



TASTING BRIEF

MARCH 27, 2026



ARDNAHOE

— DISTILLERY —
ISLAY

Ardnahoe Distillery was founded in 2015 by the Laing family of Hunter Laing & Company. Production of spirit first commenced in 2016 and the distillery officially opened in April 2019 as the first new Islay distillery in over a decade. After the required maturation period, its first whisky was released in 2024 (when Saxon and Stephanie visited!), marking its transition from a new venture to an established producer, while continuing to develop its identity within the historic Islay whisky region.



THE DISTILLERY

Ardnahoe Distillery stands out from other Islay distilleries because it selectively revives and combines older production methods in a modern build. Most notably, it uses worm tub condensers, a traditional and increasingly rare cooling method that creates a heavier, oilier, more robust spirit—something only a few Islay distilleries (like Lagavulin Distillery) still employ. This gives Ardnahoe's whisky a weightier texture compared to many newer, cleaner-styled spirits.



Another key difference is its intentional balance of peat and elegance. While heavily peated whisky is common on Islay (e.g., Ardbeg Distillery), Ardnahoe aims for a slightly more refined profile—combining smoke with bright citrus, fruit, and sweetness, rather than pushing peat to the extreme.

The distillery also places strong emphasis on first-fill casks (both bourbon and Oloroso sherry) early in its life, which accelerates flavor development and allows relatively young whisky to show depth sooner than typical for a new distillery.

Finally, unlike legacy producers such as Caol Ila Distillery that produce at large scale, Ardnahoe was designed from the start as a smaller, family-owned operation focused on character and visitor experience rather than volume. The result is a distillery that blends old-school production (worm tubs), modern precision, and a curated flavor profile, giving it a distinctive place within Islay's already diverse whisky landscape.



ARDNAHOE

— DISTILLERY —
ISLAY

INFINITE LOCH

Region Islay

ABV 50%

Price \$59.99

Cask *First-fill ex-Bourbon
& first-fill Oloroso sherry*

Ardnahoe Infinite Loch has been matured in a combination of ex-Bourbon and ex-Oloroso sherry casks, and is bottled with no artificial colouring and no chill-filtration.

Distillery Tasting Notes

Nose Cleaner and brighter—sea air, peat, and chocolate

Taste Menthol, fresh fruit and bonfire notes

Finish Medium length with bonfire smoke, zesty finish





INAUGURAL RELEASE

Region Islay

ABV 50%

Price \$69.99

Cask *Ex-Bourbon & ex-Oloroso sherry (mostly first-fill)*

Taking its name from the location by Loch Ardnahoe, Ardnahoe is Scottish Gaelic for 'Height of the Hollow'. Water is drawn from this deep loch for the whisky making process, which is exceptionally soft - having been filtered through peat and rock for thousands of years.

Distillery Tasting Notes

Nose Shortbread, baked apples and Islay peat smoke on the nose.

Taste Custard, ginger, lemon zest and baked apples on the palate

Finish Long and smokey





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BHOLSA

Region Islay

ABV 50%

Price \$64.99

Cask Oloroso sherry
casks

Ardnahoe Bholsa has been matured predominantly in Oloroso sherry casks, and is bottled with no artificial colouring and no chill-filtration.

Distillery Tasting Notes

Nose Red fruits, walnuts, orange zest and peat smoke on the nose.

Taste Raisins, dates and ripe plums on the palate underpinned by Islay peat

Finish Long, peppery finish.





ARDNAHOE

— DISTILLERY —
ISLAY

CASK STRENGTH

Region Islay

ABV 60.9%

Price \$79.99

Cask *first-fill bourbon barrels*

Ardnahoe Cask Strength is composed exclusively of spirit matured in first-fill bourbon barrels, hand selected for their fullness of character.

This Batch 1 has been aged for five years and is offered at its natural cask strength of 60.9%, and is bottled with no artificial colouring and no chill-filtration.

Distillery Tasting Notes

Nose Coastal brine, earthy peat and rich cocoa on the nose.

Taste Orchard fruits, herbal tea and salted caramel on the palate

Finish Smoky finish with citrus undertones.

