



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 Old Pulteney 12 year old, recommended by my old navy shipmate “Teuchter” which I sampled recently. This was a night of sensory contradictions; I was standing outside at the rooftop Voodoo Lounge bar on the 51st floor of the Rio Hotel in Las Vegas, overlooking one of the worlds great light shows, in the middle of a desert. All the while I was smelling the sea air notes from my whisky and tasting this fine single malt ,that was trying hard to take me back to the rugged Highland coast in the North of Scotland.

I will gladly recommend this whisky, I enjoyed it that night and will again in the future.

Tasting Notes;

Color - Dark Amber

Nose - Quite intense with a hint of salt (sea air)

Palate - Medium bodied, faintly salty with an orange note.

Finish - Long and predominantly orange flavored, hint of malt.

US SAILING, the National Governing Body of the sport, and Old Pulteney, a leading single malt Scotch whisky brand, have formed a new partnership that names Old Pulteney as a sponsor and the “Official Scotch of US SAILING.”

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 www.scot-talks.com.

“Slainte Mhath”
Paul Bissett

With thanks to Google images.





A wee bit of History

Founded in 1826 by James Henderson at the height of Wick's celebrated herring boom, the Pulteney Distillery is the most northerly on the British mainland.

At a time when road links to the town were yet to be established, the distillery was dependent on the sea for its supply of barley and for the shipping out of its malt whisky.

Wick became known for the barrels of silver (herring) and gold (whisky) which left the port in vast numbers.

The distillery itself has an absorbing history, with its unique pot stills defying convention to this day. The wash still, in particular, is a source of fascination to visitors due to the absence of a 'swan neck'. Legend has it that when the still was delivered it was too tall for the still house and the manager simply decided to cut the top off!

The Old Pulteney bottle now incorporates a bulbous neck to reflect the shape of the stills.

Over time, the distillery has passed through the hands of various owners, and even closed during times of trouble for the industry in 1930.

However, throughout this history what has endured is the quality of the whisky. Traditional craftsmanship and the distillery's windswept location continue to contribute to the award-winning whisky that is Old Pulteney Single Malt Scotch

*To read more about Old Pulteney and the historic area around the distillery go to;
<http://www.oldpulteney.com/history.php>*



Visitor Center, Old Pulteney

"I love to sing, and I love to drink scotch. Most people would rather hear me drink Scotch." (George Burns)

“Slange”

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; **Old Pulteney 12 year old**. For more information go to <http://www.oldpulteney.com/history.php> If you like Old Pulteney, you may also like Craigellachie, Oban and Glenmorangie.

	<i>Fresh Fruit, Citrus, Crisp</i>	<i>Ripe Fruit, Leafy</i>	<i>Medicinal, dry smoke, Pepper</i>	SMOKY	<i>Pungent Smoky, peaty richness</i>	<i>Sherry, rich, Dried Fruit</i>	<i>Woody, Spices, complex</i>
LIGHT							
<i>Fresh Fruit, Citrus, Crisp</i>							
<i>Floral, Herbal, fresh</i>							
				DELICATE			
					<i>Nutty, biscuit (cookie), Subtle</i>		
						<i>Penderyn</i>	
						<i>Macallan 12 yrs</i>	
						<i>Bushmills 10 yrs</i>	
						<i>Ben Nevis 10 yrs</i>	
						<i>Old Pulteney 12 yrs</i>	
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As mentioned earlier the Old Pulteney distillery is situated in the town of Wick and has a population of about 9,000. The town straddles the River Wick and extends along both sides of Wick Bay. If you are in Scotland and doing the tourist thing, you will no doubt pay a visit to John o' Groats which is generally considered to be the most northerly part of mainland Britain (it's not), anyway if you find yourself way up there, Wick is a short drive down the road and a visit to the Old Pulteney distillery would be a nice break.

Wick's history stretches back, at least, to the era of Viking rule in Caithness, which ended, conclusively, in 1266's Treaty of Perth. The name Wick appears to be from a Norse word, vik, meaning bay.

Things to see and do in Caithness;

Caithness has a rich heritage much of it lying intact all round the coast and within the chambered cairns, stone circles, castles and many other stone dwellings right up to the "The highland Clearances." Thousands of years of history can be seen with sites often within hundreds of yards of each other but spanning hundreds and sometimes thousands of years.

<http://www.caithness.org/caithness/castles/index.htm>

