





Rich Howard Tasting Room



Tonight Featuring: Auchentoshan

Auchentoshan 12 Year
Auchentoshan Triple Wood
Auchentoshan 16 Year, Society private bottling – Gold Medal Winner
10 Years in Bourbon Cask, 6 Years in 2nd Fill Sauternes Casks



Tasting #1 – Mortlach, Presidents Choice 18 Year Old, Cask # 63.35, 'On Christmas day in the morning...'

Colour: Dirty Copper

Nose: The panel were whisked away to the excitement of Christmas morning as a child. Aromatic spiced orange mingled with eggnog, sugar puffs and milky hot chocolate sprinkled with nutmeg.

Palate: Still in their pajamas, the panel dipped into their stockings to find cranberry, pomegranate and red currants with Hubba Bubba gum.

Diluted Nose: Water opened glugg infused with orange and mint, cola bottles. Fragrant lavender, saffron and lemon thyme wafted from the glass.

Diluted Palate: Fresh wood from a homemade dolls house gave a grippy quality to the reduced taste which tingled with ras el hanout spiciness. Lingering flavours of pomander completed the festivities.

Comments: Deep, rich and dried fruits.

Age: 18 years **Rare**: 2 of 586 Released Worldwide

Cask: Refill Butt ABV: 56.7%

Mortlach: Presidents Choice Speyside and while you're tasting . . .







Name: Mortlach (Pronounced: MORT-lack)
Region: Highlands: Speyside (Dufftown)

Neighbors: <u>Dufftown, Glenfiddich, Balvenie, Kininvie, Glendullan</u>

Founded: 1823 Status: Active

Water Supply: Sources in the Conval Hills Equipment: 3 Wash stills, 3 Spirit stills

Production capacity: 2,900,000 litres of pure alcohol per year

Ownership: Diageo (since 1925)

- 1) In 1886 a distillery employee by the name of **William Grant** left Mortlach after almost twenty years. Apparently he had learned quite a bit about the fine art of distillation during that time; within a year after he had left Mortlach he built his own distillery; <u>Glenfiddich</u>.
- 2) Mortlach malt whisky is an important component of the Johnnie Walker Black Label blend.
- 3) Larch **Worm-tubs** on a platform outside the still house are still used to condense the spirit. **This has a unique affect on the Mortlach character.**





Tasting #2 – Cameron Bridge 34 Year Old, Cask # G4.7, 'Flying Saucers and Foamy Shrimps'

Colour: Polished Gold

Nose: The initial nose was bright, fresh and lively (lemon, rhubarb, pine resin); then came Demerara, Christmas cake, candy floss, vanilla, toffee and golden syrup – followed by cedarwood and tobacco.

Palate: The palate displayed delightful sweetness (maple syrup, crème brûlée, white chocolate) tempered by mouth drying tobacco, white pepper, liquorice and a surprising gooseberry fizz. Amazingly vibrant for its age.

Diluted Nose: The reduced nose combined rum and raisin ice-cream, flying saucers, lychee and grape with pine resin and restrained oak. .

Diluted Palate: The palate sustained our interest – old oak, tobacco and figs, tropical juice and foamy shrimps combined to make an easy-drinking experience from Scotland's biggest distillery

Comments: Juicy oak and vanilla.

Age: 34 years

Cask: Refill Hogshead

Cameron Bridge

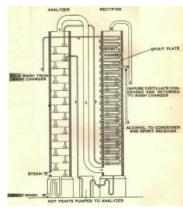
Extremely Rare: 2 of 175 Released Worldwide

ABV: 54.9%

Speyside

and while you're tasting . . .





Coffey Still



Name: Cameron Bridge

Region: Lowlands (or East Highlands)

Founded: 1824 Status: Active

Water Supply: Rivers Leven and Ore

Equipment: Enough Coffey stills to produce 100 Million Litres per year!

Production capacity: 100,000,000 litres of pure alcohol per year

Owner: Diageo

The grain whisky from Cameronbridge end up in <u>dozens</u> of different blends. So, if you have drunk your fair share of Scotch whisky blends (or perhaps even more), the odds are that you've unwittingly drunk whisky that was distilled at Cameronbridge. With that in mind, bottlings as a **single grain whisky are surprisingly rare**.







Tasting #2 – Ardmore – Premium Vault \$ 15.00/ Dram

Colour: Bright Gold

Nose: The immediate aroma is fragrant rather than powerful and the scents of roses and violets blend with a slight citrus note that make the gentle peat smoke.

Palate: The peat comes through as a dryish liquorice tang. Floral and citrus follows.

Diluted Nose: More floral with water.

Diluted Palate: The peatiness is smoothed out and softened by a cream toffee and flower gentleness.

Comments: Quite dry and very long lasting finish.

Age: 30 years **Limited Release**: 1 of 1,428 Released Worldwide

Cask: Refill ABV: 54.9%

Ardmore Speyside \$15.00 Premium Vault

Malt Maniac Rating in the Mid 90s







Name: Ardmore (Pronounced: ard-MORE)

Region: Speyside (Central)

Neighbors: Glendronach, Glen Garioch

Founded: 1898 Status: Working

Water Supply: 14 sources on Knockandy Hill

Equipment: 4 Wash & 4 Spirit stills

Production capacity: 4,200,000 litres of pure alcohol per year

Ownership: Fortune Brands (since 2005)

Built in 1898 by Adam Teacher, son of William. Even today, most of the whisky the distillery produces is reserved for the **Teacher's blends** which get a lot of their malty character from the Ardmore malt whisky. Bottlings of Ardmore as a single malt are **relatively rare**.





Tasting #2 – Auchentoshan – Gold Medal Winner 16 Year Old, Cask # 5.49 'Lady of the Night'

Colour: Runny Honey

Nose: We noted fruity aromas of peaches and mangos at first. With time a perfumed floral scent took over which reminded some of a "Lady of the Night".

Palate: Hot and almost over the top sweet perfumed flavors attacked the taste buds.

Diluted Nose: Only a dash of water released the pressure now a lot more balanced. Spicy tart with pepper sauce and star fruit, with polished conkers using beeswax.

Diluted Palate: In the diluted taste puff pastry appeared with cinnamon sugar and bourbon glaze.

Comments: Gold Medal winner in it's class for 2016.

Age: 16 years **Extremely Rare**: 2 of 60 Released to USA

Cask: Refill Bourbon Hogshead for 10 years then 6 years in a Sauternes Cask.

Auchentoshan- Lowlands ABV: 57.3% Proceed to tasting 3 PV when ready . . .







Name: Auchentoshan (Pronounced: OchunTOshun)

Region: <u>Lowlands</u>

Neighbors: <u>Glengoyne</u>, <u>Littlemill</u>, <u>Loch Lomond</u>

Founded: 1825 Status: Working

Water Supply: Loch Cochno

Equipment: 1 Wash still, 1 Middle still, 1 Spirit still 1,650,000 litres of pure alcohol per year Suntory > Morrisson Bowmore (since 1984)

Auchentoshan was probably started by Irish settlers, driven from their homes by famine. Some sources claim that these Irish whisky distillers brought the Irish custom of **triple distillation** with them. For a long time, this method of whisky production was used in the Lowlands, while in the other whisky regions of Scotland another technique was used: double distillation. Today, only Auchentoshan still uses triple distillation.



Rich Howard Tasting Room Notes

1. Auchentoshen – 12 Year

Nose: The 12 year old is smooth, fresh and nutty with a golden honey appearance.

It has a Crème Brulee smell with a burst of citrus and the signature nuttiness and green leafiness of Auchentoshan.

Palate: is smooth and sweet with hints of tangerine and lime.

Finish: it is a gingery and slightly drying with a pleasant lingering nuttiness.

2. Auchentoshen – Triple Wood

Nose: Sweet with lots of sherry. A hint of smoke. Caramel? Wood and fruits too. Tobacco! Whiff of peppermint. Sweet fruit cake. Organics. Salted peanuts. Spices. Playful. The sherry takes some time to move to the foreground, but when it does it's magic. It greatly increases the complexity and fruitiness of the nose. Good development! Much more nose than the 10yo, even though it's triple-distilled as well.

Palate: Smooth start. Sherry. Sweet and smoky as well, but with a sourish dissonant. Mint? Fruits. Wood. Liquorice root. Fried fish?

Finish: Smoke and tannins in the dry, long finish. Score: 82 points.

3. SMWSA Bottle 5.49 Auchentoshan – 16Year Old 2nd Fill Sauternes Cask "Lady of the Night" Gold Medal Winner See separate Tasting Notes (attached).



The End

Next Tasting is May. xx, 2017