



TASTING BRIEF

November 19, 2021

Islay

The island of Islay (EYE-lah) lies off Scotland's west coast. Locals have traditionally relied on peat for fuel and whisky production, resulting in robust and seaweed-heavy, peaty influences in most Islay whiskies.

The whiskies from this island are known for pungent, smokey and oily flavours, with just a hint of salty sea air due to the use of peat and the maritime climate. Distilleries in the south tend to make whisky which is medium-bodied and saturated with peat-smoke, brine and iodine from their use of malt that is heavy with peaty water. Whisky from the northern area is more mild. It is made using spring water for a "lighter mossy flavour (rather than peaty), with some seaweed and nut characteristics.

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PROGRESSIVE HEBRIDEAN DISTILLERS

The Distillery

Bruichladdich holds the opinion that Islay has become a flavour profile not a provenance, with distillers importing barley from outside Scotland, then shipping spirit off the island to mature in undisclosed mainland warehouses.

Bruichladdich's commitment is to Islay, investment in place and people, so everything must happen here, on the island and in the community. The whisky must be a true expression of the land, the culture, the people. Port Charlotte single malt is conceived, distilled, matured and bottled only on Islay. They are peated to a heavyweight 40PPM. Trickle distilled through our tall, narrow necked still, the resulting rich and aromatic spirit has all the power of peat with the elegance and finesse for which our stills are famous.

Conversely, our Bruichladdich single malts are always unpeated. There is more to Islay than a flavour profile provided by sourcing peated malt. To us, it is in an exclusively Islay distillation, maturation and bottling.

Fully exposed to the power of Atlantic storms, the salt-soaked air permeates the very fabric of our distillery. A fresh marine salt-citrus tang is the signature accent of The Classic Laddie and those who have been here will understand the profound contribution of our Hebridean island home to the development of this great single malt.

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About Peat and PPMs

The affect of peat (ie the peatiness or smokiness) on whisky is expressed as phenol parts per million (PPM). Phenol is a chemical that is produced when peat is dried and burned, the malted barley soaks in the phenol which flavours the grain.

In some cases, you will see the PPM quoted in product descriptions. Usually what's quoted is the PPM of the malt before any mashing or distilling has taken place. During the various processes and maturation time, the PPM will reduce and the PPM in the final whisky is usually around 30 – 40% of what it was in the malt.

The way a whisky is aged can make a big difference in final peat levels and actual flavour profile.



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Classic Laddie

Region Islay

ABV 50%

Price \$55.99

Cask American Oak &
French wine casks

About the Bottle

Smooth as pebbles in a pool. It's clean, fresh and lively with both the oak and the grain in perfect harmony.

Distillery Tasting Notes

Nose Opening with barley sugar and a hint of mint before leading into notes of freshly cut wild flowers; buttercup, daisy, meadowsweet, myrtle, primrose and cherry blossom. The cleanliness of the spirit is remarkable. After some four or five minutes and with the addition of a little water, caramelised fruits drift onto the scene; lemon drops and honey, tangerine and tablet.

Taste Sweet oak and barley then fruits from distillation drift in on an atlantic breeze and pop on the tongue like champagne bubbles. A combination of ripe green fruit, brown sugar and sweet malt bring closure.

Finish Warm and lasting



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PROGRESSIVE HEBRIDEAN DISTILLERS

The Organic 2010

Region Islay

ABV 50%

Price \$87.99

Cask Oak ex-bourbon

About the Bottle

The only Organic Islay Single Malt Whisky grown selectively from Mid Coul Farms, a remote Scottish farmstead near.

Distillery Tasting Notes

- Nose** Fresh malted barley, melon, peach and apricot. Opens up with notes of rich honey, lemon meringue and floral notes of gorse and heather. Vanilla and caramel and pastry notes from the wood are nicely balanced with the intensity of the fruit, waves of pear apple and gooseberry still hint at the fresh green fruits of the spirit.
- Taste** Sweet pear drops, vanilla fudge, chocolate and marzipan initially. A round gentle texture with toasted rye bread, buttery popcorn and fresh oak, vanilla fudge and smooth caramel merging. The organic barley seems to give more fruit from the distillation and a more viscous texture.
- Finish** Sweet citrus, lemon drops, come through well on the finish and a slight char from the oak gives depth. The finish feels more marine, a little briny alongside the oak and malt

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Port Charlotte OLC:01 2010

Region Islay

ABV 55.1%

Price \$156.38

Cask Oloroso Sherry

PPM 40

Distillery Tasting Notes

- Nose** Earthy peat smoke, dark fruit, and toffee. As the aromas start to open soft peach, honey and nutty nougat appear. Baked orange and a hint of mulled wine spice. The peat smoke notes are constant and start to bring out some resinous woody aromas, roasted coffee, syrup and citrus, and finally more chocolate and crushed sea shells.
- Taste** First a soft oily texture and then a subtle dryness changes the tone. The leading notes from the Oloroso cask and the peat smoke define the identity of the whisky but underneath there is a fruity sweetness – figs, orange and peach with a nutty nougat note. Also notes of tobacco, boot polish and more earthy smoke give a pepperiness.
- Finish** The finish is a dry earthy peat smoke with lime and figs. A chocolate and vanilla note comes through and some salty, sandy character. Peat embers give a last hint of smoke.

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PROGRESSIVE HEBRIDEAN DISTILLERS

Octomore 10.1

Region Islay

ABV 59.8%

Price \$329.37

Cask American Oak

PPM 107

About the Bottle

Deliberately stripped back to an ex- American oak maturation, aged just 5 years old, the .1 edition exposes the structure and presence of the Octomore spirit. Combining smoke with a modest maturation, this 10.1 first and foremost demonstrates the true potential of a considered, patient distillation.

- Malted to 107PPM

Distilled In 2013 From The 2012 Harvest From

- 100% Scottish Grown Concerto Barley
- Matured Entirely On Islay For Five Years

Full Term Maturation In 1st Fill American Whiskey Casks From Jim Beam, Heaven Hill,

- Buffalo Trace And Jack Daniels

Bottled Unchill-filtered And Colouring Free At

- Bruichladdich Distillery, 59.8% Alc. / Vol

Limited To 42,000 Bottles



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PROGRESSIVE HEBRIDEAN DISTILLERS

Octomore 10.1



Distillery Tasting Notes

Nose Vanilla led, caramel, hints of smoke but tamed back. candied apple, gooseberry and marzipan.

Taste Soft yet powerful and warming on the palate, peppery, barley sugar, smokey – dried earth and hints of rubber. Warm sand, sweetness of charred oak and pineapple.

Finish Sweetness from tablet/fudge and a strong peat smoke and cold marine air combination..

