

# SPRING SPIRITS AND FESTIVAL DREAMS



THE SCOTCH MALT WHISKY SOCIETY

## THE FRUIT MERCHANT

SWEET, FRUITY & MELLOW

CASK NO. 46.152

In the auction house of a fruit exchange, a cocktail of banana, raisins, tropical fruit salad and cherries meandered through the air. Smooth on the palate, like leaving a cube of Turkish delight to melt on the tongue, we found red wine and blackcurrant jam on toasted rye bread, joined by an exotic woody seasoning from a spice merchant's leather apron. Water introduced apple and refiners syrup on the nose, with coconut, raspberry and cinnamon following on the palate. The genesis of this small batch was two bourbon hogsheads of single malt Scotch whisky, with each transferred into new casks at 13 years old. One cask was a first-fill American oak oloroso hogshead, while the other was a new American oak hogshead with a heavy toast and a medium char. The casks were then married together, giving rise to this small-batch release.

## SHAKESPEARE MEETS DJANGO REINHARDT

DEEP, RICH & DRIED FRUITS

CASK NO. 39.297

We drizzled nocino, a spicy-sweet Italian walnut liqueur, over baked apples with sultanas. On the palate we stayed, thanks to Shakespeare, in the so-called country of love and romance (more poetic than the actual translation of Italy as the 'land of calves'). We drank a bittersweet caffè shakerato – espresso coffee shaken over ice with a little sugar syrup added. Following reduction, we prepared a New York deli pastrami sandwich and drank a cocktail, named after the famous jazz guitarist Django Reinhardt, of dry vermouth, lemon juice and sugar syrup, garnished with an orange slice. Following 10 years in an ex-bourbon hogshead we transferred this whisky into a first fill Spanish oak oloroso hogshead.

## A MUSING MOMENT

OILY & COASTAL

CASK NO. 93.209

Imagine a big family party on the beach with a bouncy castle, marshmallows, cotton candy, gummy bears and foamy bananas for the children, while for the adults there are sweet-smoked salted macadamia nuts, smoked barley wine and crisp vanilla pear white wine sangria. On the palate, tuck into smoked duck and spiced jam canapés followed by campfire hotdogs served with a marinara sauce. With a drop of water, the descriptors went wild – a pirate's wooden leg washed ashore, hand planing in a luthier's workshop in Jerez and a ceremonial ship launched (forget the champagne) with a whisky bottle! Truly a musing dram; one to help you close your eyes and leave it all behind.



**COLLECTION** TWO-TO-ONE

**REGION** Speyside

**INITIAL CASKS** Refill ex-Bourbon hogsheads

**FINAL CASKS** New Americian oak HTMC hogshead & 1<sup>st</sup> fill American oak ex-Oloroso hogshead

**AGE** 16 years

**DATE** 14 March 2008

**OUTTURN** 1 of only 539 bottles

**ABV** 51.6%

**PRICE\*** £90.00 £ 80.00



**REGION** Speyside

**INITIAL CASK** Refill ex-Bourbon hogshead

**FINAL CASK** 1<sup>st</sup> fill ex-Oloroso hogshead

**AGE** 14 years

**DATE** 1 July 2009

**OUTTURN** 1 of only 242 bottles

**ABV** 57.3%

**PRICE\*** £85.00 £ 68.00



**REGION** Campbeltown

**CASK TYPE** 1<sup>st</sup> ex-Bourbon barrel

**AGE** 9 years

**DATE** 16 September 2014

**OUTTURN** 1 of only 211 bottles

**ABV** 58.5%

**PRICE\*** £65.50 £ 52.40

# SPRING SPIRITS AND FESTIVAL DREAMS



THE SCOTCH MALT  
WHISKY SOCIETY

## LOCK, STOCK AND TWO SMOKING BANANAS

LIGHTLY PEATED

CASK NO. 78.75

A pair of smoking bananas were proof that something had gone down between the fresh limes and dry-roasted nuts in the pine forest that day at high noon. Autumn leaves still smouldered and a peaceful breeze blew ash over the remains of dried apricots in a Moroccan lamb tagine. Drops of water fell from above and splashed on to rose and tulip petals that were blackened by peat smoke. This was all before nutmeg and ginger arrived, with a tar-covered coal scuttle filled with toasted nuts, to settle once and for all this peat turf war. After four years in an ex-bourbon hogshead, this was then transferred to a heavily toasted ex-Islay refill hogshead.



REGION	Highland
INITIAL CASK	Refill ex-Bourbon barrel
FINAL CASK	Refill HTMC ex-Islay hogshead
AGE	9 years
DATE	19 June 2014
OUTTURN	1 of only 263 bottles
ABV	60.3%
PRICE*	<del>£64.00</del> £50.00

## GRILLED LOBSTER TAIL IN GARLIC BUTTER

PEATED

CASK NO. 162.3

We imagined chicken breasts in a marinade of soy sauce, ginger, pepper and honey served on a bed of a spicy sweet-smoked vegetable stir fry. On the palate "it certainly took no prisoners", as we found ferociously smoked almonds, ash-coated goat's cheese and sun-charred grapes. We all grabbed the water jug and following dilution the scent was a mixture of sweet grilled lobster tails in garlic butter and vanilla custard tarts served with smoked butter caramel. We then carefully approached the dram and tasted it but there was no need for hesitancy as we chewed on roasted and dried ancho chillies, with a balance between sweet and smoky flavours and a manageable heat.



COLLECTION	Whisky Wanderers Festival 2025
REGION	Highland
CASK TYPE	1 <sup>st</sup> fill Chinkapin Oak
AGE	4 years
DATE	24 October 2020
OUTTURN	1 of only 264 bottles
ABV	60.9%
PRICE*	<del>£60.00</del> £ 50.00

## GINGER ROLLMOP SUSHI PHANTASMAGORIA

PEATED

CASK NO. 10.284

Treacle scone topped with hot-smoked salmon: that was the first impression of the Panel! This quickly evolved to include raw ginger cake batter, sauna wood, smoked almonds and shellfish broiled with seaweed. Water brought pickled sushi ginger, smoked sea salt and a sharp, mineral edge, plus lots of Asian vibes such as soy sauce, eel sushi, bonito flakes and wasabi. The neat palate detonated with wakame, balsamic, smoked prawns, ginger biscuits, barbecue-charred plums and seared beef. Water made it really fantastic, with brined herring, toasted sesame and a lovely, drying waxiness. The starting point for this small batch was two bourbon hogsheads of single malt Scotch whisky. They were each transferred to new casks at five years old. One cask was a first fill American oak PX hogshead, while the other was a second fill oloroso hogshead. The casks were then married together before bottling.



COLLECTION	TWO-TO-ONE
REGION	Islay
INITIAL CASKS	Refill ex-Bourbon hogsheads
FINAL CASKS	1 <sup>st</sup> fill American oak ex-PX hogshead & 2 <sup>nd</sup> fill ex-Oloroso hogshead
AGE	11 years
DATE	17 October 2013
OUTTURN	1 of only 501 bottles
ABV	59.1%
PRICE*	<del>£80.00</del> £ 64.00



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LIST OF SOCIETY EVENTS  
AND WHISKY EXPERIENCES OR  
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\*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!