



## Object of the Newsletter

*To promote the appreciation of fine Scotch Whisky (and the drinking of it) amongst my friends and to spread the word on the joys of single malt. By the way, I do not profess to be an expert, I am merely expressing an opinion on the whiskies I am tasting. "Slange."*

This issue I look at Talisker 30 year old, I was very fortunate indeed to be given a bottle by my friend David and his lovely wife Mattie after their trip to Scotland (thank you both so much).

Being from an island off the west coast, as you'd expect there is some smoke in this whisky, but it's a mild smoke and again as you'd expect there's a little saltiness to it, what I didn't expect is the spice. If you like spicy food and you like single malt scotch you will love this whisky.

This whisky would match well with seafood, such as scallops, clams, oysters or smoked salmon and I believe it would pair really well with a dish like tandoori prawns.

I just had a meal a couple of nights ago of pan seared scallops on a bed of risotto with this whiskies baby brother the Talisker 10 year old and it paired really well.

### Tasting Notes;

**Color** - Gold

**Nose** - Sea air, smoke, vanilla and citrus

**Palate** - Spicy, salty, creamy chocolate

**Finish** - Long, smooth, smoky, salty and peppery

*If you have a personal favorite and you would like it to feature in future "Slange" newsletters, please let me know.*

*I can be contacted at my website <http://www.scot-talks.com>*

*"Slainte Mhath"  
Paul Bissett*





## A wee bit of History

The Talisker Distillery (the only one on the Isle of Skye, off the West coast of Scotland) can be found near the village of Carbost, on the shore of Loch Harport (marked by the Red balloon on the map below).

The distillery was started in 1843 by Hugh and Kenneth MacAskill from the island of Eigg. Hugh was a senior tenant farmer, who leased land to others and acquired the lease of Talisker House and estate from Macleod, chief of the clan Macleod.

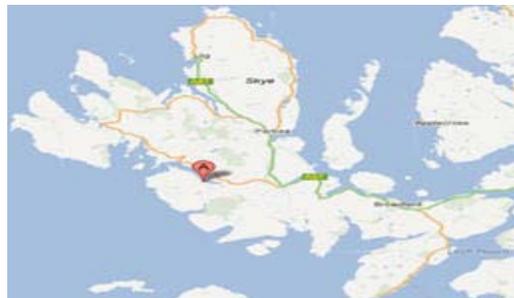
After the brothers' deaths the distillery was eventually acquired by a partnership between Grigor Allan, Procurator Fiscal of Morayshire, and Roderick Kemp, a wine and spirits merchant, and substantial sums of money were invested in rebuilding and refitting the distillery. By this time the whisky was gaining a reputation for itself. The famous author Robert Louis Stevenson mentions it in a poem, 'The Scotsman's Return from Abroad' in 1880;

***The king o' drinks, as I conceive it,  
Talisker, Islay or Glenlivet.***

In 1892, Kemp bought the Macallan distillery on Speyside and Allan took over the entire ownership of Talisker and merged it with Dailuaine to form the Daluaine-Talisker Distilleries Ltd. This company extended the premises at Talisker, built a pier, a tramway to link it to the distillery and houses to accommodate the employees and excise officer.

In 1925 through a previous merger with some of the founding members of the 'big five' the distillery became fully owned by United Distillers. The distillery was partly rebuilt in 1960 after a fire.

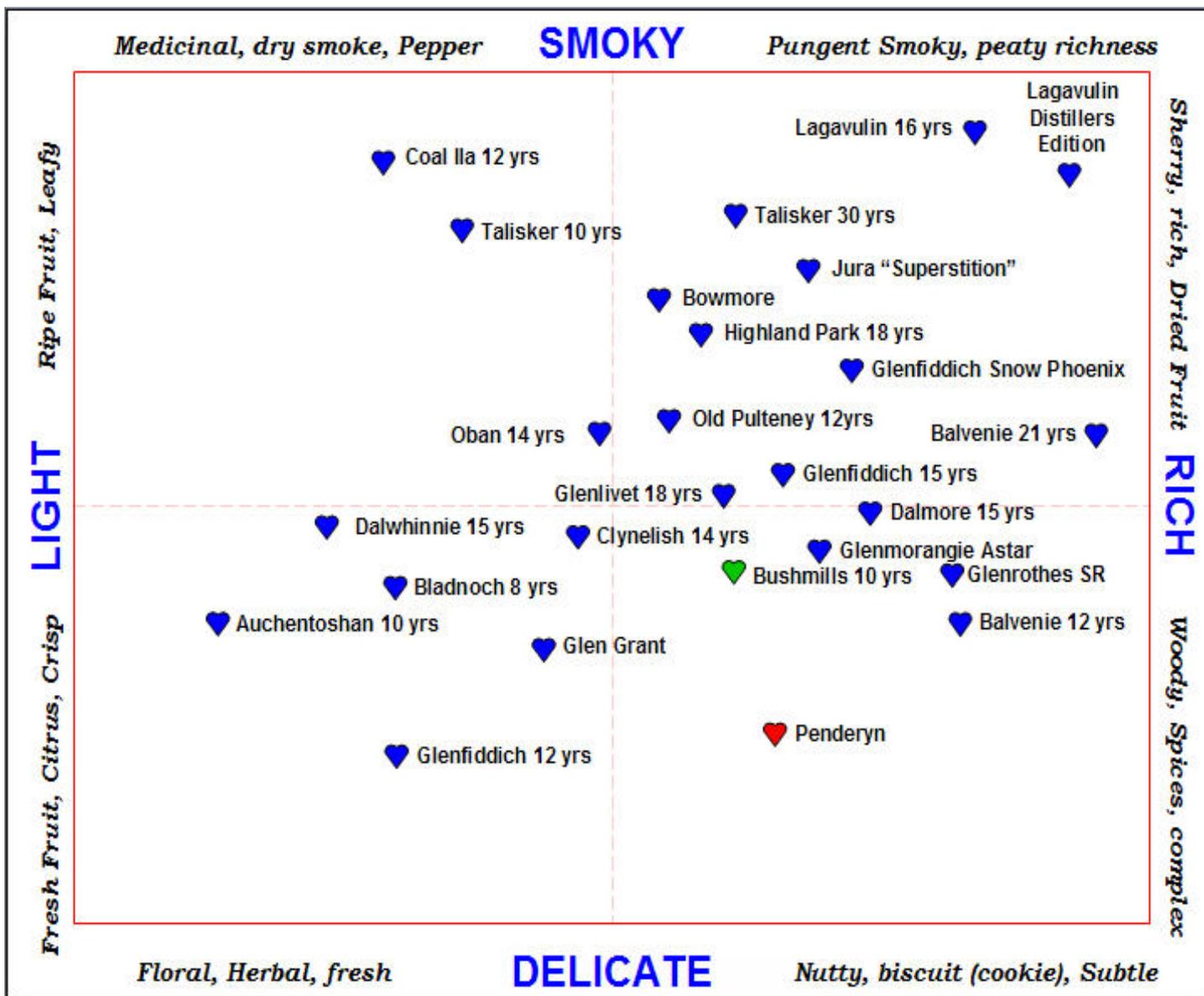
In 1988/89, the brand was chosen by United Distillers for their Classic Malts series.





Below is a simple guide to help you choose your single malt Whisky, and the flavor notes you should expect from it. Being Scottish I recommend you find a likely candidate and try it in a bar before buying the whole bottle. With each issue of the newsletter I will add in another Whisky to the flavor map. This Issue; **Talisker 30 years old.**

For more information go to [http://www.malts.com/index.php/en\\_us/Our-Whiskies/Talisker?extra=66](http://www.malts.com/index.php/en_us/Our-Whiskies/Talisker?extra=66)





## The Isle of Skye

Skye is home to the Talisker distillery and was recently voted '4th best island in the world by National Geographic magazine, Skye has stunning mountains, beautiful coastline, it's own song "The Skye boat song," superb seafood, top class hotels and restaurants, and of course Talisker whisky one of the six classical malts.

So with all that going for it, you have to ask yourself "when can I go there?" To entice you even more, go to the Isle of Skye website <http://www.skye.co.uk> and learn about things to do and see, such as Eilean Donan castle on its rocky promontory and stunning location, voted the worlds most beautiful castle last year by Conde Nast traveler magazine readers.

Before someone picks me up for my error, I am aware that Eilean Donan castle is not on the Isle of Skye, but if you are driving to the isle of Skye you have to pass it, a few short miles from the bridge over to Skye. On Skye itself there is Armadale and Dunvegan castles as well as the Talisker distillery, all open to the public.

If you are a member of one of the following clans McDonald, MacKinnon, MacNicol, Macleod or McQueen your ancestors may have lived on Skye and perhaps your relatives still do?



Looking down from the Storr, a rocky hill on the Trotternish peninsula of the Isle of Skye overlooking the Sound of Raasay.