



## RHUBARB AND FIG CRUMBLE

### JUICY, OAK & VANILLA

#### RARE RELEASE #55 2024

We imagined making delicious orange and kumquat marmalade as we cooked pork loin in cider and poured ourselves a pint of heather ale. The taste was floral, with a full malt body and plenty of herbal spice, as well as cracked black pepper on tinned fruit salad. Following reduction, the fruity aroma of ripe red apples arrived ahead of the scent of toasted almond flakes, rhubarb and fig crumble before a freshly brewed cup of rosehip and cranberry tea emerged. On the palate, the tea changed to a sweet hibiscus accompanied by milk chocolate and pear mille feuille, preceding churros in the finish.

REGION	Highland
CASK TYPES	Refill & new oak Bourbon & HTMC Chinkapin barrels
AGE	8 years
DATE	16/04/2015
OUTTURN	1 of 1405 bottles
ABV	58.2%
BOTTLE PRICE	<del>£60.00</del> £50.00

## A GOLF CADDIE WITH A TEA CADDY

### SWEET, FRUITY & MELLOW

#### CASK NO. 18.64

We had an early breakfast of blueberry flax cereal with cinnamon, apple slices and pineapple tarts before heading to the first tee of a links golf course on a sunny, cool autumn morning. After the ninth hole we took a respite to enjoy challah French toast with damson jam, golden syrup cake and spinach and feta tart. With a sip of water we moved on to the 10th tee. Now the sun felt warm, for us Scots almost tropical! The sea breeze seemed to mingle with aromas of mango and papaya next to freshly cut grass and birch trees before a golf caddy opened a tea caddy and brewed a jasmine flower tea.

REGION	Speyside
CASK TYPES	1st fill Bourbon Hogshead
AGE	15 years
DATE	11/09/2008
OUTTURN	1 of 276 bottles
ABV	53.3%
BOTTLE PRICE	<del>£79.00</del> £60.00

## SAT ON A FROSTED LAWN

### SWEET, FRUITY & MELLOW

#### CASK NO. 5.138

The initial nose brimmed with smoked honey, ginger wine, threads of gentle peat smoke, olive oil, earthy aged black tea and dried orange peel. Complex, intricate and wonderfully elegant; a sense of peat smoke subdividing over years of maturation into many subtle variations. Water brought lovely notes of root beer syrup, lemongrass, pressed wildflowers, black pepper and anthracite embers. Neat, the palate displayed medical notes of bandages, bacon crisps, aged teas, myrtle and heather smoke, plus wee sooty touches and herbal ointments. With water we found herbal teas, peat ashes, olive brine and thicker flavours of bouillon stock and waxed canvas. Evocative of older-style Highland whiskies.

REGION	Lowland
INITIAL CASK	2nd fill Bourbon Barrel
AGE	10 years
DATE	11/11/2013
OUTTURN	1 of 210 bottles
ABV	61%
BOTTLE PRICE	<del>£64.20</del> £50.00



# THE SCOTCH MALT WHISKY SOCIETY

## TOUCHED BY A BEAR'S PAW

### SPICY & DRY

#### CASK NO. 8.44

The inviting nose conjured a melange of aromas – candied orange slices, cherries dipped in chocolate, walnut bread, ginger-infused jaffa cakes and, always in the background, a hot toddy with brandy. It was “very potent”, like a bone-dry martini where the glass gets rinsed with vermouth and then discarded. In the aftertaste we sipped a rich and highly caffeinated Turkish coffee spiced with cardamom. Following the liberal addition of water, we imagined chopping the firewood for that night's stay in our log cabin. Resting, we sat on the pine cone-covered forest floor and enjoyed sourdough pumpernickel bread and bärentatzen: a soft, spicy chocolate cookie in the shape of a bear's paw.

REGION	<i>Speyside</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>1st fill Oloroso Butt</i>
AGE	<i>8 years</i>
DATE	<i>16/11/2015</i>
OUTTURN	<i>1 of 652 bottles</i>
ABV	<i>59.7%</i>
BOTTLE PRICE	<del>£62.50</del> £50.00

## MINGLE INTO DARKNESS

### SPICY & SWEET

#### CASK NO. 78.84

The Panellists initially discerned an air of a red wine and cola reduction, wagyu strips dipped in guava syrup, sesame seeds and blackcurrants. The palate continued this sense of darkness, with charred ribs atop singed heather, spiced buns and blueberries. Having added water, the nose was now a novel bound in leather and handwritten with artisanal Japanese calligraphy ink. The palate gave us lapsang souchong, mace, baked lemon, and apricot. After four years in an ex-bourbon hogshead, we transferred this to a second fill heavy toast medium char European oak puncheon for the remainder of its maturation.

REGION	<i>Highland</i>
INITIAL CASK	<i>Refill Oloroso Butt</i>
FINAL CASK	<i>2nd fill European oak with a heavy toast and a medium char Puncheon</i>
AGE	<i>10 years</i>
DATE	<i>05/11/2013</i>
OUTTURN	<i>1 of 465 bottles</i>
ABV	<i>67.4%</i>
BOTTLE PRICE	<del>£66.20</del> £50.00

## ALSATIAN PLUM EAU DE VIE FUMÉ

### LIGHTLY PEATED

#### CASK NO. 66.253

The very pale colour stopped us short to wonder whether this sample had ever been in a cask. It was a delightful, flavoursome spirit reminding some of us of mirabelle plum eau de vie from Alsace, with a teasing sweet smoke lingering in the background. On the palate, carpaccio of scallops came prepared with lime juice, and seasoned with salt, pepper and a drizzle of olive oil. After the addition of water we were served a glass of champagne and, soon after that, plates of smoked salmon and caviar cocktail blinis, bite-sized buckwheat pancakes, made the rounds.

REGION	<i>Highland</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>Refill Bourbon Barrel</i>
AGE	<i>12 years</i>
DATE	<i>07/07/2011</i>
OUTTURN	<i>1 of 237 bottles</i>
ABV	<i>54.4%</i>
BOTTLE PRICE	<del>£74.00</del> £60.00