



VISIONS OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY

SWEET, FRUITY & MELLOW

CASK NO. 115.29

Our noses offered visions of Basque tart, mango cubes and mandarins drizzled with linseed oil and decorated with a fan of exquisitely thin red apple slices and quince paste. The palate was cocoa nibs, tobacco, quinine and a citrus Thai salad. Water provided fresh floral notes on the nose, along with lime leaves in a linen-lined cigar box. To finish, the palate was a sweet vermouth, hazelnut cream and tarragon.

REGION	<i>Speyside</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>2nd fill Bourbon Barrel</i>
AGE	<i>32 years</i>
DATE	<i>20/02/1991</i>
OUTTURN	<i>1 of 152 bottles</i>
ABV	<i>47.4%</i>
BOTTLE PRICE*	£495.00 £405.00

MOLECULAR GASTRONOMY

SPICY & SWEET

CASK NO. 35.387

We entered into a molecular gastronomy experience; the welcome drink was a test tube combining orange liqueur, pink peppercorn, smoked mince pie, birch sap, spiced mead and blackcurrant. Both the nose and the palate were full of sweet fruit and savoury spice. Water offered new discoveries, with wheatgrass pancakes enveloping cherrywood-smoked apricots and apple on the nose, calvados-spiked cola cubes and chewing tobacco on the palate, with a coulis of wild berries and ice cream to finish. After 27 years in an ex-bourbon hogshead, we transferred this to a first fill PX hogshead for the remainder of its maturation.

REGION	<i>Speyside</i>
INITIAL CASK	<i>Refill Bourbon Hogshead</i>
FINAL CASK	<i>1st fill PX Hogshead</i>
AGE	<i>32 years</i>
DATE	<i>25/10/1991</i>
OUTTURN	<i>1 of 191 bottles</i>
ABV	<i>55.4%</i>
BOTTLE PRICE*	£450.00 £405.00

TOFFEE AND COFFEE

JUICY, OAK & VANILLA

CASK NO. 88.32

Massaging leather conditioner into an old jacket, we caught the scent of a fresh batch of pastel de nata emerging from the bakery. Added to the nose we found rhubarb, lemon cream and black coffee. The palate was full of toffee and coffee, chocolate-coated raisins and currants. Water gave dark fruits, cedar and that new car scent, with the palate now oozing butterscotch and dates, tea leaves and candied pineapple. After 12 years in an ex-bourbon hogshead, we transferred this to a first fill, heavily toasted, medium charred hogshead for the remainder of its maturation.

REGION	<i>Speyside</i>
INITIAL CASK	<i>Refill Bourbon Hogshead</i>
FINAL CASK	<i>1st fill HTMC Hogshead</i>
AGE	<i>15 years</i>
DATE	<i>04/02/2009</i>
OUTTURN	<i>1 of 264 bottles</i>
ABV	<i>52%</i>
BOTTLE PRICE*	£89.50 £70.00



THE SCOTCH MALT WHISKY SOCIETY

WARM-REEKING' RICH!

DEEP, RICH & DRIED FRUITS

CASK NO. 115.31

The neat nose suggested a nicely funky and slightly old-school sherry profile, with lots of drying earthy notes, tobaccos, pickled walnuts, balsamic and game meats. There was also a hint of animalistic aged pinot noir. Water brought an acetic edge, along with unlit cigars in a humidor, sharp red and dark pickled fruits, aniseed, camphor and tomato vines. The neat palate was well in sync with the nose, showing lots of aged balsamic, walnut wine, pickled tarragon, beef stock, camphor and black pepper. Water maintained this sense of funkiness, while adding another leathery aspect and some medicinal impressions of tar extracts and herbal cough syrup. This was matured in a bourbon hogshead for six years before being transferred to a first fill Spanish oak oloroso hogshead.

REGION	<i>Speyside</i>
INITIAL CASK	<i>1st fill Bourbon Hogshead</i>
FINAL CASK	<i>1st fill Spanish oak Oloroso Hogshead</i>
AGE	<i>9 years</i>
DATE	<i>06/10/2013</i>
OUTTURN	<i>1 of 282 bottles</i>
ABV	<i>61.1%</i>
BOTTLE PRICE*	£64.50 £50.00

SMOKIN'!

LIGHTLY PEATED

CASK NO. 163.1

Descriptors for the aroma came fast and furious – gravadlax sauce, beech-smoked trout, black peppercorn-infused rye whisky and homemade sweet ploughman's pickle. The taste was like smoked brisket pastrami prepared in a brine of pink curing salt, sugar and spices, alongside mild goat's cheese on Jamaican gingerbread – intrigued? You should be! And what a change after the addition of water. Initially we stayed in the Caribbean with a warm Jamaican-style coffee and walnut cake followed by the sweet scent of cherry wood-smoked marshmallows. On the palate, we now found a mixture between a smoked battenberg cake and tiramisu with smoked cocoa powder.

REGION	<i>Highland</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>1st fill Bourbon Barrel</i>
AGE	<i>6 years</i>
DATE	<i>09/04/2018</i>
OUTTURN	<i>1 of 240 bottles</i>
ABV	<i>58.1%</i>
BOTTLE PRICE*	£85.00 £75.00

ROAST AND TOAST BY THE COAST

PEATED

CASK NO. 53.485

After 10 years in ex-bourbon wood, this was transferred into a first fill American oak oloroso hogshead. The nose combined muirburn, burnt straw and pipe racks (smoke, ash, old wood) with black tea, dark chocolate and sticky honey glaze on roast pork. The smoke intensified on the palate, swirling around with roasting coffee, toasted pistachios and pumpkin seeds, golden syrup on burnt toast and a tingling finish of chilli, cardamom and smoked paprika. The reduced nose found old ship's timbers and hints of plastic on beach bonfires. The palate now had roasted chestnuts, burnt coconut and apple sauce on five-spice belly pork.

REGION	<i>Islay</i>
INITIAL CASK	<i>Refill Bourbon Hogshead</i>
FINAL CASK	<i>1st fill American oak oloroso Hogshead</i>
AGE	<i>13 years</i>
DATE	<i>27/04/2011</i>
OUTTURN	<i>1 of 246 bottles</i>
ABV	<i>56.2%</i>
BOTTLE PRICE*	£98.00 £80.00

*Discounted prices are exclusive to members attending the tasting events where these bottles are featured. If a bottle is out of stock at the event but available on our website, members can order it by contacting Member Services after the event. Stock availability applies, and shipping is always free!