

PROPRIETARY BOTTLINGS

NON-PROPRIETARY BOTTLINGS

new releases

the tastings

new releases

Dave and Martine get to grips with the latest bottlings on offer and provide extensive tasting notes. Once again a great haul of whiskies to look out for



**A.D. RATTRAY CASK COLLECTION
BUNNAHABHAIN 1976 49.4%
DEWAR RATTRAY**

REGION ISLAY
PRICE PER BOTTLE ♦♦♦♦
AVAILABILITY EUROPE, CANADA

DAVE

Nose

Ripe orange, chocolate and toasty wood/roasting coffee. There's a some floral accents on top with a little apricot. Impression of age. Stewing peaches and tasting marshmallows.

Palate

Intense, concentrated and very fruity. Conserved fruit. Clusters in the centre of the tongue. Sweet and soft with cinnamon and light ginger.

Finish

Oaky and slightly tight then dried coconut.

Comments

Old, yet balanced and still filled with vigour. Recommended.

8.4

MARTINE

Nose

Deep, rich, fruity. Greengage cooked in a honey syrup. Shortcake pastry. A cedar note.

Palate

Smooth, velvety. Rich Dundee cake, enticing burst of spices. Ginger and nutmeg. Oak is perfectly integrated.

Finish

Long, fulfilling, with a light nutty aftertaste.

Comments

A superb oldtimer. Rich, deep without ostentation. Well matured, perfectly balanced. Very satisfying. Better neat.

8.8



**33.70'KEITH RICHARDS
MEETS SOCRATES' 1998
10 YEARS OLD 57.3%
SMWS**

REGION ISLAY
PRICE PER BOTTLE ♦♦♦♦
AVAILABILITY
SPECIALIST RETAILERS

DAVE

Nose

Dry but fragrant smoke with touch of pot pourri. Citrus peels thrown on a bonfire. Hot embers, smoked fish and chocolate. Water increases complexity with brimstone and elastoplast.

Palate

Immediate embers/coal dust. A burst of sweetness, then it dries, though it flows well revealing a slight oiliness in time along with pepper.

Finish

Clean and peaty.

Comments

An effusively phenolic smouldering hulk. Recommended.

8.7



**64.17'OOZES JUICINESS'
1992 16 YEARS OLD 54.7%
SMWS**

REGION SPEYSIDE
PRICE PER BOTTLE ♦♦♦♦
AVAILABILITY
SPECIALIST RETAILERS

DAVE

Nose

Grassy with the spicy sweetness of Edinburgh Rock. Needs a little time for the discreet secondary aromas to develop. Sugared plum, melon, greengage with touches of comice pear and elderflower.

Palate

A slightly soapy quality then the fresh fruits win out: raspberry. Dilute, the intense artificial quality remains, like a cheap teenage perfume.

Finish

Green and slightly hard.

Comments

Don't water. Decent aperitif dram.

7.2



**93.33'PINE SAP AND BLACK
PEPPER' 1992
16 YEARS OLD 64.3%
SMWS**

REGION CAMPBELTOWN
PRICE PER BOTTLE ♦♦♦♦
AVAILABILITY
SPECIALIST RETAILERS

DAVE

Nose

Musty. A deserted factory with wet newspaper and cigarette butts ground out on the dusty oily floor. It tries to throw this grubbiness off showing chocolate digestive and oak.

Palate

Initially, it's better than the nose and sweeter too. Birch sap wine. Becomes fishy half way through.

Finish

Tight with a peppery catch.

Comments

Like Dr Jekyll it's trying to escape from its alter ego, but Hyde wins out.

6.8

MARTINE

Nose

Smoky. Bonfire on a wet day. A hint of smoked sausage. The smoky notes develop together with a floral scent. Hyacinth. A mineral touch. Wet pebbles. Then opening on a nutty note. With water, a sour touch.

Palate

Smooth at first but not for long. A big spicy explosion. Dry soot. Chewy feel. Water brings in fresh mint and liquorice but also some astringency.

Finish

Dry, smoky.

Comments

The nose is enticing but the palate does not follow.

7

MARTINE

Nose

Grassy. Candied angelica. Candy floss. Sweet cereals. Granny Smith apple. Pleasant perfumy bouquet.

Palate

Silky feel but tangy. Wasabi. Lemon drop. Fresh but assertive.

Finish

Dry, still tangy. Dry almond (with bitter touch of the skin).

Comments

A teasing nose and an assertive palate. A dash of water reconcile both.

7.2

MARTINE

Nose

Farm yard. Straw with an earthy touch. Peaty note. The alcohol strength makes it prickly.

Palate

Mouth-coating. But so fiery and biting, numbing tastebuds. Smoke tries to creep in.

Finish

Burning, dry.

Comments

I thought this whisky was too young to be bottled. And when I read that it was 16 Years Old, I could not believe it.

6



ELEMENTS of ISLAY

Islay as Nature intended

FULL PROOF

Available from www.thewhiskyexchange.com & other great whisky shops