

*SFHSWS*

# *“An Island Christmas”*

- *Highland Park – 20 Yr. – 1<sup>st</sup> Fill PX*
- *Bowmore – 20 Yr.*
- *Talisker – 25 Yr. (Also in the Tasting Room)*

**Premium Vault:**  
*Port Ellen 9<sup>th</sup> Edition*  
**30 Years Old**  
**Ltd. Release, \$20/ dram**

# SHSW'S

## Tasting #1 – Highland Park “Angels Delight” Orkney Island, Bottle 4.223

**Colour:** Rich Gold

**Nose:** Heather moor-burn and burnt sticks, with toffee, caramel and meringue sweetness, dulce sherry and toasted macarons. .

**Palate:** A classic combination of subtle smoke and burnt leaves, with rich honey, dark chocolate, sweet sherry and muscovado: dry oak tannins and spices tingle the mouth.

**Diluted Nose:** We now have spun sugar, vanillas and prunes, bonfire embers and enough warehouse aromas to delight a host of Angels.

**Diluted Palate:** Chocolate raisins and syrup sponge, with a blanket-stitch of smoke all around the tongue.

**Comments:** Twenty years in an ex-bourbon hogshead followed by a 1<sup>st</sup> fill Pedro Ximenez cask make for this special Highland Park.

**Age:** 20 years

**Highland Park:** Orkney Island

**ABV:** 52.1%

**Rare:** 2 of 96 USA release

**Cask:** 1<sup>st</sup> Fill Sherry Butt

*While you're tasting . . .*

# SJLWS

## Tasting #2 – Bowmore “Hebredian Dreams” Island of Islay, Bottle 3.294

**Colour:** Corn Marigold

**Palate:** We were transported on to the deck of a **coal fired steam puffer** feeling the cold salty sea breeze across our faces and warming our hands on a **mug of Gaelic coffee** or mulled wine spiced with cinnamon and cloves. Lunch was served and we enjoyed **griddled scallops with smoked, sweet chilli sauce** and smoked salmon crabmeat salad.

**Diluted:** With a drop of water we went ashore on a now beautiful **sunny late afternoon** at a sandy beach on the western shores of the Outer Hebrides with the **machair in full bloom** and watched the sunset with **sweet, slightly smoky, creamy lavender lobster bisque**.

**Drinking tip:** Desert island dram

**Cask:** Refill hogshead

**Bowmore – Islay**

**Rare: USA allocation: 120 bottles**

**Age: 20 years**

**Date distilled: April 1996**

**ABV: 56.5%**

*While you're tasting . . .*

*SJLWS*

**Tasting #3 – Premium Vault  
Port Ellen – 9<sup>th</sup> Edition  
30 Years \$ 20/ dram**

**Nose:** Rich and rounded on the nose with soft pear fruit over a driftwood bonfire, then sandy notes, fresh shellfish and samphire.

**Palate:** Firm bodied the palate is surprising sweet at first, then the smoke dominates, but the character always remains pure Port Ellen.

**Diluted:** Adding water brings up extra virgin olive oil and produces a fine soft texture on the palate.

**Comments:** This distillery was closed four years after this malt was made.

**Age: 30 years**  
**Port Ellen – Closed Distillery**  
**ABV: 57.7 %**

**Ltd. Release: 1 of 5,916**  
**Island of Islay**

and while you're tasting . . .

# SFHSWS

## Tasting #4 – Talisker - 25 Year Old

**Nose:** Mellow, juicy and ever changing the nose shows sweetness with a trace of smoke, then opens out to heathery peat, with waves of fresh baked apple cake and finally of the ocean itself rolling in behind.

**Palate:** Medium bodied, rich and silky smooth, this sweet starting malt drinks well at natural strength. The sweetness is followed by the trademark Talisker pepperiness.

**Diluted:** With water orange peel notes emerge followed by more maritime characteristics.

**Comments:** The long peppery finish is reassuringly warming.

**Age: 25 years**  
**Talisker**  
**ABV: 54.8%**

**Ltd. Release: One of 5,862**  
**Island of Skye**  
**Award Winning**

and while you're tasting . . .



## Rich Howard Tasting Room

**Tonight Featuring:**  
**Talisker 25 Years**  
**Talisker 10**  
**Talisker Storm NAS**



*SFHSWS*

**The End**

**Next Tasting is Feb. xx, 2017**