

**THE
VICTORIA
WHISK(E)Y
BOOK**

**A GUIDE TO
WHISK(E)Y
FROM SCOTLAND,
IRELAND AND
FURTHER AFIELD**

**THE ASTONISHING RANGE OF SPIRITS
FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

6^d

COMPLETE



6^d

UNABRIDGED

THE VICTORIA BOOK OF WHISK(E)Y

We have fastidiously sourced & researched the ever growing world wide phenomenon that is Whisk(e)y and we hope that you all enjoy them as much as we.

Water of life 'Whisky' is our passion, let's not let it go out of fashion, Heritage, history & sustainability is what we are about.

**Irish, Bushmill's, Jameson, Tullamore Due to name a few.
Scottish Highlands, Lowlands & any other lands you can name,
Kentucky Bourbons & Ryes to light up your eyes,
Emotion & devotion to providing you with only the best,
Yamasaki to Brucccladdie we've got the lot!**

**Slàinte
(gaelic for cheers!)**

SCOTCH WHISKY



AUCHENTOSHAN THREE WOOD

£4.50

The Three Wood is intense, sweet and complex with a rich golden bronze appearance. It has a blackcurrant, brown sugar, orange, plum and raisin aroma with a fruit and syrup taste. The finish is fresh and fruity with long lasting oaky sweetness.



AUCHENTOSHAN 12 YEAR OLD

£3.50

The 12 year old is smooth, fresh and nutty with a golden honey appearance. It has a Crème Brulee smell with a burst of citrus and the signature nuttiness and green leafiness of Auchentoshan. To taste the palate is smooth and sweet with hints of tangerine and lime. To finish, it is a gingery and slightly drying with a pleasant lingering nuttiness.



AUCHENTOSHAN 18 YEAR OLD

£8.25

The 18 year old is zesty and refreshing with deep golden summer barley appearance. The nose is fresh tobacco leaf then sweet with a hint of caramelised sugars, green tea and toasted almonds. At first the palate has a floral freshness with sweet barley sugar which gently ebbs to reveal a tangerine zestiness that leaves the palate alive and refreshed.



BALVENIE 12 YEAR OLD

£4.25

One of the classic after-dinner malts, Balvenie Doublewood's extra complexity and richness are a result of a second maturation in fresh sherry casks. Great stuff. Chocolate and raspberry aromas, with rich brioche and stewed cherries with a sweet spice, red fruits, rich sponge cake finish.



BIG PEAT

£5.75

Douglas Laing's Big Peat is a Blended (as we have to call them now) Islay malt containing spirit from Ardbeg, Caol Ila, Bowmore and, shockingly, Port Ellen. Not as full-on as the name might suggest, but with pedigree like that at this price Big Peat is a nailed-on winner. Picked up the top prize in its category at the World Whisky Awards 2010.



BOWMORE 12 YEAR OLD

£4.50

Bowmore 12yo has a place in many hearts as Islay's 'medium-peated' malt. A pronounced iodine character with plenty of pepper, the current 12yo bottling is a welcome return to the classic Bowmores of the 1960s and '70s, with the emphasis on tropical fruit and smoke.



BOWMORE 15 YEAR OLD

£5.50

The Bowmore Darkest has flourished since it gained a 15 year-old age statement. The sweet sherry notes take precedence over the peat here. Leathery sherry notes, with tarred ropes, burnt sugar, medicinal edges, spiced fruit and burnt raisins.



BOWMORE 18 YEAR OLD

£6.75

A popular expression in Bowmore's ongoing range, this replaced the 17 year old, which was phased out a few years ago. Fresh, with notes of salty kippers and coal smoke. Sweet, with floral notes, lightly tannic wood and a touch of sawdust.

SCOTCH WHISKY CONTINUED



CAOL ILA 12 YEAR OLD

£5.00

Caol Ila 12 Year Old is of medium weight, but still packing plenty of potent phenols, this is a refined, powerful dram with a compensating oiliness. A balanced, peaty beauty. Intense and rich, with malted barley and gentle floral touches overcome by smoky notes.



CARDHU 12 YEAR OLD

£4.50

A much-loved single malt, Cardhu is an easy-going, charming Speysider. With clean, crisp oak and sweet malt evoking flavours of honeyed flapjacks and home-made caramel squares, this is one for the sweet-toothed among you. San Francisco World Spirits Competition 2011 - Double Gold.



COMPASS BOX ASYLA

£3.85

An extraordinary high-quality blend from maverick independent John Glaser, a man dedicated to the art of combining whiskies to produce an end result greater than the sum of its parts. If you wanted to convert someone who says they don't like whisky, you couldn't do much better than this. A must.



DALMORE 12 YEAR OLD

£4.25

Dalmore 12 is aged for the first nine years in American white oak ex-bourbon casks, before half is transferred to ex-oloroso sherry casks for the final three years. The result is a whisky with a combination of sweetness and rich, sherried flavours. Citrus, Christmas cake, coffee, cinnamon.



DALMORE 15 YEAR OLD

£6.50

A favourite expression in the Dalmore stable, this 15-year-old is elegant and smooth, with lipsmacking texture and the flawless balance one would expect from blending maestro Richard Paterson. Soft and very approachable, with tempting notes of dried fruit, hazelnuts, cinnamon and nutmeg. Smells like Christmas!



GLENFIDDICH 12 YEAR OLD

£3.25

One of the world's best-selling malts, Glenfiddich 12yo's famous triangular bottle is a fixture in practically every bar on the globe. Light and easy-drinking stuff loved by millions. Characteristic sweet, fruity notes. Develops into butterscotch, cream, malt and subtle oak flavours. A long smooth and mellow finish.



GLENFIDDICH 15 YEAR OLD

£4.75

Immensely popular Glenfiddich variant. Using a Solera system common in the maturation of quality sherry, 15yo malt from three different types of casks is married together in a wooden vat, which is constantly topped up to ensure the quality is maintained.



HIGHLAND PARK 12 YEAR OLD

£3.75

Highland Park 12 Year Old remains one of the gold-standard malts for other distillery bottlings to aspire to. With a delicious sweetness (heather-honey is their preferred description) and a warming, silky mouthfeel, this is a whisky that never lets you down.

SCOTCH WHISKY CONTINUED



ISLE OF JURA 10 YEAR OLD

£4.00

Isle of Jura 10yo is an accessible, easy-drinking malt. Medium-bodied with a delicate sweet palate, with a hint of brine developing on the finish. A great introductory malt. Light and delicate with a warming honey finish, aged in ex-Bourbon casks for 10 years.



JOHNNIE WALKER PLATINUM

£8.50

Originally introduced solely into travel retail, the Platinum Label (the first new colour to be introduced for years) has now made it out into the wider world. It's a rich and refined blend of whiskies matured for at least 18 years that slips perfectly into the range just behind the iconic Blue Label.



LAGAVULIN 16 YEAR OLD

£5.00

The Islay representative in the 'Classic Malts' series is a deep, dry and exceptionally peaty bruiser. Probably the most pungent of all Islay malts, Lagavulin is not for the faint-hearted but inspires fanatical devotion in its many followers. Runner Up in The Whisky Exchange's Whisky of the Year 2014



LAPHROAIG 10 YEAR OLD

£4.00

Laphroaig 10yo is a full-bodied, smoky gem, with a residual sweetness and a hint of salt amid the seaweedy, peaty characters before a long warming finish. A classic dram. Huge smoke, seaweedy and medicinal on the nose with a hit of sweetness



MACALLAN GOLD

£4.50

Macallan Gold was released in late 2012 as part of a series of colour-themed bottlings introduced to replace the distillery's age-statement expressions. Produced from 9-15yo first fill and refill sherry casks, it was designed to sit between the now-defunct 10yo Sherry Oak and 10yo Fine Oak bottlings.



MONKEY SHOULDER

£3.50

Monkey Shoulder is a mix of three different Single Malts - Glenfiddich, Balvenie and Kininvie - and is great with mixers or just on its own. Smooth, sweet and very easy to drink. Zesty orange meets mellow vanilla, honey and spiced oak. Super smooth.



NAKED GROUSE

£3.50

Complex with subtle traces of hazelnut, almonds, raisins, and grape juice. Smooth, but with a nice complex spicy blend of cinnamon, allspice, and nutmeg notes. Buttery underneath with touches of tropical fruits. Lingers nicely with a balance of spice and fruit notes consistent with the taste.



OBAN 14 YEAR OLD

£5.50

The Western Highland representative in Diageo's 'Classic Malt' series, Oban 14yo is a superb, full-blooded fruity malt with a whiff of heather and more than a hint of smoke. Mouth-filling late autumn fruits - dried figs and honey-sweet spices; followed by a smoky malty dryness. Long, smooth-sweet finish with oak-wood, dryness and a grain of salt.

SCOTCH WHISKY CONTINUED



PEAT MONSTER

£5.25

A top-quality vatting of the peated Speysider Ardmore with some choice Islay malt, Peat Monster is never less than excellent. Pitch-perfect balance and delicious chewy complexity. Amazing balance from start to finish. Peat and iodine to fruit baskets then burning leaves or wood outdoors.



SINGLETON OF DUFTOWN

£4.75

Sweetness and crunchy nuts impress at first, then there's a smooth, fruity Speyside richness to enjoy. Firm, with a balancing sweetness: hints of blackcurrant fruit, brown sugar and espresso coffee. Warming and pleasant. With water, still a pleasant texture. Light sweetness, then chewy and balanced by a light acidity, with a good spread of flavours.



SMOKEHEAD THE ROCK

£4.00

Smokehead is a popular single Islay malt from Ian Macleod distillers. Nose: Smoke! Lapsang souchong. Cool wood smoke. Thick and full. Big, puckering peat. Smoky, fruity sweetness, touch of sherry, sultana. Herbal. Finish: Herbal, tangy fruits and more peat smoke!



SPICE TREE

£5.50

Another innovative release from John Glaser and the Compass Box team. A vatting of northern Highland distilleries (principally Clynelish), the whisky is aged in unique barrels with heavily toasted heads, adding a rich spiciness – great sipped neat or used as the base for a whisky cocktail.



TALISKER 10 YEAR OLD

£3.75

Another that should need no introduction. The thing to look for in Talisker, as with all smoky whiskies, is sweetness that give the requisite balance to the drying effect of smoke. Underneath Talisker's smoke, which ain't as all-pervading as Lagavulin, is a sweet pear-like quality. When young there are notes of the land: heather, moor, sweet seaweed, and a finish that has a distinctive cracked black pepper hit.



TOBERMORY 10

£4.00

Barley sugars and toasted cereal, supported by hints of winter spice and soft oak on the nose. Salty melted butter and ground ginger develop. Quite sweet and light. There are elements of acacia honey and continuing oak from the nose. Smoke and black pepper notes rise gently with a touch of dried fruit and peels. A flash of cinnamon later on. Long and herbal with a touch of pepper on the finish.

**ASK YOUR BARTENDER
FOR THE LATEST ARRIVALS**

AMERICAN WHISKEY



1792 RIDGEMONT RESERVE

£5.25

A bourbon distilled in Bardstown and named for the year that Kentucky became a state - 1792. Ridgemont Reserve is a bit of a hidden gem, with a very low profile despite a huge 94.5 points in Jim Murray's Whisky Bible 2013.



BAKER'S 7 YEAR OLD

£5.25

Baker's is a powerful small-batch bourbon which utilises a special kind of yeast for extra smoothness. Rich and intense, this is a perfect substitute for an after-dinner Cognac. An excellent small batch bourbon, named for the grand nephew of Jim Beam, Baker Beam.



BASIL HAYDEN'S BOURBON

£4.50

Created in 1796 by Basil Hayden, who went against the grain (no pun intended) by adding in rye into the traditional corn-based mashbill. It was a huge hit and today is one of Jim Beam's 'Small Batch' range of bourbons. Spicy, peppery, honey, light-bodied, gentle bite



BOOKER'S 7 YEAR OLD TRUE BARREL BOURBON

£5.70

Stunning cask strength Kentucky straight bourbon from the Booker's True Barrel series - a fantastic line from the Jim Beam range named after the one and only Booker Noe. This one has been bottled at 7 years old, with an intense ABV of 63.7%.



BUFFALO TRACE

£3.00

Buffalo Trace is a really classy bourbon from the eponymous distillery that has been responsible for some truly outstanding products in recent years. A must-stock for any bar worthy of the name and probably the best all-rounder at the price



GEORGE T. STAGG

£15.00

Lush toffee sweetness and dark chocolate with hints of vanilla, fudge, nougat and molasses. Underlying notes of dates, tobacco, dark berries, spearmint and a hint of coffee round out the palate. This is incredibly hard to get hold of, so if we have it and you don't try today, it may be gone by your next visit!



HUDSON BABY BOURBON

£9.00

The splendidly-named Hudson Baby Bourbon - the first legal aged grain spirit to be produced in New York since Prohibition ended over 75 years ago. Unusually for bourbon, Hudson's spirit is manufactured in a potstill at the Tuthilltown Gristmill (a heritage site) and is aged in small new oak casks.



HUDSON BABY GRAIN

£8.50

Hudson Four Grain bourbon is made using the Tuthilltown distillery's unique recipe of the common grains used for a bourbon mashbill - corn, rye, malted barley and wheat. Like the company's flagship Baby Bourbon, Four Grain is aged in small casks to speed up maturation.

AMERICAN WHISKEY CONTINUED



HUDSON BABY MANHATTAN RYE

£9.00

Hudson's Manhattan Rye is a long-overdue revival of a rye-making tradition that was deeply-embedded on America's east coast before the advent of Prohibition. As with the Tuthilltown distillery's other products, Manhattan Rye has been double-distilled and aged in small casks. A treat for Rye lovers.



JACK DANIEL'S GENTLEMAN JACK

£4.50

Well worth the extra, Gentleman Jack is charcoal-mellowed twice, before and after the ageing process, resulting in a cleaner, more refined end product. Packaged in a smart monogram-esque bottle. Subtle oak that develops into a smooth finish of fruit with maple and floral honey.



JACK DANIEL'S OLD NO.7

£3.00

The original all-conquering cola-friendly colossus, Jack Daniel's No. 7 commands a legion of fans worldwide, thanks to the sweet smoothness imparted by the Lincoln County Process of charcoal-mellowing the spirit before maturation. Banana and peanutbutter with Dutch chocolate and orange touches and a lingering char.



JIM BEAM DOUBLE OAK

£4.00

Launched in 2016, Jim Beam Double Oak is aged in in not one, but two, new charred-oak barrels. This has all the classic sweetness and flavours of Jim Beam White Label, but with added spice.



KNOB CREEK

£3.50

Created to represent whiskey before it was mass produced, Knob Creek embodies the look, feel and taste of pre-prohibition bourbon. This is a long-aged, high-rye bourbon from Jim Beam. Aroma of toasted nuts and grain oak. Rich, sweet, woody and full bodied, almost fruity with a long rich and glowing finish.



RITTENHOUSE RYE

£3.00

A cracking rye from Heaven Hill, illustrative of the classic Pennsylvania 'Monongahela' style. Very popular with rye aficionados, this must be tried by American whiskey enthusiasts. Aromas of rye bread dough and cedarwood with a light varnish note and cinnamon spice. Lingering nutmeg.



TINCUP

£3.25

Tincup American Whiskey is the brainchild of Colorado-based Jess Graber. A distiller as a hobby for 30 years, he turned full-time in 2004. A high rye whiskey, made with a bourbon-style profile but more powerful and spicier, the cap also works as a cup.



WOODFORD RESERVE

£3.00

Rich and full-bodied, Woodford Reserve is a delicious bourbon, triple distilled for extra smoothness, and loaded with notes of dried fruit and sweet spice. Ideal served as a digestif after dinner, on the rocks, or as the basis for a cocktail.

WORLD WHISK(E)Y



BUSHMILLS BLACK BUSH

£3.50

A rich, dark, Irish blend, Black Bush contains a high proportion of triple-distilled single malt, aged in Oloroso sherry casks for around eight to 10 years before marriage with the grain.



CANADIAN CLUB

£3.75

The nose is of medium-body with notes of barley sugar and aniseed, notes of cut grass and fennel, a hint of straw and a vegetal freshness. The palate is quite sweet and gentle. There are notes of winter spice and dark sugars, a touch of rum. The finish is of medium-sweetness and of medium-length.



HIBIKI HARMONY

£7.25

Hibiki Japanese Harmony is a blend of Japanese malt and grain whiskies from Yamazaki, Hakushu and Chita. Presented in the brand's trademark 24-faceted bottle representing the Japanese seasons, this is light, approachable and moreish with enticing notes of orange peel and white chocolate.



NIKKA FROM THE BARREL

£6.50

Nikka from the Barrel is big-boned and bursting with character. Not averse to a drop of water, either. A real star, winning top prize in its category at the World Whisky Awards in 2007 and 2010. Characterful stuff, this whisky has plenty of personality, and shows a delightful balance between the spicy pepperiness and rich citrus fruit.



PADDY

£4.00

A well-known blend, reputedly named after a gregarious travelling sales rep for the distillery who made sure that everyone who crossed his path tried a glass. The palate is sweet and of medium-body with toffee and cereals, a rosewater note with a little butterscotch and vanilla.



PENDERYN MADEIRA FINISH

£5.50

Penderyn is a Welsh whisky distilled once in a unique Faraday copper still with an added purifier and rectification column and finished in Madeira casks for extra smoothness. Launched in 2004, Penderyn has built on its early promise and really carved a niche for itself.



THE POGUES

£3.50

Dubbed the official Irish whiskey of the legendary band, The Pogues is made in Skibbereen, west Cork. This blended whiskey is sweet and intense with notes of malt and cracked nuts. The Pogues Whiskey is said to have the highest malt content of any blended Irish whiskey. The bells will certainly be ringing out for this one!



TULLAMORE DEW

£3.50

Tullamore Dew is a resoundingly popular Irish blend, particularly in overseas markets, where it is second only to Jameson. Very approachable. Restrained apple & blackcurrant leafy nose. Lovely silky palate. Soft and spicy finish.

Bodega

**Buffalo
& Rye**



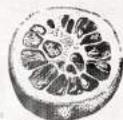
Marmalade
at Birmingham Repertory Theatre
Brewery • Coffee • Cocktails



**THE
ROSE VILLA
TAVERN**
HOCKLEY ↴

**THE
VICTORIA** 

island bar
STRAIGHT FORWARD • BIRMINGHAM



**BITTERS N'
TWISTED**
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