

"A Taste of the Scotland"

November 27, 2020 (Friday) @ 7:00 PM - Single Malt Tasting & Heavy Bites - \$45 Event Fee

Landmark Diner (Buckhead), 3652 Roswell Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30305 - Ph: (404) 816-9090

Pay Online: <https://scotchclub.com/event/LandmarkBhNov27/> or Pay at the Door

Whisky #1

GLENCADAM Single Malt / 'Origin 1825' / NAS / 40% ABV / OB / Dist Owner: Angus Dundee Distillers Plc / Highland Region (Eastern District)



Glencadam Distillery
Smithfield Road, Brechin, Angus DD9 7PA
SCOTLAND

Pronunciation: 'glen-KA-dam' & 'BREE-kin' - SWA Whisky Map Location: #25

Translation: "The glen of the wild goose"- Glencadam's name comes from the area known as 'the Tenements of Caldhome' which were plots allotted to the burgers of Brechin for food production.

Slogan: "Fine malt from the ancient Kingdom of Angus"

Region (District): Highlands (Eastern); an area between Aberdeen and Dundee

Neighbors: Fettercairn and now demolished Glenesk, Lochside and North Port distilleries

Established: 1825

Founder: George Cooper, owner of the neighboring Cadam Estate. The records reveal that Mr. Cooper sold the distillery to David Scott in 1827 and that he operated it until 1837.

Status: Active/Producing

Location: Glencadam is situated east of the ancient Highland city of Brechin next to Glebe Park (home of the Brechin City football team) and 200 yards from the old North Port distillery site. Glencadam, currently the only distillery in the Angus region, was opened just one year after large-scale distilling was legalized. Locals also refer to the area as 'Tayside'. It's half mile from the headwaters of River Esk. Glencadam and Fettercairn are the only distilleries between the major cities of Aberdeen and Dundee.

House Style: Digestif. A creamy dram, with raspberries, strawberries and nuts often mentioned in tasting notes (Royal Mile). Creamy, with a suggestion of berry fruits. With dessert, or after dinner (LoveScotch.com).

Water Source: Process Water: Soft spring water from The Moorans (at 8½ miles, it's perhaps the longest water supply for distilling purposes of any Scottish distillery) is drawn from Loch Lee. Cooling Water: Loch Lee; supplemented by The Barry Burn (aka Pitairlie Burn), a minor river or stream, which takes a meandering course through Carnoustie Golf Links (which is in The Open Championship course rotation).

Malt Spec (Phenols): 0-ppm (Unpeated) - Gristmill: 1 Porteus Malt Mill

Mash Tun: 1 traditional cast iron mashtun @ 4.9-ton (1980's vintage; an 8-hour mashing cycle)

Washbacks: 6 s/s washbacks @ 28,000-L capacity (charged @ 24,000-L)

Fermentation: 48-52 hrs - Yeast: 60-kg of MX distillers yeast (cultured yeast designed for higher temps)

2 Pot Stills: 1 Wash @ 17,138-L (charged @ 12,000-L), 1 Spirit @ 15,911-L (charged @ 12,000-L)

Middle Cut: 74% to 65% ABV (4-hours); Foreshots @ 15-minutes; Feints @ 2-hours.

Heat Source: Steam from central boiler for wash still and steam kettles/pans for spirit still

Condensers: 2 shell-and-tube condensers

Entry Strength: 63.5% ABV (new make at 76-68% ABV is reduced with R/O water); casks are filled to capacity, but 2% is absorbed by the cask staves/heads within 48-hours)

Casks: Bourbon casks (mainly refill) from Heaven Hill. Casks are used a maximum of 3 times.

Warehouse: 6 on-site WHs (5 dunnage + 1 racked) with a capacity of 23,500 casks. 16 more warehouses will be built at the nearby Brechin Business Park.

Filling & Blending: Glencadam has a large filling and blending center (16 large vats @ 880,000-L blending malt & grain whiskies) for producing its blended whiskies. Candle filtration system.

Bottling: ADD's Bottling Hall & Warehousing complex at Coatbridge, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

Capacity: 1.3-Mlpa per year - Current Output: 1.3-Mlpa (2019); working 24/7 since 2004

Visitor Center/Tours: By appointment only; so, don't just drop in and ask for a tour (their answer will be no).

OBs: Origin 1825, 10, 15 & 21 year.

Parent-Owned Distilleries (2): Glencadam (2003) & Tomintoul (2000).

Parent-Owned Brands: MALTS: Glencadam, Tomintoul, Mackillop's Choice Single Malts & Montgomerie's Specialist Range; BLENDS: Angus Dundee, The Dundee, Big Ben, Mackillop's Choice, Old Ballantruan, Glen Parker's, Pipers Clan, & Scottish Royal Blended Scotch.

Notations: Open for 1-hour by-appointment-only tours Monday-Thursday between 10AM-3PM (no tours Fri-Sun). Due to its small staff and production duties such tours are by appointment only. Contact via its website.

MANAGEMENT TEAM: Distillery Manager: Douglas Fitchett - Production Supervisor/Assistant Mgr: David Wilson
Joint Owners: Aaron Hillman & Tania Hillman - Chairman: Terence 'Terry' Hillman

Legal Name of Distillery: The Glencadam Distillers Ltd. (London, UK)

Owner (Parent): Angus Dundee Distillers Plc (Hillman family, since June 2003)

USA Importer: CIL US Wines & Spirits, West Palm Beach, FL

Elevation: 65m MSL (213 feet above mean sea level)

Age: NAS (no guesses from the reviewers or bloggers; typically, NAS in \$50 price range are from vatting of 6 to 12-year-old whiskies).

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

Cask: Initially aged in bourbon barrels (refill); then finished in Oloroso sherry butts (refill).

Tasting Notes by Master of Malt:

EYE: Warm Gold with some thickness of body.

NOSE: Mixed fruit; ripe fruit from the Sherry casks and tropical fruit from the American oak with creamy Glencadam character.

PALATE: Sweet winter spice, vanilla, malt, cooked fruits and fruit salad.

FINISH: Sweet and fruity.

COMMENTS: Delicious, quite unique aperitif JWS

AWARDS: 90½ Points @ JM's Whisky Bible (2014); Gold Medal & Highly Recommended @ BTI (2004); Gold @ ISW (2005-09); Gold @ Whisky Festival (2005); Gold @ ISC (2005); Silver @ IWSC (2006-10); Silver/Best in Class @ WSC (2005); and Silver/Best in Class @ WSC (2005).

Whisky #2

GLENLIVET Single Malt / 'Triple Cask Matured' (Distiller's Reserve range) / NAS / 40% ABV / OB / Dist Owner: Chivas Brothers Ltd. (Pernod-Ricard S.A.) / Speyside (Livet)



The Glenlivet Distillery
Ballindalloch, Banffshire AB37 9DB
SCOTLAND

Pronunciation: Glen-LIVV-it - SWA Whisky Map Location: #79
Translation: 'The long glen (valley)' (Glen: a deep narrow mountain valley.)
Slogan: "The single malt that started it all"
Region (District): Speyside (Livet) - Neighbors: Allt-á-Bhainne, Tamnavulin & Glenfarclas
Established: 1824

Founder: In 1817, George '2-Guns' Smith (1792-1871) inherited Upper Drummin farm which his father, Andrew, began operating in 1774. As private distilling had been banned in the 1780s, there were circa 200 illicit distilleries operating in Glenlivet in 1820. George began as an illicit distiller in 1816 (one year after the Battle of Waterloo), but was the first (in 1824) to license an existent distillery under The Excise Act of 1823 (aka Whisky or Wash Act). As the illicit distillers regarded George as a turncoat, they made no secret of their intention to do him great bodily harm and attempted to do so on several occasions. For the purpose of ensuring the survival of his rental income, the Laird of Aberlour (Gen. Sir George Duncan Gordon, GCB, the 5th Duke of Gordon, 1770-1836) gave George 2 pistols which he mastered and worn everywhere. (In those days, moonshiners burnt down licensed distilleries, as it was a common tactic was to torch your competitor's distillery. In fact, Royal Lochnagar was twice burnt down 'in suspicious circumstances' prior to relocating to its current location across the river and next to the well-protected royal residence at Balmoral Castle.

Status: Active/Producing
Location: Situated in the heart of Speyside in the Glen of the same name, it takes its water from the River Livet which feeds into the River Spey.

House Style: Meadow flowers and soft fruits. Older examples are often more sherried.
Water Source: Josie's Well & Blairfindy Well (process water); River Livet (cooling water)
Barley: Oxbridge & Optic; mainly from Crisp Malting of Port Gordon (some Buckie & Pauls)
Malt Spec (Phenols): 0-ppm (unpeated), since the closing of its floor maltings in 1966
Gristmill: 1 Porteus Malt Mill (4-roller)

2 Mash Tuns: 2 Briggs full-Lauter mash tuns (13.5-ton; charged @ 12.6-ton)
32 Washbacks: 16 Oregon pine and 16 stainless-steel washbacks @ 60,000L each
Fermentation: 50-hours
28 Pot Stills: 14 Wash @ 15,000L, 14 Spirit @ 10,000L (divided between 3 stillhouses)
Casks: 98% ex-Bourbon; 1st & 2nd fill; some Sherry/Port for finishing
19 Warehouses: 1 dunnage & 18 palletized WHs (90,000 casks)
Vatting & Bottling: Centralized facility in Keith
Capacity: 21-Mlpa (the largest malt whisky distillery in Scotland) - Current Output: 15-Mlpa (2019)
Visitor Center/Tours: Yes

OBs: Founder's Reserve, 12, 15 (French Oak), Nadurra 16, 18, Archive 21 and XXV (25) and numerous Special Releases including acclaimed Cellar Collection. Blending Role: 50% Single Malt (>50% for US), 50% Blends.
Blend Partner: Chivas Regal, Queen Anne, Something Special & Royal Salute.
Parent Owns (12): Aberlour, Allt-á-Bhainne, Braeval, Glenburgie, Glen Keith, Glenlivet, Glentauchers, Longmorn, Milntonduff, Scapa, Strathisla & Tormore. Parent-Owned Blends (Partial): 100 Pipers, Ambassador, Ballantine's, Black Watch, Blender's Pride, Bonnie Lassie, Braemar, Chivas Regal, Clan Campbell, Doctor's Special, Imperial, King's Ransom, Long John, Passport, Queen Anne, Royal Salute, Royal Strathlythan, Something Special, Stewart's Cream of Barley & White Heather.

Notations: (1) Currently building a new distillery (2 units, each having 1 MT, 16 WBs and 14 stills for capacity of 20-Mlpa); mid-2018. (2) Pernod Ricard S.A. was founded in Marseille, FR by Paul Ricard (Alexandre's grand- father) who invented Pernod, his eponymous pastis drink, in the 1930s.

Management Team:
Distillery Manager: Hamish Proctor - Global Brand Ambassador: Ian Logan
Blender: Colin Scott - Distiller: Hamish Proctor - Master Distiller: Alan Winchester, Group Ops Director
Managing Director: Laurent Pillet (Chivas Bros) - Chairman & CEO: Alexandre Ricard (Pernod Ricard S.A.)

Legal Name of Distillery: The Glenlivet Distilleries Ltd.
Distiller Licensee: Geo. & J.G. Smith Ltd.
Owner (Parent): Chivas Brothers Ltd. (Pernod-Ricard S.A.); the Ricard family owns 14% of the company.
USA Importer: Pernod Ricard USA, LLC (Pernod Ricard USA, Inc.)
Elevation: 265m MSL (870 feet above mean sea level)

"A harmonious balance of fruity notes and smoothness"

Origin: Scotland, Speyside
Type: Single Malt Scotch
ABV: 40%
AGE: NAS

Distiller's Reserve is the cornerstone of the range, exemplifying the skills our makers have mastered through decades of experience. It is created with the balanced influence of the three types of casks to give it a harmonious balance of fruity notes and smoothness. This 'Triple Cask Matured' edition is only available at Global Travel Retail (Duty-Free Shops). The aforementioned casks are ex-Bourbon, ex-Oloroso Sherry and Refill casks of American White/Euro Red oak (charred).

OFFICIAL TASTING NOTES

Eye: Bright, exuberant gold.
Official Nose: Ripe pear, fudge.
Official Taste: Fruit, pear, spice.
Official Finish: Marzipan, fresh hazelnuts.

TASTING NOTE by Master of Malt:

Nose: Honeycomb, whiffs of sherried peels and dried fruit, polished oak, slightly earthy and herbal as it develops in the glass.
Palate: Chewy dates, almond flakes, toasted coconut, Shredded Wheat in milk topped with brown sugar, good coffee.
Finish: More dates, now paired with fudge and a slight waft of vegetal smoke.
Awards: Gold Medal @ Scotch Whisky Masters (2015); Bronze Medal @ World Whiskies Awards (2016)

Whisky #3 **ARRAN** Single Malt / 14-Year / 46% ABV / NCF / OB / Dist Owner: Isle of Arran Distilleries Ltd. (Messrs Auchincloss, Pierce & Mitchell) / Island (Arran)



Isle of Arran Distillery
Lochranza, Isle of Arran, Argyll KA27 8HJ
SCOTLAND

Pronunciation: AR-ran - SWA Whisky Map Location: #15

Translation: Place of Peaked Hills or High place

Slogan: "Pure by nature" & "The true spirit of nature"

Region (District): Islands (Arran) - Neighbors: Lagg Distillery (same owners)

Established: 1993 - Founder: Harold Currie and sons Andrew and Paul Currie.

Status: Active/Producing - Location: A beautiful location which offers perfect water for whisky production, cleansed by granite and softened by peat as it comes down from the mountain above.

House Style: Light, sweet, unpeated and often with notes of apple.

Water Source: A spring in the mountains collected in Loch Na Davie, a lake 3-km in the above hills, via the Easan Biorach burn.

Barley: Optic, Oxbridge and Concerto from Bairds Maltings, Pencaitland.

Malt Spec (phenols): Standard @ 0-ppm; Peated malt @ 20 & 50 ppm.

Gristmill: AR-2000 Malt Mill (from Alan Ruddock Engineering) since 2007.

Mashing Equipment: 1 s/s semi-Lauter (charged @ 2.5-tons).

Strike Temp of First Waters: 64°C

Washbacks: 4 Oregon pine @ 15,000-L

Yeast: Quest M Distillers Yeast (dry); 50-kg per WB.

Fermentation: 52-hr (short) and 80-hr (long); always mixed prior to distillation.

2 Pot Stills: 1 Wash @ 7,100-L (charged @ 6,500-L), 1 Spirit @ 5,200-L (2,900-L)

Middle Cut: 70-66% ABV (MC portion of the spirit run requires 2½-hrs); yields 750 bulk-litres @ average strength of 68% ABV (515-Lpa @ 100% ABV).

Spirit Run: 5½-hrs total: 20-minutes of heads or strong feints, 2½-hours middle cut and 3-hours of weak feints or tail; spent lees = waste.

Casks: Bourbon (200-L) & Sherry (500-L), refills; a few Malaga, Cognac & Rum.

Entry Strength: 63.5% ABV (reduced with deionized local water)

Warehouse: 4 Racked warehouses with a capacity of circa 12,000 casks.

Capacity: 750,000-Lpa per year

Output: 450,000-Lpa (2019); 600,000-Lpa in 2018, but reduced due to Lagg beginning ops.

Tours & Visitor Center: Yes - OBs: 10 Yr, 14 Yr, 12 yr Cask Strength & 18 Yr; Machrie Moor; Limited Editions: Orkney Bere; Devil's Punch Bowl; Cask Finishes; Icons of Arran; Westie; and Eagle. Single Cask 15 yr; Robert Burns SM and Blended Scotch; Lochranza; and Arran Gold cream liqueur.

Blending Role: 80% Single Malts, 20% Blends

Parent-Owned Distilleries: Isle of Arran (1993) & Lagg (2019)

Notations: (1) All expressions are non-chillfiltered, no coloration added and at least 46% ABV. (2) 2007: Arran was Distillery of the Year by Whisky Magazine in 2015.

Management Team:

Managing Director: Euan Mitchell

Distillery Manager: James MacTaggart

Brand Ambassador: Andy Hogan

Senior Brand Manager: Louisa Young

Legal Name of Distillery: Isle of Arran Distilleries Ltd

Owner: Isle of Arran Distillers PLC (Messrs Auchincloss, Pierce & Mitchell)

Distiller Licensee: Isle of Arran Distillers PLC

U.S. Importer: ImpEx Beverages Inc. (SFO); Sam Filmus, CEO

GA Distributor: Georgia Crown

Elevation: 109m MSL (358 feet above mean sea level)

The Best Arran? This is Ryan Kohl's favorite Arran and it's a very good one. I've never had an Isle of Arran whisky that I didn't like! 'Bourbon Cask' is my favorite.

TASTING NOTES by Smith & Roskrow:

Cask: 1st fill bourbon barrels of charred American white oak.

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

Gavin Smith: Very fragrant and perfumed on the nose. Peaches, brandy, and ginger snaps, plus vanilla and mild oak. Smooth and creamy on the palate, with spicy summer fruits, apricots, and hazelnuts. The lingering finish is spicy, biscuit-y and slowly drying.

Dominic Roskrow: The precocious 14-year-old is a testy teenager. It's right on track with sweet, fresh and zesty nose and rich creamy and rounded palate defined by vanilla, lemon and cream soda. Finish is long and full.

Whisky #4 **GLENGOYNE** Single Malt / 'Cask Strength' (Batch #4) / NAS / CS 58.8% ABV / NCF / OB / Dist
Owner: Ian Macleod Distillers (Peter J. Russell & Co.) / Highland (Southern)



Glengoyne Distillery
Dumgoyne, Near Killearn G63 9LB
Glasgow, SCOTLAND

Pronunciation: glen GOIN - SWA Whisky Map Location: #29

Translation: 'Valley of the goose'

Slogan: "Worth the wait" "Scotland's most beautiful Distillery" "The gentle but firm Highlander" & "Why change something that took generations to perfect?"

Region (District): Highlands (Western)

Neighbors: Auchentoshan, Loch Lomond, Deanston, Littlemill

Established: 1833 - Status: Active/Producing

Founder: Glengoyne was founded by the Edmonstone family. John MacLelland, a local businessman, and then his son Archibald owned and operated the distillery from 1851 to 1876. It was under Lang Brothers ownership until 1965 when Robertson & Baxter (later known as The Robinson Trust dba the Edrington Group). In 2003, it was purchased by Ian Macleod Distillers. IMD (an independent, family-owned local firm) is the perfect owner with a fine reputation for industry savvy, financial performance, and long-term planning.

Location: Glengoyne Distillery lies in a tranquil wooded glen on the western edge of the Campsie Fells. It takes its name from Glen Guin, or 'Glen of the Wild Geese', and sits at the foot of a small waterfall tumbling from the volcanic plug of Dumgoyne Hill. The Highland Line, which notionally divided Highland from Lowland Scotland runs through the distillery grounds, making Glengoyne the southernmost Single Highland Malt.

House Style: Light, but flavorful and very drinkable. Attractively malty, with apples present.

Water Source: Loch Carron (process); Glengoyne Burn from Dumgoyne Hill to on-site basin (cooling).

Barley: Optic/Concerto (Until 2006, it had been one of two distilleries using Golden Promise).

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

Gristmill: 1 Porteus 4-roller Malt Mill (3.72-ton)

Mashing Equipment: 1 s/s traditional rake and plough mashtun @ 16,000-L of wort.

Strike Temperature for 1st Waters: 12k-L @ 63.5° C, 7k-L @ 77° C & 12k-L @ 95° C.

Washbacks: 6 Oregon pine WBs @ 19,000-L capacity (charged @ 9,000-L; 50-kg yeast); wash @ 8% ABV).

Strike Temperature of the Wash @ Yeast Pitch: 18°C (yeast is stored at 3°C). Wolfburn Distillery's number is 13°C.

Fermentation: 56 hrs (short) & 110 hrs (long); mixed prior to distillation.

3 Pot Stills: 1 Wash @ 16,520-L, 2 Spirit @ 5,000-L (small Spirit Stills to max copper contact; run at strict rate of 7L per minute, the slowest in the industry by its excellent distillers. Most spirits still middle cuts are run at 12+L/min.)

Middle Cut: 73% to 63% ABV - Average Strength: 71% ABV (reduced to 63.5% ABV for entry)

Casks: Oloroso Sherry butts; 1st fill & refill (12 and 40-yr use bourbon casks). Glengoyne sources the finest sherry casks via a 6-year process, carried out at great expense (£600 up-front cost) to ensure achieving the right results. Its sherry butts (500-L) are made at Tevasa Cooperage of 3-year old air-seasoned oak from northern Spain and sherry seasoned 28-months. Refill casks denotes previously contains were Scotch whisky.

5 Warehouses: for SM: 2 dunnage (5,000 horizontal casks); for Blending: 3 palletized (30,000 vertical casks)

Vatting & Bottling: Broxburn Bottlers (owned by IMD and J. & G. Grant) in West Lothian.

Capacity: 1.1-Mlpa per year

Current Output: 920,000-Lpa (2019)

Visitor Center/Tours: Yes (the best tour!)

OBs: 10, 12, 15, 18, 21, 25 and Special Releases.

Blending Role: 20% SM, 80% Blends

Blend Partner: King Robert II, Smokehead, Lang's, Famous Grouse & Cutty Sark (it's the key malt in Cutty Sark)

Parent-Owned Distilleries: Glengoyne (2003) & Tamdhu (2011).

Former Names: Burnfoot Distillery (1833-1876) and Glenguin Distillery (1876-1905).

Awards: 12-yr 43% ABV: Silver Medal @ IWSC (2013); 12-yr Cask Strength: Double Gold @ SFWSC (2005).

MANAGEMENT TEAM:

Distillery Manager & Group Distillation Manager: Robbie Hughes

Director of Whisky Operations: Gordon Doctor (IMD)

Managing Director: Leonard Russell (IMD)

Chairman: Peter J. Russell (IMD)

Legal Name of Distillery: Glengoyne Distillery Ltd.

Owner (Parent): Ian Macleod Distillers Ltd (Peter J. Russell & Co. Ltd., since 2003)

Distiller Licensee: Lang Brothers Ltd.

USA Importer: ImpEx Beverages Inc. (SFO); Sam Filmus, CEO

Elevation: 34m MSL (112 feet above mean sea level)

International Spirits Challenge (ISC) awarded Glengoyne Cask Strength Batch 4 its Gold Medal (2013) for out-standing product of exceptional quality. ISC judges 'blind' taste the spirits and issue separate scores for aroma, appearance, taste and finish. Medals are best on the total score and awarded only after an expression is deemed to have also met/exceed historic standards for the category being considered. In some years, no gold medals are awarded in a given category with the 'winner' receiving a silver or bronze medal.

Casks: A combination of 1st fill sherry casks and refill (2nd fill Bourbon/Rye) casks.

OFFICIAL TASTING NOTES:

EYE: Amber gold.

NOSE: Ripe banana, warm baked custard, peppered strawberries, digestive biscuits, soft oak and a short sherbet tingle.

PALATE: Thick rosehip syrup, Demerara sugar developing into a spicy, gooseberry dryness. Wonderful balance, nothing dominates. A splash of water brings intensified syrup and green fruits.

Finish: Very long, lingeringly good.

Whisky #5 **ROYAL BRACKLA** Single Malt / 5-Year / CS 58% ABV / NCF / IB: Battlehill (Duncan Taylor & Co.) /
Dist Owner: John Dewar & Sons Ltd. (Bacardí Limited) / Highland (Northern)



Battlehill by Duncan Taylor & Co., Huntly, Scotland:

Battlehill is a range of young 'cask strength' single malt from small vatting of 3-5 casks. As selected by owner Euan Shand and manager Peter Currie, the selected 4-year to 9-year old whiskies are, without exception, perfectly mature and lively. At its RRP range of \$35 to \$50, Battlehill represents a bargain for some terrific young single malt Scotch whiskies. A prerequisite for prospective Battlehill purchasers is the keeping of an opened mind... **If you don't trust legends Shand and Currie to select only matured whiskies to put their name on, you don't deserve Battlehill.** May I suggest that one should judge the maturity of whisky solely by one's palate rather than a number of a label? That's the formula for increasing your whisky pleasure and saving money by avoiding the purchase of some older whiskies that disappoint.

Bloggers: I trust Duncan Taylor, Gordon & MacPhail, and Signatory more than bloggers critiquing them. I know these bottlers, their expertise and character. May I warn you that at least half of the web bloggers are inaccurate? LAWS.com does a good job, check them out.

Tasting Notes by MeadeMule.com:

NOSE: Floral and fruity. Pears and hints of citrus. Sweet malt. Rock candy. Barley sugar. Cereal grains. Almost a beer-like aroma. Mint, bordering on menthol. Nothing all that spectacular, but nice.

PALATE: More florals and fruits, this time mainly peach and nectarine. Peach gummies, to be specific, with just a hint of sour sugar. Fairly spicy. Red pepper skin. Menthol tobacco. Ginger. Turmeric. Spearmint. Coriander. Oriental spices. Curry powder. The mouthfeel is thick and luxurious.

FINISH: Initially a touch of wood varnish, which disappears quickly. Ginger emerges, along with tobacco, peach, cereal grains, spices, and curry powder. Fairly lengthy—the ginger and curry powder in particular last for quite some time. A little hot and drying, but not overly so.

COMMENTS: This is a fun whisky. It's a fun and highly enjoyable drinking experience.

Royal Brackla Distillery
Cawdor, Nairn, Inverness-shire IV12 5QY
SCOTLAND

Pronunciation: 'BRACK-lach' - **SWA Whisky Map Location:** #39

Translation: 'Speckled Hillslope' or 'The Badger's Set'

Slogan: "The King's Own Whisky" "The Drink Divine (as declared by the 1830 royals)" "Cawdor Estate"

Region (District): Highlands (Northern)

Neighbors: Benromach (the closest @ 13-miles), Tomatin and two now silent distilleries, Dallas Dhu and Millburn

Established: 1817 (sometimes erroneously listed as 1812) - **Date of First Distillation:** 1817

Founder: Captain William Fraser, 92nd Gordon Highlanders, of Brackla Village (near Nairn and Inverness).

Status: Active/Producing

Location: Cawdor Estate, a 12-acre site set in a district of gentle hills and open spaces of heath and broken by belts of pine, right in the middle of 'Macbeth country' as Cawdor Castle is less than a mile down the road. It's situated the coastal plain on the Moray coast, 4-miles from the ancient town of Nairn, which is between Inverness (in the northern Highlands) and Forres (just inside Speyside's western boundary, River Finehorn). A Cawdor Estate map in 1773 shows a 'malt brewhouse' (beer brewery) at the subject site, so the distillery is a converted brewery (a common practice).

History: William Fraser (1767-1846) was born in Brackla Village, Scotland (by Nairn). Before his 16th birthday, he enlisted in the army and went to India to serve with the 73rd Highland Regiment of Foot (Infantry) in the Third Mysore War against the fearsome rocket-launching armies of Tipu Sultan. Although wounded at the Battle of Seringapatam in 1792 and again at the siege of French-held Pondicherry the following year, he participated in the British invasion of the Dutch colonies in Ceylon (Sri Lanka) in 1795-96. After 14 years in India, Fraser was forced by ill health to return to Britain. In 1805, Lt Fraser was promoted to Captain in the 92nd (Gordon Highlanders) and then transferred to a Royal Veteran Battalion at Fort George, near his birthplace. He married that year and, near the end of the Napoleonic Wars, in 1814, he retired on a full military pension to live and farm at Brackla where he began distilling in 1817. Although whisky making had been prevalent in the area for centuries, Royal Brackla was the area's first legal (licensed) distillery. Its irascible founder, Captain William Fraser took out a license for his Brackla distillery in 1825 – mainly it would seem to put a stop to the many moonshiners (mainly scoundrels) who attempted to buy barley from sharecroppers on Fraser's estate. Fraser may have been a deeply unpopular man, but his whisky was well-received. Captain Fraser was an irascible, but determined character. The founder of the Royal Brackla Distillery has gone down in history as aloof, arrogant and spiteful. A Mr. Pavey, the local Excise officer, described Capt Fraser as a "tall, muscular, big-framed man. His eyes were large and full, but not clear nor expressive. His voice was deep and somewhat husky, when he spoke it was in a commanding way, especially to those of an inferior position in life to himself. I was not charmed by his manner; I felt that he was no common man I should have to deal with in my official transactions with him." Fraser earned a reputation for clashing with the Excise authorities who complained that he was accustomed to command and unwilling to accept instructions from mere civilians. Most especially, he did not enjoy paying Excise duty. Fraser explained that because Brackla was aged for longer than other whiskies, it lost more than others to the 'Angel's Share' and would regularly attempt to evade paying duty on the 'missing' spirit. As the Exciseman refused to turn a blind eye, Capt. Fraser was fined heavily on several occasions for breaches of the regulations. According to Pavey, Fraser became 'haughty, imperious and tyrannical' and forbade his employees from having dealings with Pavey and his young family. Fraser later took legal action on a petty issue and won the case but only after spending a small fortune on legal fees. In 1835, Brackla was the first Scotch to be granted a Royal Warrant and the rights to call itself 'Royal Brackla', when King William IV was clearly a fan of the fruity malt, with its distinct chocolate-sweetness. This seal of approval from the King led to Brackla being known as 'The King's Own Whisky'. A second royal warrant, from Queen Victoria (who was just 19 at the time!), was granted in November 1838. - **House Style:** Chocolatey, malty & sweet

Water Source: Cawdor Burn for distilling and Cursack Springs in Cawdor Woods for mashing (Process water); Underground spring water (established by the RAF during WWII at the former Brackla Airfield) is piped to distillery (Cooling water).

Malt Spec (Phenols): 0-ppm (Unpeated malt from independent maltsters) - **Barley:** Unknown (likely Optic and Concerto)

Gristmill: 1 Porteus Malt Mill (12.5-t) - **Heat Source:** Steam from heavy fuel oil-fired central boiler; internal steam coils/pans.

Mashing Equipment: 1 s/s full-Lauter mash tun (17' x 6' with a 12.5-ton capacity)

Washbacks: 8 WBs @ 60,000-L (6 OR pine + 2 external s/s washbacks) - **Yeast:** Kerry MS-1 cream distiller's yeast

Fermentation: 72 hours (short); 120 hours (long); Average is 80 hours; Mixed prior distillation.

4 Pot Stills: 2 Wash @ 20,500-L, 2 Spirit @ 23,000-L; internal steam coils; shell-and-tube condensers.

Casks: Sherry, refill. Mainly, hogsheads (American white oak and Spanish red oak) and butts (Spanish red oak)

5 Warehouses: 3 dunnage & 2 large racked WHs; malt spirit allocated for blending (Dewar's/Lawson's) is tankered to Coatbridge or Glasgow for barrel entry and maturation.

Vatting & Bottling: New make is tankered to central facility.

Capacity: 4.1-Mlpa per year - **Current Output:** 4.0-Mlpa (2019); its highest ever production (worked thru Xmas/New Year)

Tours & Visitor Center: No public tours (There is no harm in contacting Dewars or Bacardi to request a tour)

OBs: 10, 16 & 21 ('The Last Great Malts' range; 2015). Oldest stock is 21-yo inventory was retained by seller Diageo in 1998).

Blending Role: 1% Single Malt, 99% Blends

Blend Partner: *In-House:* William Lawson & Dewar's; *External:* Johnnie Walker Gold Label, and Bisset's Finest Old.

Parent-Owned Dist (5): Aberfeldy, Aultmore, Craigellachie, Macduff (Glen Deveron SM) & Royal Brackla

Parent-Owned Blends: Dewar's & William Lawson's

Parent's Brands: William Lawson's (#7 in worldwide unit sales) and Dewar's (#9 worldwide) Blended Scotch; Aberfeldy, Aultmore, Craigellachie, Glen Deveron (Macduff) and Royal Brackla Single Malt Scotch; Angel's Envy, Banks rum; Leblon cachaça, Facundo rum; Cazadores tequila; Baron Otard, D'Ussé and Gaston de Lagrange cognac, Grey Goose, 42 Below and Eristoff vodka.

Management Team: Distillery Manager: Neil Parker - Site Operations Manager: Ewan Ogilvie

President and CEO: Michael Dolan - Chairman: Facundo L. Bacardi, J.D.

Legal Name of Distillery: Brackla Distillers Ltd. - **Owner (Parent):** John Dewar & Sons Ltd. (Bacardi Ltd., since 1998)

USA Importer: Bacardi U.S.A., Inc. - **Elevation:** 24m MSL (79 feet above mean sea level)

Whisky #6 **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

Rhinns 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: Traditional non-peaty Bruichladdich is light-to-medium bodied with a fruity, salty character. Port Charlotte has peaty maritime notes. Octomore has jumped the shark.

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

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 WHs; 8 on-site (7 dunnage + 1 racked) & 4 at Port Charlotte (all dunnage)

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

Capacity: 1.5-Mlpa per year - **Current Output:** 1.0-Mlpa (2019)

Visitor Center/Tours: Yes - **OBs:** 50% Bruichladdich (unpeated/0-ppm); 40% Port Charlotte (heavily peated @ 40-ppm); and 10% Octomore (ultra-heavily peated @ ≥ 80-308 ppm).

Blending Role: 10% Blends, 90% Single Malt

Blend Partner: Not disclosed (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, Passoa liqueur, Port Charlotte whisky, Bols genever & liqueur, Metaxa liqueur, The Botanist gin and Westland American single malt (Seattle, WA).

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

Management Team:

Production Director: Allan Logan - **Head Distiller:** Adam Hannett

Assistant Distillery Mgr: Gordon 'Boogle' MacDougall - **Brand Ambassador:** Eric Beindorff

Divisional CEO: Simon Coughlin (Rémy's Whisky Business Unit)

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.), since July 2012. Rémy paid £58m (\$77.3m) for Bruichladdich/MMCD: £48m cash plus £10m assumed bank debt.

USA Importer: Rémy Cointreau USA, Inc. (fka Rémy Amerique, Inc.) - **GA Distributor:** Unk

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