



## Object of the Newsletter

*To promote the appreciation of fine Scotch Whisky, the area from which it comes, the people that inhabit the land and it's history. By the way, I do not profess to be an expert, I am merely expressing an opinion on the whiskies I am tasting.*

I now look at the Glenfarclas 15-year-old, which has been on my bar in the past. This is a whisky that could be labeled a “Sherry bomb” or possibly a “Fruit bomb” this has a similar flavor profile to an older Balvenie with lots of stewed fruits and is reminiscent of Christmas fruitcake. If that is your thing, and you haven’t tried this whisky yet, then this is an inexpensive bottle you need to try. (Recommended) If this is really your thing and you are planning a trip to Scotland you need to know about the “Mash Tun” restaurant in Aberlour, Speyside. The Mash Tun is home to a wide and varied selection of whiskies. Most importantly they have the exclusive Glenfarclas Family Cask Collection. The Family Casks are a unique collection of 49 single cask whiskies, with one for each consecutive year from 1952 to 2000. The collection is unique as there is no other known collection of rare and old whiskies that covers 49 consecutive years from the same distillery. Start planning your trip!!

You can buy Glenfarclas 15-year-old for around \$55.00 a bottle.

### Tasting Notes

**Nose** - Sherried fruit

**Palate** - Christmas fruitcake

**Finish** - Long & fruity

*“Slainte Mhath”*

*Paul Bissett*





## Glenfarclas Distillery

The History of Glenfarclas started when the farmer Robert Hay built a distillery on the Rechlerich Farm in 1836. On June 8th, 1865 John Grant became tenant of the farm and bought the distillery for the price of £511.19S.od. He was 60 years old and married to Barbara with whom he had six children. He was a successful farmer and bred Aberdeen Angus cattle on several farms he owned. While he stayed at his Blairfindy Farm his distant Cousin John Smith cared for the Rechlerich Farm and the distillery, supported by John's Sohn George Grant. John Smith left Glenfarclas in 1870 to build another distillery, Cragganmore.

When John Grant died in 1889, George became owner of farm and distillery, but he also passed away just one year later, leaving Glenfarclas to his sons John and George and his widow Elsie.

When whisky boomed in the 1890s the brothers decided to expand and went into a partnership with Pattison, Elder & Co. which was ill-fated and nearly led to a financial ruin of the Grants. During 15 hard years the distillery was saved. The company was turned into J & G Grant, but John retired early and George led the family business on his own.

The fourth generation of Grants stepped into business with George Scott Grant, who was Chairman of Glenfarclas for 52 years until he died in 2002. Thanks to him to lay down a big stock of casks and deciding not to give that much whisky away to blenders as it had been done before. That's the reason why Glenfarclas has hands on great old casks.

John L.S. Grant followed his father George S. Grant as a chairman in 2002. At that time he had already been working in the company for nearly 30 years. He personally selects the Spanish sherry casks that will mature the Glenfarclas whisky and sources the malted barley for the production. The Family Casks releases are due to him.

When John's son George S. Grant joined Glenfarclas in 2000 it was the sixth generation to rule the family business. He works as Glenfarclas Brand Ambassador yet and introduces the whiskies to old and new markets. To read the full story, go to [www.whisky.com](http://www.whisky.com)



Glenfarclas distillery



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. This Issue; [Glenfarclas 15-year-old](https://glenfarclas.com). For more information on Glenturret go to <https://glenfarclas.com>.





## TOP TEN CASTLES IN SCOTLAND

### **Eilean Donan**

Visually one of the most recognized romantic and iconic castles in all of Scotland. Eileen Donan is set in the stunning Scottish Highlands and is one of the most photographed in the country. Strategically located on its own little island overlooking the stunning Isle of Skye, visitors can wander through most of the fabulous internal rooms, viewing period furniture, Jacobean artifacts and displays of weaponry and fine arts.



**Eilean Donan Castle**

### **Stirling Castle**

The castle is of great historical importance in Scotland as it was once the favored residence of the Stewart kings and queens who held celebrations in the castle. Knights and nobles once flocked to the castle to revel in its grandeur and beautiful gardens. Today, guests can meet costumed characters in the roles of bodyguards, court officials, maids of honor, etc. Families enjoy the palace vaults where children can try activities such as dressing in period costumes and playing medieval instruments. Not too far from Edinburgh and Glasgow, it's a great visit for first-time travelers in Scotland that are staying in the larger cities.

### **Edinburgh Castle**

A must-see for any traveler visiting the medieval and charming capital city of Edinburgh. The castle is a world famous icon and a World Heritage Site, and the most famous of Scottish castles for obvious reasons. The oldest part, St. Margaret's Chapel, dates from the 12th century– the Great Hall was erected by James IV around 1510 and the castle houses the Honours (Crown Jewels) of Scotland, the Stone of Destiny, the 15th century gun Mons Meg, the One O'Clock Gun and the National War Museum of Scotland.



## TOP TEN CASTLES IN SCOTLAND CONT.

### Urquhart Castle

Urquhart Castle offers a taste of Scotland's dramatic Highlands– with 1,000 years of drama and history, guests experience a glimpse of the medieval life and stunning views over Loch Ness. The Grand Tower watches over the iconic loch (lake) where guests may spot a view of the mythical Loch Ness Monster, Nessie. Urquhart's stories can be told through a collection of artifacts left by its residents, historic replicas and more. This is where St. Columba is said to have worked miracles in the 6th century and where acts of chivalry and defiance provided inspiration during the War of Independence.

### Ballinalloch Castle

One of Scotland's most romantic castles (known as "The Pearl of the North") – it's located in the heart of Speyside, one of Scotland's famed whisky regions and is one of the few private castles in the country that has been lived in continuously by the family which founded it, the Macpherson-Grants. The castle shop stocks a wide variety of great Scottish goods, including luxury cashmere, family tartans and jewelry.



**Ballinalloch Castle**

### Dirleton Castle

A charming and romantic 12th century castle. The renowned gardens include an Arts and Crafts herbaceous border has been authenticated by the Guinness Book of Records as the world's longest.

### Cawdor Castle

Home of the Thanes of Cawdor, this 14th century castle is set in the Highlands, about 5 miles southwest of Nairn. Originally belonging to Clan Cawdor, it was passed to the Campbells in the 16th century and is famed for its connection to Shakespeare's Macbeth. The castle's interior allows for guests to view highlights such as the impressive Drawing Room, Tapestry Bedroom and the Dining Room (which includes 19th century antique cooking tools and furniture).



## TOP TEN CASTLES IN SCOTLAND CONT.

### **Glamis Castle**

A monument to Scottish heritage, Glamis Castle is the family home of the Earls of Strathmore and Kinghorne and the legendary setting for Shakespeare's Macbeth, along with the childhood home of HM Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother and the birthplace of Princess Margaret. Every room has its own story and the evolution of the castle and its legendary tales and secrets are brought to life once you step inside.

### **Inveraray Castle**

On the shores of Loch Fyne, Inveraray Castle & Gardens is one of Scotland's finest. The ancestral seat of the Dukes of Argyll, Chiefs of the Clan Campbell whose family have resided in Inveraray since the early 15th century, the castle was designed by Robert Morris and decorated by Robert Mylne. Its fairytale facade houses an equally enchanting interior. There is a tearoom that is quite popular amongst visitors.



**Inveraray Castle**

### **Culzean Castle**

A remarkable vision of turrets and battlements, Culzean Castle is surrounded by surging seas, secret gardens and lush forests. The castle is set on a dramatic cliff overlooking the Firth of Clyde and has been associated with the Kennedy family since the 14th century and was converted by Robert Adam between 1777 and 1792. Culzean also has a strong link with President Eisenhower, as the top-floor apartment was presented to him for his lifetime in recognition of his role during World War II.

*Source: Fox News*