



## 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 Springbank 10-year-old, which I tasted for the first time in the Riviera Casino in Las Vegas, which unfortunately has recently closed. I was co-hosting a seven course dinner, paired with single malt Scotch whisky, my co-host Ray Pearson (the whiskymeister) suggested for our fifth course, that we pair the Springbank 10 with herb crusted rack of lamb with roasted baby potatoes, a great suggestion they matched up really well.

I find the 10-year-old and the 15-year-old, to be light and delicate on the palate, which I love, not something that you may at first associate with any whisky that has flavors of smoke and peat. Don't think heavy Islay smoke and peat, this is more a hint than a smack in the face.

I also really like the mouth-feel of these whiskies, they are just enjoyable to drink. I just wish that they were more readily available over there in the USA, although, you can find them if you look and I seriously suggest that you do, you will not be disappointed. Springbank also produce Longrow (peated) and Hazelburn (un-peated, triple-distilled) whiskies, both of which I have yet to try, but I'm off to Scotland in May and plan on remedying that, watch this space for my thoughts on both.

You can buy Springbank 10-year-old for around \$45.00 a bottle.

### Tasting Notes;

**Nose** - Peat & fruit

**Palate** - Rich, nutmeg, with smoke & peat

**Finish** - Long with oak & peat

*"Slainte Mhath"*

*Paul Bissett*





## Springbank Distillery's story

(Taken from the distillery's website, address at the bottom)

### 1591

The first reference to Campbeltown whisky is recorded in writing

### 1601

Campbeltown becomes a whisky smuggling centre and the illegal production of whisky, then also referred to as 'Uisge Beatha', Gaelic for 'water of life' is rife

### 1660s

The Mitchell family, founders of Springbank, come to Campbeltown as settlers from the lowlands. Some family members were already maltsters

### 1814

22 legal distilleries are now in operation in the Campbeltown area

### 1825

Archibald Mitchell becomes partner at Rieclachan Distillery and is later joined by his brother, Hugh

### 1828

Springbank is built on the site of the previously illicit still used by Archibald Mitchell and Springbank Distillery is officially founded, becoming the 14th licensed distillery in Campbeltown

### 1834

As demand for Campbeltown malt increases, Archibald's sister, Mary Mitchell, builds Drumore Distillery

### 1837

Brothers John and William Mitchell, Archibald's sons, take ownership of Springbank. Later, John takes his son into the business, forming the company J&A Mitchell

### 1838

John Walker of Kilmarnock recognises the burgeoning profile of Springbank whisky and purchases 118 gallons

### 1872

With demand for Campbeltown malts appearing insatiable, John's brother William continues the family venture into the whisky trade and Glengyle Distillery is founded

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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; [Springbank 10-year-old](#). For more information go to <http://www.springbankwhisky.com>





**1891**

Campbeltown, with a then population of just 1,969 was reputed to be the richest town in Britain per capita

**1900s**

The turn of the century brings a change of whisky preferences and Springbank alter their production accordingly to make lighter whisky that was not as heavily peated, using coal rather than peat to dry malt

**1920s**

Some of the Campbeltown distilleries begin cutting corners to meet demand for whisky, resulting in blenders turning their back on Campbeltown and looking elsewhere for consistently better malt. One by one, these distilleries begin to close

**1925**

Suffering from the recession at the beginning of the 20th century, Glengyle Distillery, after being sold by William Mitchell to another company, ceases trading

**1934**

Rieclachan closes its doors, leaving only Springbank and Glen Scotia operating in the Campbeltown area

**1970**

Springbank bottles a 50-year-old whisky, distilled in 1919

**1973**

Longrow whisky is distilled at Springbank, proving that an Islay-style single malt could be produced on the mainland

**1980s**

Another general downturn in the whisky business sees a wave of distilleries close across Scotland. Springbank continues to sell whisky, though production is sporadic at best

**1989**

Regular production resumes at Springbank as demand for whisky begins to grow

**1990s**

Springbank Single Malt's reputation takes off around the world. A spate of top quality bottlings are released which cement the distillery's reputation for producing world-class whisky

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**1997**

Springbank Distillery's newest whisky, Hazelburn, is first distilled

**2000**

Hedley G. Wright, the current Chairman of Springbank and great-great grandson of Archibald Mitchell, buys the Glengyle Distillery buildings, bringing Glengyle back into the hands of the Mitchell family line

**2004**

The rebuilt Glengyle Distillery, the first new distillery in Campbeltown in over 100 years and the first distillery built in Scotland in the 21st Century, has its first distillation run. Campbeltown is once again recognised as a distinct whisky region

**2008**

In the wake of rising stocks and soaring production costs, the distillery takes a six-month break from production to allow new warehousing to be built, with the whisky-making process resuming in 2009

**2013**

Springbank sells a bottle of the 1919 50-year-old for £50,000 to a Chinese whisky collector

**2014**

Today, Springbank is one of only three distilleries operating in the Campbeltown area and is the oldest independent family-owned distillery in Scotland. Learn about **the place** where our story began.

For more on Campbeltown distillery and their whiskies go to;

<http://www.springbankwhisky.com/about/story>

