



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 Dalwhinnie 15 year old, which was recommended by my good friend David McDonald with whom I have raised many a glass of single malt, both here in the US and in Scotland. In November I had dinner with my sister from Australia and her family at the “Strip” Steak House in Las Vegas, where they have a small, but fine selection of single malts. Valerie’s husband Ivor and I grew up together in Scotland and reminisced over a few glasses of Dalwhinnie. Do not be intimidated by the words “smoke & Peat” this is not an intense Islay malt.

Tasting Notes;

Color - Gold

Nose - Hints of Heather and Peat

Palate - Smooth with Heather, Honey, Sweetness and Vanilla followed by deeper Citrus-Fruit flavors and hints of Malt

Finish - Long intense finish that starts sweetly, then gives way to Smoke, Peat and Malt.

Fancy a bite to eat with your whisky;

Chocolate Mousse—the strong creamy and chocolate flavors are ideally partnered with Dalwhinnie, whose soft and smooth body carries heather honey and delicate spice. It’s creamy this one, not dry. For more whisky food pairings go to <http://www.malts.com>

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*





A wee bit of History

Dalwhinnie distillery, in the Highland village of Dalwhinnie in Scotland, produces Single malt Scotch whisky classified amongst the Highland Single Malts. The distillery was originally named Strathspey for the nearby town the late 1890s. The site was chosen for its access to clear spring water from Lochan-Doire-Uaine ("Loch of the green thicket") and abundant peat from the surrounding bogs. Set in splendid mountain scenery, Dalwhinnie is the highest distillery in Scotland. The name Dalwhinnie means "*meeting place*," which refers to the meeting of ancient cattle drovers' routes through the mountains.

In 1897, John Grant, George Sellar and Alexander Mackenzie founded the Strathspey distillery. Production started in 1898 but unfortunately was bankrupt the same year.

The distillery was sold to AP Blyth in 1898 for his son who renamed it Dalwhinnie. Later in 1905 the Cook & Bernheimer took control over the distillery. The distillers were looking for malts to produce blended whiskies for the US market.

This was the very first US investment in the Scotch whisky industry. The US adventure continued until prohibition in the US in 1920 when control of the distillery returned to Scotland when it was purchased by Lord James Calder, shareholder of whisky blender MacDonald Greenlees. MacDonald Greenlees was later acquired by Distillers Company Limited; Dalwhinnie is currently owned by the James Buchanan group.

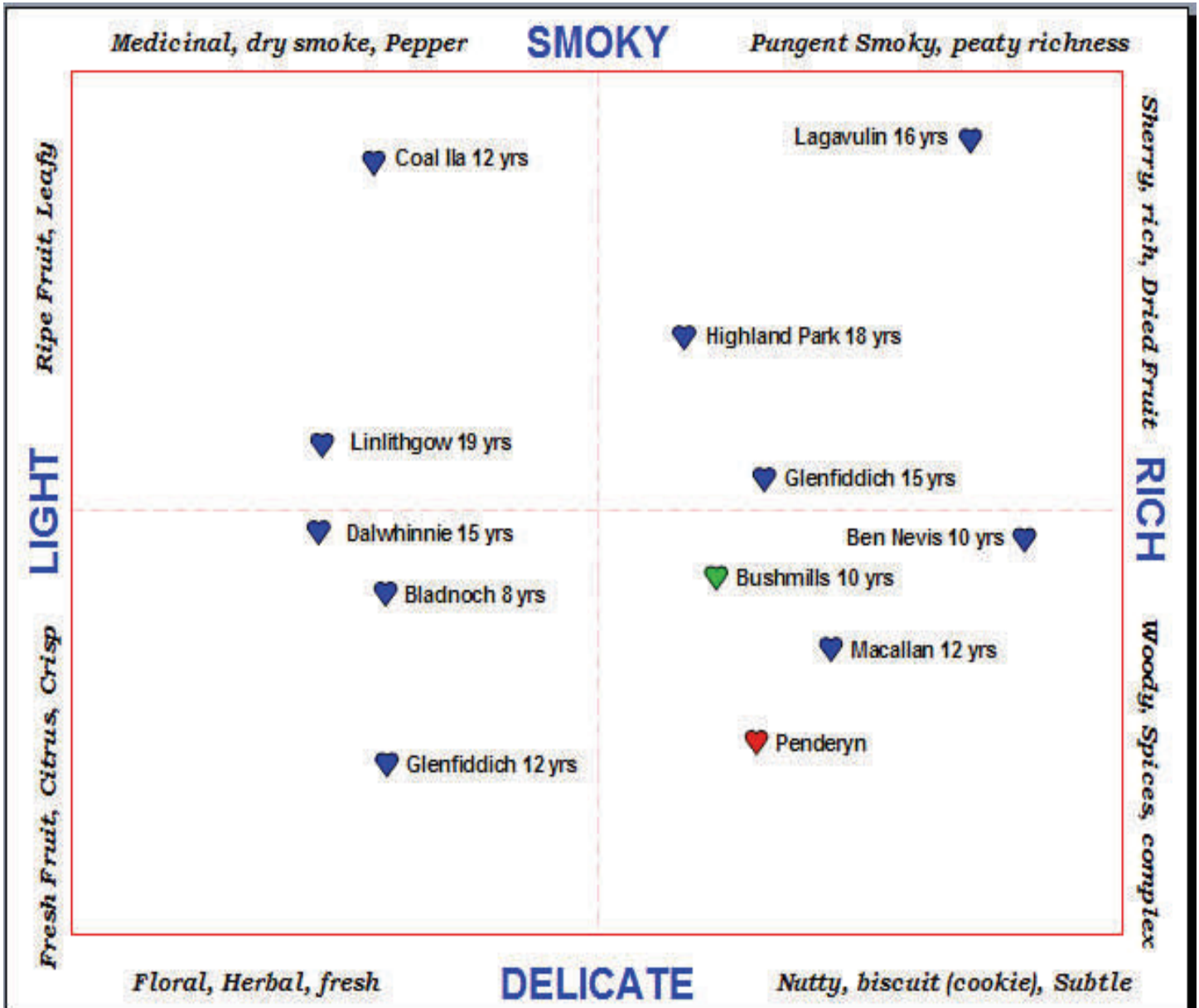


Lachlan's Laws;

"The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act."



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; **Dalwhinnie 15 year old**. For more information on Dalwhinnie whiskies go to <http://www.discovering-distilleries.com/dalwhinnie/>
If you like Dalwhinnie, you may like Cardhu 12 yrs old or Oban 14 yrs old.





The Six Classic Malts of Scotland:

For more information go to <http://whiskeygoldmine.com>

Glenkinchie, also known as the Edinburgh malt, is the classic malt of the Lowland region. The malt is also used in blends such as Haig, Johnny Walker Red Label, Johnny Walker Black Label, Buchanan and Dimple. Glenkinchie is available in the 10 year, 12 year and 14 year sherry cask edition.

Cragganmore Single Malt is the most complex Speyside Malt but is limited in supply because of the small distillery. According to Discovering Distillery's, the Cragganmore's unique flat topped spirit stills and slowly condensed in traditional wooden worm-tubs, promotes Cragganmore's complexity, available in the 12 year and 15 year.

Dalwhinnie 15 year single malt scotch is a subtle, yet distinct scotch from the Highland region. Founded in 1897, Dalwhinnie also has a 20 year old, 29 year old and 36 year old single malt, but the 15 year is much more widely available. The Dalwhinnie 15 year has a light nose and tastes of floral, caramel, honey, with a touch of smoke. There is a little biscuit, light bite, and the finish is very smooth. Dalwhinnie had a beautiful yet subtle warmth.

Lagavulin is the official classic malt from the Islay region. The recipe for Lagavulin possibly dates back to 1742. The malted barley used to distil Lagavulin has a strong peat scent and twenty times as much exposure to peat smoke as a typical Speyside Scotch.

Oban 14 Year West Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky is made in small stills and is a full, rich, malty, medium body single malt with a touch of peat. Light and smooth with a nice burn, the Oban 14 Year is a classic malt. Sweet with a touch of sea salt, the finish is sweet and smooth. Named after the caves used by the first settlers of Scotland in 5,000 B.C., called "An Ob," Oban is distilled in the Oban, capital city of the West Highlands.

Talisker was founded in 1830 and is made Loch Harport near Cullin range on the Isle of Skye. There is a strong scent of peat as soon the bottle is opened. The taste is a light medium peat, thin malt with a thin dry finish and slow, long burn. The flavor is also delicately sweet, and after being opened up with a few drops of water gets very smooth.