



This issue I look back at 2019 and pick the ten best (in my opinion) whiskies that I tasted in the last year.

(10) Jameson "Black Barrel," yes, an Irish whisky in my top 10, this is a Steal at this price.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$45.00

Tasting Notes

Nose - Coconut & tropical fruits

Palate - Coconut, cinnamon, dates & peach

Finish - Long finish with cinnamon & fruit



(9) Oban 14-year-old, (pronounced Obin), from the town of Oban on the west coast.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$65.00

Tasting Notes;

Nose - Sweet, fruity, with sea salt, small amounts of peat and smoke

Palate - Rich fruit, honey, malt, spice and light smoke

Finish - Sweet oak with a pinch of salt





(8) Springbank 12-year-old "Burgundy," this is a limited edition, but I am fortunate enough to have a bottle on my bar.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$120.00.

Tasting Notes;

Nose - Raisins & red currants

Palate - Think pancakes spread with Nutella & drizzled in cream

Finish - An initial herb/spice note, fading to vanilla & mint ice cream



(7) Glenfiddich 15-year-old, in my opinion, the best tasting whisky (against price), on the market today a constant in my whisky cabinet.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$55.00

Tasting Notes;

Nose - Rich, spicy with oak

Palate - Honey, Pears & vanilla.

Finish - Baked pears with some spice





(6) Dalmore 15-year-old, from the Highland region.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$70.00

Tasting Notes;

Nose - Sweet, Toffee, Vanilla, Orange

Palate - Sherry, marmalade, Christmas spices, nuts

Finish - Fruit, Nuts & Vanilla



(5) Lagavulin 16-year-old from the Island of Islay (Isla) off the west coast of Scotland. Another constant in my whisky cabinet and a favorite of many decades (I currently have 3 bottles on my bar).

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$70.00

Tasting Notes;

Nose - Smoke, Chocolate, flowery

Palate - Dry, Sweet, Smokey, Peaty

Finish - long, elegant peat-filled finish with lots of salt and seaweed





(4) GlenDronach 26-year-old , this one may be hard to come by, as it is a release of only 584 bottles. If you are fortunate enough to come across a bottle in a bar/restaurant, get a dram, you'll thank me.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$290.00

Tasting Notes

Nose - Christmas fruitcake

Palate - Sherried dates, raisins, sultanas & a hint of citrus

Finish - Lots of fruit & a hint of chocolate



(3) Springbank 15-year-old from the Campbeltown Region (once proclaimed the 'whisky capital of the world') of Scotland. This is an outstanding whisky, I like this a great deal, highly recommended.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$110.00.

Tasting Notes;

Nose - Dark chocolate, Christmas cake, almonds, toffee

Palate - Raisins, dark chocolate, marzipan & vanilla





(2) Dalmore King Alexander III, from the Highland region.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$200.00.

Tasting Notes

Nose - Red berry fruits

Palate - Almond, Crème Caramel & citrus

Finish - Cinnamon, ginger and nutmeg



(1) Glenfiddich Snow Phoenix, from the Spey valley (speyside).

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$prepare to empty your wallet, if you can find any.
Your best hope is to find some in a good whisky bar and buy a dram.

Tasting Notes;

Nose - Apples, pears, butter

Palate - Oak, malt, spice and honey

Finish - Malty, nutty, apples





Medicinal, dry smoke, Pepper

SMOKY

Pungent Smoky, peaty richness

Ripe Fruit, Leafy

LIGHT

Fresh Fruit, Citrus, Crisp

Sherry, rich, Dried Fruit

RICH

Woody, Spices, complex



Floral, Herbal, fresh

DELICATE

Nutty, biscuit (cookie), Subtle