



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 Glenmorangie “Astar.” I came across a bottle of it in my local Liquor store and as our newly formed whisky club is called “Astar” (Gaelic for Journey) and we were having our first official meeting at my house, how could I resist. What did David and Jim my fellow whisky club members think of it? They liked it, but after the Balvenie 21 years old they had just drank, it didn’t match up (more on that bottle in a later issue). What did I think? I went back to the bottle on a different night without the Balvenie distraction. I enjoyed it, but at 57%, I enjoyed it even more when I added a little water to it.

Tasting Notes;

Color - Pale Gold

Nose - Fruit & Toffee

Palate - Creamy & fruity with an underlying vanilla/toffee sweetness.

Finish - Long & warm with spice

Awards

WWA 2009
Gold
Category - New Release



IWSC 2009
Gold Best In Class
Category - Single Malt



ISC 2009
Silver
Category - Scotch Single Malts



“Slainte Mhath”
Paul Bissett



A wee bit of History

www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk

Glenmorangie is the most popular single malt whisky sold in Scotland and the name "Glenmorangie" is said to mean *The Glen of Tranquility*.

The distillery can be found a mile or so west of Tain just off the A9 close to where it crosses the Dornoch Firth on its way north from Inverness.

The local production of spirits goes back to the early 1700s when a still was recorded at the nearby Morangie Farm. The existing Distillery, however, had its origins as a brewery; before being converted to a legal still in 1843.

Glenmorangie's stills are the tallest columns of any stills in Scotland, at nearly 17 feet.

Back in 1843 the original distillery was built around second-hand London Gin stills; and their exceptional height has been a feature of every still used here since. This is especially significant, since it ensures that only the lightest and purest vapors can ascend and condense into spirit.

Crafting the singular taste of Glenmorangie is entrusted to the care of just sixteen people: the *Sixteen Men of Tain* who also feature prominently in the distillery's promotional material.

The key ingredient in any malt whisky is the water that goes into it. In Glenmorangie's case this comes from the Tarlogie Springs, which rise about a mile above the distillery. These waters once fell as rain on the Hill of Tain, then filtered down through lime and sandstone rocks, gathering minerals on the way, before rising again at Tarlogie.

It can take up to a hundred years for the falling rain to emerge as spring water. So precious is this source of water that Glenmorangie has acquired the entire catchment area of the spring, or some 650 acres.

Glenmorangie has led the way in the industry in a number of respects, such as working with a variety of different *wood finishes*. Much of the character of single malt scotch is acquired through years spent in second hand wooden casks, and it matters greatly whether these were previously used to store bourbon, sherry, port, or Madeira etc. Glenmorangie is available in a wide range of "finishes" that illustrate very clearly just what a difference the wood can make to the scotch in your glass.

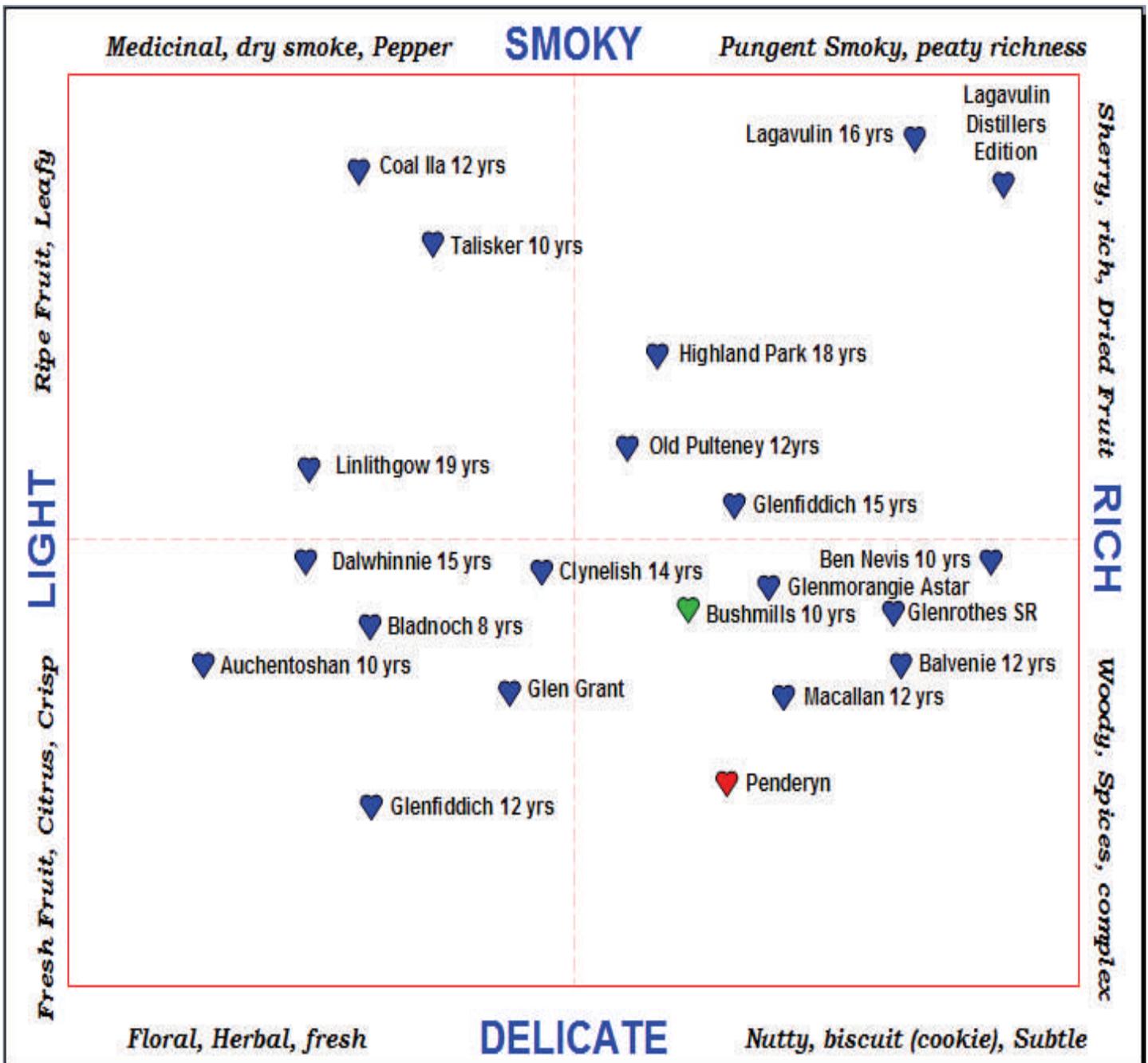


"Whisky is liquid sunshine."

(George Bernard Shaw)



Below is a simple guide to help you choose your single malt Whisky, and where it fits in the flavor map. 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. For more information on Glenmorangie go to www.glenmorangie.com





The Morning After

“The light did him harm, but not as much as looking at things did,” wrote novelist Kinsley Amis in 1954. “He resolved, having done it once, never to move his eyeballs again.”

The verdict is in: More great literature has been written about hangovers than about being inebriated. And thank heavens the fine arts are giving serious attention to the cold, gray dawn of the morning after, because medicine has not. I blame Calvinist doctors who believe that drinkers should pay a price for their indulgence.

Making matters worse, some people—and by “some people,” I mean folks that you’d just as soon not hang out with—like to smugly point out that a cure is already known: Don’t drink. (There’s actually another cure: Don’t *stop* drinking, although as a long-term strategy, this has noted drawbacks.)

The quest, however, continues, often led by those whose research programs were conceived while lying prone on a couch and balefully regarding a loose window-blind slat. The most common remedy involves the further application of alcohol—which as a short-term strategy can actually lessen the pain. Hair of the dog *does* work.

There’s medical research to back this up, but I’m going to guess that the very thought of glare on a page of small-print type makes you quail. So instead, just close your eyes and consider the time-tested efficacy of enduring elixirs like the **Corpse Reviver No. 2** and the venerable **Bloody Mary**.

But no need to remain mired in a rut. Too much whiskey this week? Try the **Body & Soul Reviver**, a compact bracer featured in Salvatore Calabrese’s excellent compendium *Hair of the Dog: How to Cure a Hangover*.

Get the recipe for the *Body & Soul Reviver* on Liquor.com.

Wayne Curtis writes about drinks for *The Atlantic* and is the author of *And a Bottle of Rum: A History of the New World in Ten Cocktails*.

He is also host of the site <http://www.slowcocktails.com>