



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. I do not expect this to be "an easy row to hoe" as my friends have very definite ideas as to what constitutes a good Scotch. Hopefully, I will gain more friends than I lose while getting my message out there. By the way, I do not profess to be an expert, I am merely expressing an opinion on whiskies I am tasting. "Slange"

This issue I look at Glenfiddich 12-year-old. I chose Glenfiddich as it is the world's best-selling single malt, and most people, if they have tried a single malt will have tried this. It is therefore a good reference point and combined with the flavor map should help in guiding you to another similar whisky, or should you prefer it, an entirely different flavored whisky.

I have tried most of Glenfiddich's range and they consistently produce great whiskies, and I can and do recommend their whiskies.

I can also recommend a visit to their distillery.

One unlooked for advantage in drinking Glenfiddich is the bottle's shape, being triangular, if you lay it on its side it won't roll away (always a good thing).

Glenfiddich was the first scotch distillery to export its single malt outside of Scotland. Glenfiddich is much more than a famous single malt, it is a real ambassador for Scotland around the world.

The image of the Whisky bottle (to the right) may seem slightly out of focus, you should use this as a guide. While drinking look at the picture, when it comes into focus, stop drinking you've had enough.

Tasting Notes;

Color - Gold/Sunshine

Nose - Honey, Butter, Fruit, Toast

Palate - Buttered toast, slight Clove & pear

Finish - Short finish with a little heat

"Slainte Mhath"
Paul Bissett





A wee bit of History

The **Glenfiddich Distillery** is a Speyside single malt Scotch whisky distillery owned by William Grant & Sons in Dufftown, Scotland. Glenfiddich means 'Valley of the deer' in Gaelic, hence the presence of a deer symbol on Glenfiddich bottles.

The Glenfiddich Distillery was founded in 1886 by William Grant in Dufftown, Scotland, in the valley of the River Fiddich. The Glenfiddich single malt whisky first ran from the stills on Christmas Day, 1887.

The whisky is the only Highland or Speyside Scotch whisky to be distilled, matured and bottled at a single distillery. Glenfiddich also uses a single source of natural spring water, from the Robbie Dhu springs.

Glenfiddich is matured in oak casks such as rum casks from Cuba (in the case of Gran Reserva), Bourbon whiskey barrels from America (Ancient Reserve), or sherry butts from Jerez in Spain.

Glenfiddich's whiskies have performed very well at international Spirit ratings competitions. The 12, 15, 18, and 21-year offerings have all rated well in the San Francisco World Spirits Competition and the Beverage Testing Institutes' reviews. The 15-year whisky has performed the best, receiving three double-gold medals (in four years) at the 2007-2010 San Francisco competitions and a score of 91 with the Beverage Testing Institute. Glenfiddich has won more medals at the International Wine & Spirits Competition and the International Spirits Challenge since 2000 than any other single malt Scotch whisky.



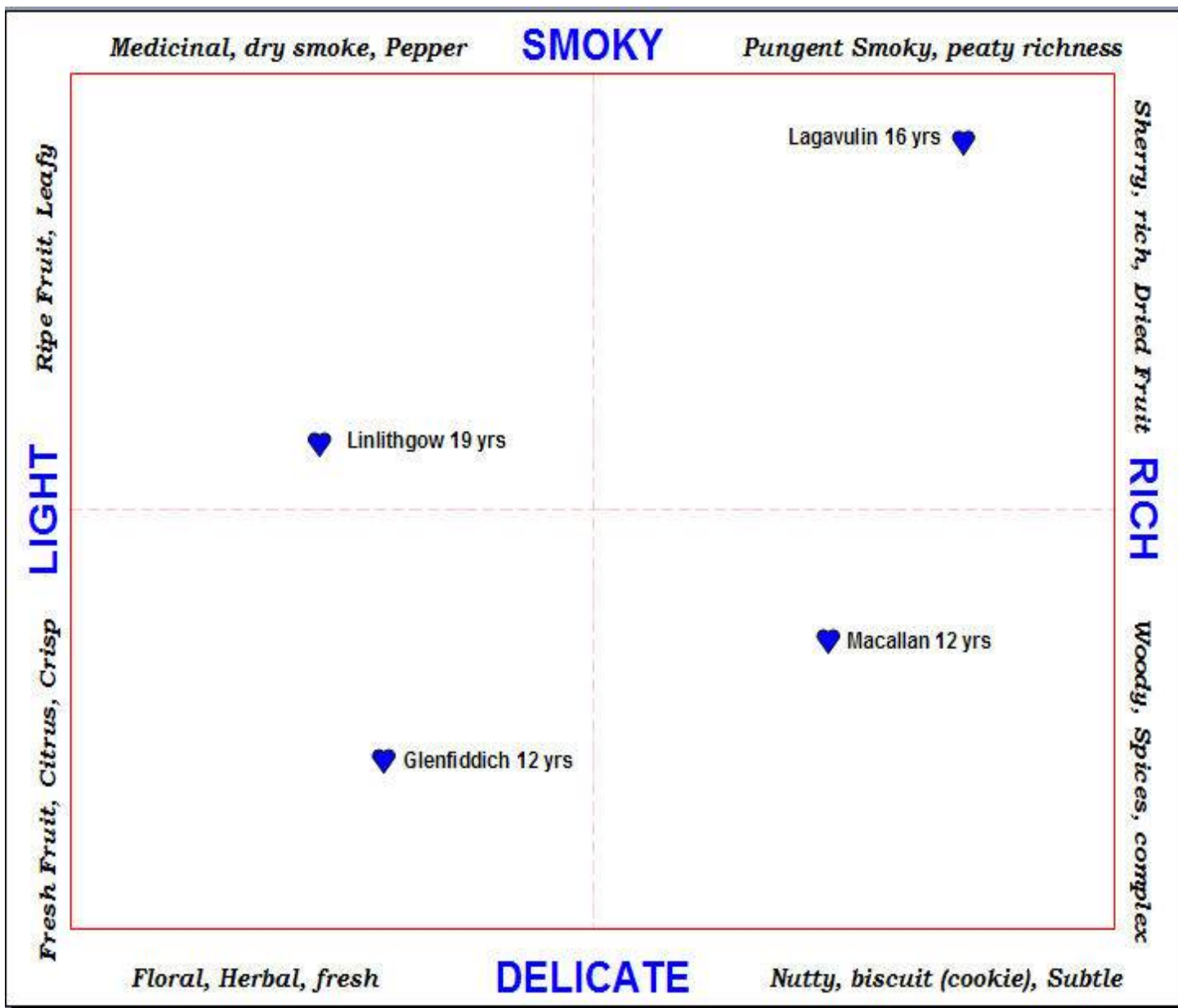
The great Highland philosopher, Lachlan McLachlan, propounded a number of irrefutable laws of life, the universe and everything. His greatest observations were made after looking at the world through the bottom of a whisky glass. Here is the first of many that will be appearing in future newsletters;

Lachlan's Laws ;

"Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about."



Below is a simple guide to help you choose your single malt Whisky, and the flavor notes I get from it, hopefully you will get something similar. 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; **Glenfiddich 12 year old**. For more information on Glenfiddich go to <http://www.glenfiddich.com>





Speyside's Long Distance Route: Walking the whisky trail

This Long Distance Route offers gentle gradients and spectacular scenery from its start at Buckie on the east coast to its finish 65 miles away at Aviemore. There are few places that aren't strikingly easy on the eye and the glassy, rushing waters of the Spey are often all you have for company.

If you take the Caledonian Sleeper train, Speyside isn't much more than a good night's rest away. There is access to the Speyside Way via the towns and villages sprinkled along the path. Spend each night in a different place to cover as much of this glorious area as possible.

Most towns along the way are small enough to preserve an air of uncluttered calm but large enough to offer a comfortable bed with shower or bath, a decent restaurant and one or two bars. Nearby are places that contain more than just beautiful scenery: Buckie is a working port with a cherished fishing tradition; Aviemore is an alpine-style resort.

This is also the whisky trail. Speyside is home to many famous makers of single malt Scotch. Some distilleries offer tours with tastings. Even for the teetotaler, it's an interesting insight into the relationship between alcohol and society. All are within driving distance (and some within walking distance) of the Speyside Way.



For more information, contact...<http://www.highland.gov.uk/leisureandtourism/what-to-see/longdistancepaths/thespeysideway.htm>

With thanks to Google maps (A = Buckie, B = Aviemore)