



Object of the Newsletter

To promote the appreciation of fine 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 feature Penderyn Single Malt whisky, which I sampled for the first time yesterday. Tracey and I have friends, Steve and Fred, visiting from Wales and they brought me a bottle of Penderyn "Welsh" whisky. I imagine like me you hadn't heard of it. Penderyn is the only whisky distillery in Wales and started making whisky in 2004. Penderyn makes four single malts distinguished by finish, not age. The four are Sherrywood, Peated, Single cask and Madera finish; this is the bottle I am sampling at the moment. I enjoyed the flavor of this whisky, but for me it was much too sweet to be a regular in my drinks cabinet. Next issue, back to Scotch with "Coal ila" 12 year old.

Tasting Notes;

Color - Pale Yellow

Nose - Peachy Sweetness

Palate - Custard and toffee

Finish - Tropical fruits, raisins and vanilla

This is the first commercial whisky made in Wales since the 19th century. It is manufactured in the village of Penderyn in the Cynon Valley, Rhondda Cynon Taf from which the brand takes its name. If you wish to know more about Penderyn, go to <http://www.welsh-whisky.co.uk/home.aspx>

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

Penderyn Distillery is based in the traditional village of Penderyn, which itself lies within the southern reaches of the scenic Brecon Beacons National Park. The area has spectacular mountain scenery, open moorland and valleys containing fast-flowing streams, rivers and waterfalls. The famous and popular Scwd-yr-Eira waterfall is within walking distance of the distillery

Penderyn Single Malt Welsh Whisky was first launched on St David's Day (The patron saint of Wales), 1st March 2004, in the presence of HRH Prince Charles (the Prince of Wales), to huge critical acclaim from both acknowledged whisky experts and "ordinary" consumers. Indeed, The Welsh Whisky Company has already won a number of prestigious international awards for the quality and taste of the whisky and for its distinctive and stylish packaging.

The company remains privately owned and managed by a committed, professional and enthusiastic team of individuals. A recent major development at Penderyn was the June 2008 opening, again by HRH Prince Charles, of our new Visitor Centre. This allows curious tourists and whisky enthusiasts alike to come to Penderyn and learn at first hand about distillation in Wales, seeing the production process from beginning to end and sampling the company's products for themselves.



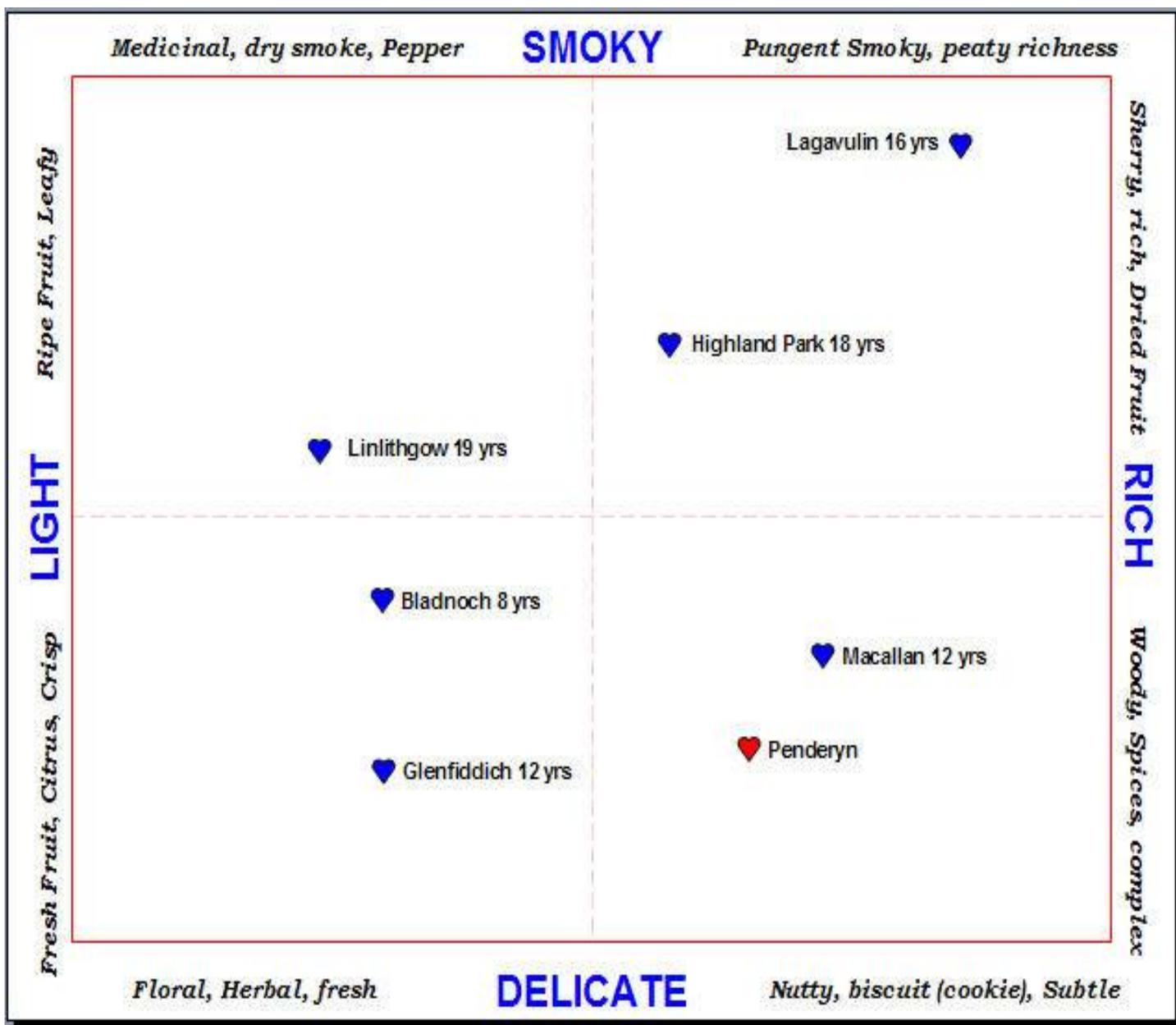
Penderyn whisky visitor center

"I just had 19 shots of whisky, I think that's a record."

(Dylan Thomas's last words.)



Below is a simple guide to help you choose your 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; [Penderyn Madeira finish](#). For more information go to <http://www.welsh-whisky.co.uk/home.aspx>





Brecon Beacons <http://www.breconbeacons.org/>

The Brecon Beacons National Park was established in 1957, the third of the three Welsh parks after Snowdonia in 1951 and the Pembrokeshire Coast in 1952. It stretches from Llandeilo in the west to Hay-on-Wye in the east, covering 519 square miles and encompassing four main regions - the Black Mountain in the west, Fforest Fawr (*Great Forest*) and the Brecon Beacons in the centre, and the confusingly named Black Mountains in the east. The western half gained European and Global status in 2005 as Fforest Fawr Geopark. This includes the Black Mountain, the historic extent of Fforest Fawr, and much of the Brecon Beacons and surrounding lowlands.

Most of the National Park is bare, grassy moorland grazed by Welsh mountain ponies and Welsh mountain sheep, with scattered forestry plantations, and pasture in the valleys. It is known for its remote reservoirs, waterfalls including Henrhyd Waterfall and the falls at Ystradfellite, and its caves, such as Ogof Ffynnon Ddu. The Brecon Beacons Mountain Centre was opened in 1966 to help visitors understand and enjoy the area.

Activities in the Park include walking, cycling, mountain biking, horse riding, as well as sailing, windsurfing, canoeing and fishing, rock climbing, hang-gliding, caravanning, camping and caving. A long-distance cycling route, the Taff Trail, passes over the Beacons on its way from Brecon to Cardiff, and in 2005 the first walk to span the entire length of the Brecon Beacons National Park was opened. The 100-mile (160 km) route, called the Beacons Way, runs from the foot of Ysgryd Fawr east of Abergavenny and ends in the village of Bethlehem in Carmarthenshire.

Due to its remoteness and harsh weather, the Park is used for military training. The Special Air Service (SAS) holds demanding selection training exercises here. *I have trained here with the military twice.* ★ **Penderyn.**



