



Time to look at some of my current favorite whiskies, my top 10 from 2014.

### (10) Old Pulteney 12-year-old

From the most northerly distillery on the Scottish Mainland, in the town of Wick. I just like this more and more, it has earned a permanent place in my whisky cabinet.

Featured in issue 14, May 2011.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$42.00

#### Tasting Notes;

**Nose** - Quite intense with a hint of salt (sea air)

**Palate** - Medium bodied, faintly salty with an orange note.

**Finish** - Long and predominantly orange flavored, hint of malt.



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### (9) Glenfiddich 15-year-old

From Dufftown in the heart of Speyside. In my opinion, the best tasting whisky (against price), on the market today a constant in my whisky cabinet.

Featured in issue 11, April 2011.

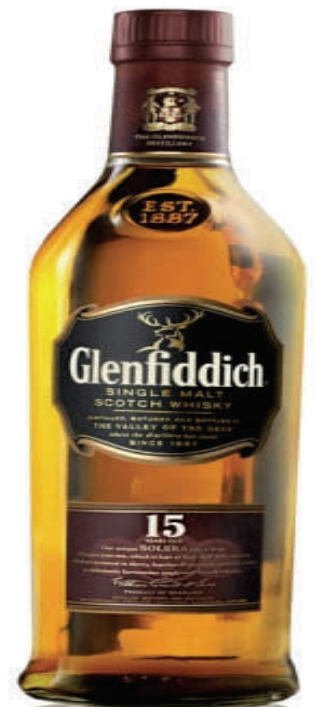
Approximate Cost per bottle - \$55.00

#### Tasting Notes;

**Nose** - Rich, spicy with oak & a small amount of peat

**Palate** - Honey, Pears, coffee, Spice with oak & chocolate.

**Finish** - Dry and spicy with some pepper





### (8) Glenfiddich “Age of Discovery” Bourbon Cask

The flavors as outlined below are superb and the finish is long and Luscious. Can I recommend this, you betcha!! It’s not cheap and price is sometimes a sore point with me, but not in this case, this is worth the price.

Featured in issue 93, September 2014.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$200.00

#### Tasting Notes;

**Nose** - Toffee, apple and vanilla

**Palate** - Caramel, nutmeg, vanilla & a little spice

**Finish** - Baked apple pie



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### (7) Highland Park “Dark Origin”

This whisky has no age statement (NAS), is bottled at 46.8% and is non-chill Filtered. I’m a big fan of Highland Park whiskies and this new one is a Standout, highly recommended.

Featured in issue 97, November 2014.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$90.00

#### Tasting Notes;

**Nose** - Cocoa, cinnamon, vanilla & liquorice

**Palate** - Light peat & chocolate orange

**Finish** - Long with heathery smoke & a little chocolate





### (6) Macallan Fine Oak 17

No beating around the bush, if you can afford it, buy it, it's that good, this is a superlative whisky. In part it reminds me of a lowland whisky, light and floral with citrus notes, but packing more flavor.

Featured in issue 61, May 2013.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$140.00

#### Tasting Notes;

**Nose** - Caramel, vanilla, flora, nuts

**Palate** - Vanilla, citrus & toffee

**Finish** - Medium with a hint of orange

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### (5) Bruichladdich "Black Art"

This is a spectacularly good whisky, which is annoying, as I heard recently that it is no longer going to be made, so if you see it, and can afford it, buy it. If you don't like it, after you buy it, invite me round to your house and I'll drink it for you.

Featured in issue 88, June 2014.

Approximate Cost per bottle - \$180.00

#### Tasting Notes;

**Nose** - Dried fruits, cherries, oak

**Palate** - Dried fruits, cherries, smoke, baked apple

**Finish** - Cherries, smoke, some brine







**(4) 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.

**Featured in issue 3, December 2010.**

**Approximate Cost per bottle - \$75.00**

**Tasting Notes;**

**Nose** - Smoke, Chocolate, flowery

**Palate** - Dry, Sweet, Smokey, Peaty

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



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**(3) Samaroli 'Evolution' 2011**

This is truly a special whisky and is a vatting of incredibly old single malts from Scotland's artisan distilleries. The oldest whisky in the vatting clocks in well over 40 years old, and it includes many of Scotland's hardest to find malts.

**Featured in issue 64, June 2013.**

**Approximate Cost per bottle - \$340.00**

**Tasting Notes;**

**Nose** - Sherry, apples & figs

**Palate** - Spicy baked apple, fig and very slightly smoky

**Finish** - Long, elegant, Fruit compote





## (2) Balvenie Tun 1401 batch 3

This is another superb scotch and is a marriage of some of The Balvenie's Rarest whiskies, an unrepeatable selection of spirits sourced from seven Traditional whisky casks and three sherry butts, whose ages span a number of decades.

**Featured in issue 78, January 2014.**

**Approximate Cost per bottle - \$320.00**

### Tasting Notes;

**Nose** - Rich dried fruits, lightly floral and oakly

**Palate** - Very smooth, mouth coating, stewed fruit, oak

**Finish** - Long with sweet sherry fruits, and oak



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## (1) Balvenie Tun 1509 batch 1

This new Balvenie keeps the fruit forward flavors alive, and is quite simply a superb dram. It is a no age statement, 47.1% abv, non-chill-filtered whisky. I like this better than the 1401 batches 3 & 9, (which is saying a lot) it has the fruit, but to me is lighter and a little more elegant.

**Featured in issue 99, December 2014.**

**Approximate Cost per bottle - \$350.00**

### Tasting Notes;

**Nose** - Vanilla, orange with floral notes

**Palate** - Honey, citrus & cinnamon

**Finish** - Medium with raisins, pear and a little spice.





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. In this issue of the newsletter, I only have my top ten whiskies of 2014 listed.

