ppm (Since 2005, but none in 2013-16).

Gristmill: 1 Bobby Malt Mill - Grind: 10% flour, 70% grist and 20% husks

Mashtun: 1 traditional cast iron Lauter tun with a copper dome (4.6-tons of grist per mash)

Washbacks: 8 Douglas fir WBs @ 26,000-L - Yeast: Liquid yeast - Fermentation: 60 hours

Pot Stills: 2 Wash @ 13,000-L, 2 Spirit @ 11,500 (#1) & 13,500L (#2); Spirit stills have 'irrigator ring' (for duration of 'middle cut & fore shot' run, fresh cold water is trickled down the sides, collected at the base, chilled and re-circulated to the top) to increase reflux and produce a purer distillate.

Condensers: Copper - Middle Cut: 70% to 60% ABV - Entry Strength: 63.5% ABV

Casks: Bourbon & Sherry, mainly refill - Warehouses: 14 on-site dunnage WHs (32,000 casks).

Blending: At Invergordon (northern highlands) and Leith (metro Edinburgh).

Bottling: W&M bottling plants at Fettercairn, Grangemouth Bond (near Falkirk) or Leith Bond.

Capacity: 3.2-Mlpa - Current Output: 2.2-Mlpa (2017); produced 200,000-L @ 55-ppm in 2011-12.

Visitor Center/Tours: Yes - QBs: Fior; Limited Editions of aged whiskies 24, 30 & 40 yo; Single cask expressions (the current one being the first 55-ppm) is available only at Visitor Center.

Blending Role: 4% Single Malt, 96% Blends

Blend Partner: Unknown (David Doig, now retired Distillery Manager, couldn't tell me)

Parent-Owned Distilleries: Dalmore (The), Fettercairn, Jura, Tamnavulin & Invergordon Grain.

Parent-Owned Blends: Cluny, Glen Salen, John Barr, Mackinlay's, Whyte & Mackay & Glayva Liqueur.

Former Names: Nethermill Distillery

Notations: (1) "Fettercairn 1824" and "Old Fettercairn" denote single malt expressions whereas "Fettercairn" name referred to a blended Scotch whisky. (2) Whyte & Mackay execs/employees are delighted with the Emperador ownership. (3) Lightly-peated Fior is currently its only official bottling.

Management Team:

Master Blender: Richard Paterson (widely held as the industry's top blender)

Distillery Manager: Stewart Walker (promoted in 2015) who has worked at Fettercairn since 1989.

Legal Name of Distillery: Fettercairn Distillery

Distiller Licensee: Whyte & Mackay Distillers Ltd.

Owner (Parent): Whyte & Mackay Ltd. (Emperador Inc./AGI, since 2014)

U.S. Importer: Whyte & Mackay Americas Limited, LLC

Elevation: 74m MSL (243 feet above mean sea level)

Whisky #5 **GLEN GARIOCH** Single Malt / 15-year / 'Sherry Cask Matured' / CS 53.7% ABV / NCF / OB / Dist Owner: Beam Suntory UK Ltd. (Suntory Holdings Ltd.) / Highland (Eastern)



Glengarioch Distillery (*Some say, Glengarioch is one word for the distillery; 2 words for its whisky*)
Distillery Road, Old Meldrum, Aberdeenshire AB51 0ES
SCOTLAND

SWA Whisky Map Location: #27 - Pronunciation: 'Glen GEAR-ee' in the ancient *Doric* dialect of Aberdeenshire; it's Pict rather than Scottish Gaelic. The Picts were a tribal confederation of peoples who lived in what is today northeastern Scotland during the Late Iron Age and Early Medieval periods. They are thought to have been ethnolinguistically Celtic. Where they lived and what their culture was like can be inferred from the geographical distribution of brochs, Brittonic place name elements, and Pictish stones. Picts are attested to in written records from before the Roman conquest of Britain to the 10th century, when they are thought to have merged with the Gaels. They lived to the north of the rivers Forth and Clyde, and spoke the now-extinct Pictish language, which is thought to have been closely related to the Celtic Brittonic language spoken by the Britons who lived to the south of them. Picts are assumed to have been the descendants of the Caledonii and other tribes that were mentioned by Roman historians or on the world map of Ptolemy. Pictland, also called Pictavia by some sources, gradually merged with the Gaelic kingdom of Dál Riata to form the Kingdom of Alba (Scotland). Alba then expanded, absorbing the Brittonic kingdom of Strathclyde and Northumbrian Lothian, and by the 11th century the Pictish identity had been subsumed into the "Scots" amalgamation of peoples. It has been proposed that they called themselves *Albidosi*, a name found in the *Chronicle of the Kings of Alba* during the reign of Máel Coluim mac Domnaill, but this idea has been disputed.

Translation: 'Valley of the Garioch' - Slogan: "From the granary of Aberdeenshire"

Region (District): Highlands (Eastern)

Neighbors: Ardmore, Glendronach, Glenugie

Established: 1797 (Recent documents support a 1785 dating as there appears to have been a working distillery there.)

Founder: John and Alexander Manson, as per its official label, although others insist on Thomas Simpson.

Status: Active/Producing

Location: The granite distillery of Glengarioch is found outside Aberdeen in the farming town of Old Meldrum. The Aberdeenshire farming landscape is more rolling agricultural fields and villages than mountains, crags and heather however. But that's not to decry the beauty and atmosphere of this part of Scotland as the village of Oldmeldrum and the surrounding countryside are stunning. The valley is called as the 'Granary of Aberdeenshire' yielding perhaps the highest quality barley in Scotland and explaining why a distillery at this site makes sense. It's the most easterly distillery.

House Style: A light spiciness with some softer floral, fruity flavors. GG whisky is light clean malt that has some spice and body. Not as light as some of the Speysiders and without the saltiness of coastal malts and the heavier peaty style of Island malts. It does, however, have its own niche within the Morrison Bowmore group that is Bowmore, Auchentoshan and Glengarioch. Bowmore's more heavily peated Islay character and Auchentoshan's light Lowland style are contrasted by Glen Garioch's spicy gingeriness.

Water Source: *Process:* Coutens Spring - *Cooling:* Coutens Spring and Meldrum Burn

Barley: Optic (430-litres of sugar per ton) is its current strain of its barley. The malted barley intended for whisky production is 'cross-bred' to build-up its yield and consistency (rate of germination, nitrogen level and fungus/insect/disease resistance) before it is presented as a suitable varietal. Such cross-breeding can take 7-8 years in order to achieve the required characteristics. Once that is demonstrated and the barley is mass produced for its end-users, it may have a life of as little as 8-10 years before the qualities begin to fade and the strain is dropped. Typically, the replacement variety affords a higher yield in terms of litres of sugar per ton. Right now, Concerto is the most popular barley variety for the Scottish distillers and Optic is second.

Malt Spec (Phenols): 0-ppm (unpeated) from Simpson's of Berwick-upon-Tweed (Until 1998, 8-10 ppm)

Peat Source: New Pitsligo Moss - Gristmill: 1 Porteus Malt Mill - Mashing Equipment: 1 s/s full-Lauter tun (4.4 ton)

Washbacks: 8 s/s WBs @ 21,000-L (8% ABV) - Fermentation: 48-hours - Yeast: 21-kg dry Anchor Distillers Yeast

3 Pot Stills: 1 Wash @ 25,000-L (charged @ 21,500-L), Spirit @ 11,000-L (charged @ 9,500-L); 8-hr cycle. A second spirit still @ 12,000-L is no longer used. - Middle Cut: 72.5% to 69% ABV (narrow) - Casks: Bourbon & Sherry (refill)

Filling Station: Its distillate is tankered to Glasgow for filling and trucked back to the distillery for maturation.

Warehouse: 4 dunnage WHs (12k casks) - Vatting & Bottling: BS facility in Spring Burn (metro Glasgow)

Capacity: 1.37-Mlpa per year - Output: 450,000-L (2017); currently working a 5-day week (under-utilized).

Visitor Center/Tours: Yes - OBs: Founder's Reserve & 12-yr

Blending Role: 100% Single Malt; 0% Blends - Blend Partner: Formerly VAT-69 & Rob Roy

Distilleries Owned (14): Suntory, Hakushu & Chita (JP); Ardmore, Auchentoshan, Bowmore, Laphroaig & Glengarioch (SC); Cooley & Kilbeggan (IR); Maker's Mark & Jim Beam (US); Alberta Distillers & Canadian Club (CN). Parent-Owned Other Brands/Blends: Teacher's HL Cream (SC); Greenore, Tyr Connell, Kilbeggan & Connemara (IR); Chita, Hibiki & Kakubin (JP); Jim Beam, Basil Hayden, Knob Creek, Bakers, Bookers, Maker's Mark (US); Canadian Club (CN).

Notations: There is no room for expansion and at one-time closure was considered. However, its whisky is so good, Morrison Bowmore decided to invest the funds required to bring its kit up to governmental environment compliance.

Management Team: Distillery Manager: Kenny Grant - Global Master of Whisky: Iain McCallum (loves Glen Garioch)

Legal Name of Distillery: Glengarioch Distillers Ltd. - Owner (Parent): Beam Suntory UK Ltd. (Suntory Holdings Ltd.)

Distiller Licensee: Morrison's Glengarioch Distillery Ltd. - U.S. Importer: Beam Suntory Inc.

Elevation: 102m MSL (335 feet above mean sea level)

This is a 1999 vintage (15-year) dram in Glen Garioch's vintage series which was released in 2013. Malt Spec: 0-ppm (unpeated). Casks: Matured entirely in ex-Oloroso sherry casks of toasted Spanish red oak and bottled at its cask strength of 53.7% ABV.

TASTING NOTES - Whisky Exchange:

NOSE: Heavy and sweet - stolen with extra raisins, rich PX sherry, heavy fruitcake, cinnamon and clove, black licorice and a background of leather and balsamic sourness. There is a touch of struck match, but it adds to the experience rather than detracts. PALATE: Bitter char and stewed plums to start, with apple skin tannins, Eccles cakes insides, cloves, malt loaf, bitter black licorice and a bit of damp wood. FINISH: Licorice, menthol hints, damp bark, forest floor rancio, dried apple and lingering fruit cake with burnt raisins. Comment: A great heavily sherried dram, with orchard fruit pushing past the sherry influence, without reducing it any.

Whisky #6 **SPRINGBANK** Single Malt / 'Longrow' (2017 Release) / NAS / 46% ABV / NCF / OB / Dist Owner: J. & A. Mitchell & Co., Ltd. (Hedley Wright) / Campbeltown Region



Springbank Distillers Ltd.
85 Longrow, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6ET
SCOTLAND

Pronunciation: 'SPRING-bank' - SWA Whisky Map Location: #11

Translation: 'From the fact that there is a spring on a bank'

Slogan: Unknown (It is *the* most traditional distillery in Scotland)

Region (District): Campbeltown (Argyll) - Neighbors: Glengyle and Glen Scotia

Established: 1828 - Founder: The Mitchell family which continues to own/operate it.

Status: Active/Producing

House Style: Fruity, lightly peaty with coconut notes and a slightly oily texture.

Location: On the southern tip of the narrow Kintyre peninsula in SW Scotland.

Water Source: Crosshill Loch (Production & Cooling)

Barley: Golden Promise, Optic & Chalice

Floor Maltings: Springbank is the only distillery that produces 100% of its malt requirement (both peated and unpeated) on-site at the rate of 25-tons per batch, 200-tons per season. A few distilleries (Bowmore, Balvenie, Laphroaig, Highland Park, Glen Ord, and Kilchoman) produce a portion of their malt requirement on-site.

Peat Source: Springbank cut its own peat (50-tons a year) from Machrihanish bog in Campbeltown. ≥ 10% of Scotland is covered by 'blanket bogs' (especially western Scotland and its islands) and 1% by 'basin bogs'. There's no scientific analysis available on Machrihanish peat, but as it's from a blanket bog located near the sea in the western Scotland, it probably is closer to the Islay and Orkney peats than the mainland peat.

Malt Spec (Phenols): *Springbank* (Dx2.5) @ 12-ppm, *Longrow* (Dx2) @ 50-60 ppm; *Hazelburn* (Dx3) @ 0-ppm. *SB* is peat dried 6-hrs and hot air dried 18-24 hrs; *LG* is peat-dried up to 48-hrs and then hot air-dried as needed to reduce its moisture level to 4%.

Gristmill: 1 Porteus Malt Mill (4-roller aka Twin-roller)

Mashtun: 1 cast iron tradition MT (3.64-tons; charged @ 2.55-tons)

Washbacks: 6 Scandinavian boatskin larch WBs @ 20,000-L - Fermentation: 72-100 hrs.

3 Pot Stills: 1 Wash @ 11,000-L (charged @ 10,000-L), 2 Spirit @ 7,500/8,000-L (6,000-L)

Condensers: Spirit Still #1: Worm tub; Stills #2 and #3: Shell-and-tube condensers.

Casks: Ex-Bourbon and ex-Sherry (80% 1st fill & only 20% refill)

Warehouse: 6 on-site (4 Dunnage & 2 Racked @ 7 levels high)

Vatting & Bottling: On-site bottling hall

Capacity: 750,000-Lpa - Current Output: 150,000-Lpa (2018)

Visitor Center: At the Cadenhead Retail shop, VC & Tasting Room

OBs: Springbank 10, 15, 18 and 25 as well as Longrow and Hazelburn

Blending Role: 70% Single Malt, 30% Blends

Blend Partner: Campbeltown Loch, Mitchell & Glen Extra - Sister Distillery: Glengyle

Single Malt Production Plan (2018): 80% Springbank, 10% Longrow & 10% Hazelburn

Former Names: Longrow Street Dist. (1828-1829); Longrow Street Dist. was next to SB.

Management Team: *Distillery Manager:* Gavin McLachlan - *Retail Shop Mgr:* Janet Blair

Sales Mgrs: Mairi Paterson, Melanie Stanger & David Allen - *Prod Dir Emeritus:* Frank McHardy

Sales & Marketing Director: Randal Watson - *Chairman & CEO:* Hedley G. Wright

Legal Name of Distillery: Springbank Distillers Ltd.

Owner (Parent): J. & A. Mitchell & Co. Ltd. (Hedley G. Wright)

Distiller Licensee: J. & A. Mitchell & Co. Ltd.

U.S. Importer: Pacific Edge Wine & Spirits, Los Angeles, CA (since June 1, 2012)

Elevation: 6.5m MSL (21 feet above mean sea level)

TASTING NOTES by Master of

Malt: Age: 6-14 year whiskies.
Cask: A combination of Sherry, Port, Bourbon & Rum casks.
Malt Spec: 50-60 ppm (heavily peated). Style: Incredibly rich and creamy well-balanced digestif. EYE: Bright old gold.
NOSE: Wonderful bouquet features aromas of sawdust, dry cheese, lanolin, wax paper, peat-reek, chalk, kippers, new Band-Aid, medicine chest and dried tobacco leaf. PALATE: Palate entry offers flavors of tobacco smoke, smoked fish, honey and grain; mid-palate adds tangy flavors of spiced rum, vanilla cake frosting, cocoa butter, chocolate and sweet oak. FINISH: Vivid tastes of grain, cheese, dried fruit and brown sugar. AWARDS: 96-100 points/Best Buy @ Wine Enthusiast (2009).

Whisky #7 **PORT CHARLOTTE** Single Malt / 'Scottish Barley' (Heavily Peated range) / NAS / 50% ABV / NCF / OB: Bruichladdich Dist / Dist Owner: Rémy Cointreau (E. Rémy Martin & Co., S.A.) / Islay (West Shore)



Peated to a heavyweight 40-ppm, Port Charlotte Scottish Barley is a multi-vintage Cuvee crafted from casks selected by head distiller Adam Hannett. This remarkable single malt, originally created by the legendary distiller Jim McEwan, represents a union between the classic floral elegance of Bruichladdich and heavy peat. It is a testament to our belief that provenance matters. Trickle distilled from 100% Scottish Barley, the spirit gently matures in our Islay lochside warehouses before being bottled here at the distillery using Islay spring water for reduction to a hefty 50% ABV; non-chillfiltered and no coloration. **EYE:** Gilded lily. **NOSE:** Opening with assertive waves of peat smoke and Atlantic squall, the olfactory system is on high alert in anticipation of some major sensory excitement. A swell of aromatics floods the senses with notes of iodine, salty canvas, crushed sea shells, charred oak staves, black pepper, paprika and leather tobacco pouches. The second wave brings vanilla, figs and soft plump dates, marinated pear, freshly milled malt, dark sweet toffee and cracked walnuts. It's smoky. It's smoldering. It's sensuous. Just close your eyes and inhale long and deep. This is aromatic awesomeness. **PALATE:** Wow! Waves of the sweetest, smoothest, warmest smokiest spirit that you have ever experienced flood onto the palate like the Atlantic surf on Saligo Bay. It is potent, focused and its flavors explode brilliantly onto the palate. Full of depth and complexity, the smoky sweetness of the barley contrasts beautifully with the marine freshness of the spirit and the richness of toffee and vanilla. The complexity is enhanced further with a citrus twist and then mellow oak tempers the fire. Once the taste buds adjust to what is happening, they rejoice in the company and pleasure of this young Celt. **FINISH:** It's long and heart-warming, arousing feelings of pride and passion. It brings courage and strength, honesty and faith to your very soul. **Comments:** It cries "freedom". You're in a good place: envy no man. You feel alive and ready for whatever lies ahead, knowing that the true spirit of Islay is with you.

Bruichladdich Distillery
Rhinn's Peninsular, Islay, Argyll PA49 7UN
SCOTLAND

Pronunciation: Brook-LAD-dee - [SWA Whisky Map Location](#): #3

Translation: 'The bank (slope) of the Shore' or 'A rocky leeward shore' (which many ships learned to be a hazard to navigation).

Slogan: "The Sophisticated Islay Malt"

Region (District): Islay (Loch Indaal or West Shore)

Neighbors: Kilchoman & Bowmore - **Established:** 1881 (Barrett Harvey)

Status: Active/Producing - **Location:** Along the shores of Loch Indaal in western Islay; it's the most westerly distillery in Scotland.

House Style: The traditional non-peaty Bruichladdich is light to medium-bodied, with a fruity and salty character.

Water Source: A spring at Octomore farm (Process water); Bruichladdich burn (Cooling water).

Barley: Optic and organic Chalice (Scottish barley from Bairds Maltings of Inverness)

Malt Spec (Phenols): 0-ppm (unpeated) in the case of Bruichladdich; PC is 40-ppm.

Gristmill: 1 (ancient) twin-roller Boby Mill (Robert Boby Ltd.)

Mashing Equipment: 1 traditional cast iron rakes and ploughs mash-tun (open top; 7-ton; installed in 1881... yes, 137 years ago.)

Washbacks: 6 Oregon pine washbacks (charged @ 36,000-L)

Yeast: Quest yeast to start; Mauri added 4-hours later.

Fermentation: 60 hrs (short); 106.5 hrs (long)

4 Pot Stills: 2 Wash @ 17,275-L, 2 Spirit @ 12,274-L

Casks: 65% first-fill Bourbon barrels; 25% first-fill Sherry hogsheads; 10% exotic casks

Warehouse: 12 WH's; 8 on-site WH's (7 dunnage + 1 racked) & 4 WH's at Port Charlotte (all dunnage)

Vatting & Bottling: On-site (only bottling plant on Islay)

Capacity: 1.5-Mlpa per year - **Current Output:** 1.3-Mlpa (2017)

Visitor Center/Tours: Yes - **OBs:** 60% Bruichladdich (unpeated/0-ppm); 30% Port Charlotte (heavily peated @ circa 40-ppm); and 10% Octomore (ultra-heavily peated @ 80 to more than 200-ppm).

Blending Role: 10% Blends, 90% Single Malt

Blend Partner: Deemed to be proprietary information.

Parent-owned Brands: St. Rémy & Louis XIII cognac, Cointreau liqueur, Bruichladdich whisky, Murray McDavid whisky, Domaine des Hautes Glaces whisky, Mount Gay rum, Octomore whisky, Passoã liqueur, Port Charlotte whisky, Bols genever & liqueur, Metaxa liqueur, and The Botanist gin.

Parent-owned Distilleries: St. Rémy & Domaine des Hautes Glaces (France), Bruichladdich (Scotland), Mount Gay Rum (Barbados), Bols Royal (Netherlands) & Westland (USA).

Management: *Distillery Manager:* Duncan McGillivray - *Head Distiller:* Adam Hannett

Brand Ambassador: Eric Beindorff

Rémy's Whisky Business Unit: Simon Coughlin, Divisional CEO

CEO: Valerie Chapoulaud-Floquet - **Chairman:** Marc Hériard Dubreuil

Legal Name of Distillery: Bruichladdich Distillery Co. Ltd.

Distiller Licensee: Rémy Cointreau UK Ltd.

Owner (Parent): Rémy Cointreau SA (E. Rémy Martin & Co., S.A.) which paid £58m (\$77.3m) for Bruichladdich/MMCD in July 2012.

US Importer: Rémy Cointreau USA, Inc. (fka Rémy Amérique, Inc.)

Elevation: 8m MSL (26 feet above mean sea level)