

# SIX DRAMS, THREE REGIONS



## BAR ROOM BUZZ

SWEET, FRUITY & MELLOW

CASK NO. 38.43

An errant overture of cherries, blackberries and red wine-poached pears became intricately woven into a wicked symphony of chocolate caramel, toasted walnuts and raspberry jam on scorched toast. Meanwhile, the charred raisins of a sumptuous fruitcake misbehaved with salted liquorice, plums, and cinnamon swirls. All of these antics were underpinned by fine oaky tannins that elegantly supported notes of tobacco and ginger wrapped in mint leaves. With a touch of water, an enchanting sonata of violets, rose petals and elderflower cider unfolded. Lush fruits then performed with glacé cherries, tropical confections and melon, complemented by a crescendo of sticky toffee pudding and treacle sponge cake. At 29 years of age, we combined selected casks from the same distillery. We then returned the single malt into a variety of different casks to develop further. This is one of those casks.



REGION	Speyside
INITIAL CASK	Refill Bourbon Barrel
FINAL CASK	1st fill PX ex-Bodega barrique
AGE	32 years
DATE	17 June 1992
OUTTURN	1 of only 213 bottles
ABV	49.6%
PRICE	To sample only

## RYTHMS OF THE SOUL

DEEP, RICH & DRIED FRUITS

CASK NO. 1.292

This was full of goodness, with plums stewed in mulled wine, dark treacle, mixed fruit tarts and cherry walnut trail mix. The taste was simply sublime: chocolate orange, glazed fruits and fine marzipan with a layer of champagne-soaked strawberries coated in a rich dark chocolate. With a drop of water, the sound of a flamenco clapping rhythm appeared next to the typical Spanish guitar. On the palate this was sweet, like the most joyful flamenco style, the bulería, which is often performed at the end of a flamenco party. After five years in a bourbon barrel, we transferred this whisky into a first fill barrique from a privately owned small bodega, now in its ninth generation, that focuses exclusively on the Pedro Ximénez grape.



REGION	Speyside
INITIAL CASK	Refill Bourbon Barrel
FINAL CASK	1st Fill Cosecha Barrique
AGE	11 years
DATE	26 February 2013
OUTTURN	1 of only 209 bottles
ABV	59.1%
PRICE	<del>£80.00</del> £64.00*

## HARBOURSIDE HOOPLA

OILY & COASTAL

CASK NO. 93.207

The nose was a colourful collage of sea salt, dried kelp and pecorino romano; wasabi, rosemary and Assam tea; chamois leather, teak oil, pipe tobacco and toasted marshmallows – endlessly entertaining. The palate transported us to Campbeltown harbour, watching hessian sacks of grain being unloaded from an old paddle steamer, while we chewed tobacco, dried apple rings, fresh crab or smoked salmon, according to our preferences. Adding water brought a canvas-rigged sailing ship into the harbour; mariners in waxed jackets gave us peaches and orange blossom honey. The palate now had salted roast almonds and tannic notes of oak, hazelnut shells and old tea pots.



REGION	Campbeltown
CASK TYPE	2nd fill Bourbon Barrel
AGE	32 years
DATE	1 October 1991
OUTTURN	1 of only 139 bottles
ABV	52%
PRICE	To sample only

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## MASCULINE CHARMS OF A ROUGH, HAIRY HIGHLANDER

PEATED

CASK NO. 93.215

The initial nose served up smoked haddock fishcakes cooked over charcoal on the deck of a manky puffer. The palate evoked barbecues – smoky heat, crispy smoked bacon or grilled gammon with pineapple – and was stout and robust, but with a rough, hairy highlander's masculine charm. For some of us the reduced nose recalled the dying embers of a beach bonfire at sunset and moonrise, while others were struggling with tractor repairs in a farmyard shed. The reduced palate delivered smoked ham and cheese toasties (with burnt edges), grilled prawns, salted caramel ice cream, apple crumble, lemon bonbons with a sprinkling of coal dust and a mouth-twisting, lip-smackingly dry finish.



REGION	Campbeltown
INITIAL CASK	1st fill Bourbon barrel
AGE	9 years
DATE	23 September 2014
OUTTURN	1 of only 222 bottles
ABV	59.6%
PRICE*	<del>£84.50</del> £60.00*

## HONEYSUCKLE PETRICHOR

PEATED

DISTILLERY 53 RARE RELEASE 2023

Honeysuckle came glazed with a cocktail of rose water, bacon jam and barbecue sauce, plus a side dish of crab meat plucked from a vat of clarified butter. Need we say anything else? To the palate, this dram gifted smoked prune juice and cherry fondant served on driftwood. We also found crushed figs, apricot and brambles singed by a travelling firestarter intent on promoting the skills of cold smoking with peat. Introducing water elevated a smoked apple pie encased in a soft leather satchel, along with potted crab and rye bread. The palate offered a buffet of liquorice, smoked ginger and biltong, served on a bed of ash-dusted pebbles.



REGION	Islay
CASK TYPES	1st fill & refill American oak PX & bourbon hogsheads
AGE	14 years
DATE	27 May 2008
OUTTURN	1 of only 2,085 bottles
ABV	56.8%
PRICE	<del>£98.00</del> £75.00*

## PEAT IN PARTS PER THOUSAND

HEAVILY PEATED

CASK NO. 29.292

This one displayed all the usual refinements this distillery is famed for: peat smoke tinged with dried exotic fruits and encroaching waves of iodine, antiseptic, kippers and peppered mackerel for starters. Then, going deeper, we found it gathered complexity with suggestions of smoked olive oil, tarred rope, creel nets and wet beach kelp. Gorgeous! Water brought out big notes of boiler and puffer smoke, eucalyptus oil, more iodine, more antiseptic and more peat. The neat palate opened like taking a big swally of cask-strength German rauchbier, plus some chunks of barbecue-charred pineapple, pure tar extracts and briny olive pickling juices. Some water gave us preserved lemons, herbal ointments, soy sauce, bonfire embers and cornichons dashed on wet beach rocks – like a hyper-real version of this famous Islay distillery. This was matured in an oloroso butt for 20 years before being transferred to a refill PX butt.



REGION	Islay
INITIAL CASK	Refill Oloroso Butt
FINAL CASK	Refill PX Butt
AGE	23 years
DATE	14 February 2001
OUTTURN	1 of only 581 bottles
ABV	58.2%
PRICE	To sample only

\*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!