

Harry's (in)complete Guide



To independent Bottlers of Single Malt Scotch Whiskys

A guide to the source of bottles

by
Harald Kirsch

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Preface

Whisky became popular in the last years; to collectors as well as to „drinkers“ (or should we say drinking collectors?). If you concern with whisky, you will examine that there are original bottlings from the distillery and independent bottlings from independent bottlers.

Informations about the numerous independent bottlers are very rare in books and even in the internet you cannot find much about them. Some of the bottlers are not hosting a page in the WWW. This document should remedy these abuse and on the other hand it should show you and describe the different labels and series which were released by independent bottlers. There are no tasting notes in this document!

I'm sorry, but I can't describe all independent bottlers or take a photo of there bottlings. It's very difficult to do this with old bottlings. If they are still available, they are high-prized. If you have a picture that's missing don't hesitate to send to me via mail:

harryki@gmx.de

If you have more or better informations to one of the bottler (i.e. Adress, Telefon number etc.) – let me know, please. If you send me a picture, the source will be displayed directly at the photo. If I have enough information for a new version the guide will be updated.

Guarantee?

The Web-pages have been tested all. The addresses and telefon numbers are from these pages in general. However, I cannot give you a guarantee that this informations are correct. Further, all liability can't be accepted. If you use the informations of this document, you use it at your own risk. This document was written from fans for fans.

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History

Dec. 2002	Version 1.0 is ready!
Jan. 2003	Version 1.1 Chapters Compassbox and Single Barrel-Selection were changed, New pics: Kirsch-Import, GM Centenary Reserve, GM Conn.Choice and Signatory unchillfiltered Collection New chapters: Scotch Single Malt Circle (SSMC), MMD Mission and D.Laing Advanced Series Update of contents deleting register
Feb. 2003	Version 2.0 Complete update of the following chapters: Cadenhead's, GM, Signatory, D.Laing, Lombard's, Kingsbury, Samaroli, Glenhaven, Sestante, IanMacLeod – there were some failures in... Source of Photos directly marked at the Photo Update of contents
March 2003	Version 2.1 New pics. D.Laing Advanced Series Some smaller changes in different chapters
May/June 2003	Version 3.0 with more than 50 new pics and 20 pages more than Version 2.0 New chapters: Barrique, MARA, Intertrade, Ultimate Collection, Festivalbottlings and Japanese Bar Bottlings, G.Strachan, St. Andrews Beverages, G.Meregalli and many more. Update of contents and fall of the „magical“ 100-pages-borderline!!!
July-Oct. 2003	Version 4.0, 10 pages more! Update of some web-adresses New chapters: Vintners Coll., Jack Wiebers, G d'A, Taverna della Artisti, SMWG, Direct Wines, Turatello (unter Intertrade), GM Private Coll., Michel Couvreur, Scottish Liqueur Center, Gleneil, McNeill, BigMarket General Updates – especially of the old Italo-Importers Update of contents
Dec. 2003	Version 4.0e is available in english!!!! Version 4.1 with new chapters: Hedges & Butler, Liquid Gold Enterprise, Velier Import, Corsini, Prenzlau Portfolio Coll. Update of Black Bottle and Peerless Collection New pics: Milroy and Whisky.de Update of contents
Sept. 2004	Version 4.2 in german and english New chapters: CWCie, Ernst Flickenschild, World of Whisky, H&I, Moray Malt Whisky New pics: VMW, G&M, Corsini, Velier, JWFW, LGE, Moon Update of Signatory, SMWS, Peerless/DTC, La Maison, van Wees, BarMetro, Mara, W&M, The Whisky Castle, Sestante Update of contents, eliminating of the last german words in the english version (I hope!)

Chapter I. Independent Bottlers

In the beginning of the 1990's drinking whisky, especially drinking of single malt whiskies, became popular in Europe. That's why the independent bottlers were known in Europe (and not only in Scotland) and could be found in the shops.

In the middle of the 1990's drinking single malt whiskies was popular in whole Europe and new independent bottlers were detected every month. Most of them disappeared as quick as they were detected and many of them released only a few bottlings. With this the business has changed. Before this time you had to invest a lot of money into your stock of whiskies to offer a stable range to your customers. But the buying-reaction of the customers changed to single cask bottlings and respective distillation years. This offers the opportunity for small companies to stay on the market – with only a few selected casks as their „stock“.

Independent bottlers have always done experiments with maturing, bottlings at cask strength or finishing with different sorts of cask types (i.e. wine- or rum casks). This was tried by independent bottlers first. Meanwhile, there are a lot of finishing-versions on the market, so you can think that all which is matured in a wooden cask is usable for finishing whisky – and is used also. I hope, that this trend ends soon, because there wasn't produced much which was drinkable.

In general, independent bottlers producing a very good quality with their bottlings. Chill-filtering and additional coloring is uncommon. This comes from the changed buying-reaction of the customers, too. Independent bottlers, if they ever had used filtering or coloring, react quicker to the wishes of the customer than the distilleries.

Another trend is, that there are more younger distillations bottled as single cask whisky on the market – even from old independent bottlers. Of course, this doesn't have to be bad, but is a trend and can have 2 reasons: a) the independent bottlers are running out of money, because longer matured whiskies becoming more expensive and more rare (and there are all the companies speculating with malt whisky, also) b) they want to offer high-quality bottlings in a lower price range.

Part 1.01 Wm Cadenhead

Adress: 172, Canongate, Aberdeen or 9, Bolgam Street, Campbeltown, Argyll, PA28 6HZ

Web: www.cadenheads.de oder www.wmcadenhead.com

Tel.: 0131-556 58 64 Fax: 556-25 27

Proprietor: J.A. Mitchell



Cadenhead is Scotlands oldest independent bottler and was founded in Aberdeen in 1842 by Wm Cadenhead and G. Duncan.

In 1972, the company was taken over by its present owner.

The Head office of the company has moved to Campbeltown then because the warehouses are located there too.

The Cadenhead-bottlings are bottled by the bottling plant of Springbank.

Cadenhead has bottled without unchill-filtration at all times (first only at 46% ABV, later on at natural Cask Strength also) and therefor paved the way for Single Cask Bottlings. The individuality of the a single cask is most focal for Cadenhead; thus, it can happen, that two bottlings of the same distillery and with the same age tastes completely different. For Cadenhead the constancy of the Whisky-quality in taste is for Cadenhead obviously less important than the individuality of the cask.

Cadenhead's Shops can be found in Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Campbeltown, London, Cologne and Amsterdam.





The Cadenhead's Colourcode for the current labels of the Original and Authentic Collection:
 1st line (from left to right): Speyside, Island, Lowland, Islay und Campbeltown
 2nd line (from left to right): North, South, East und West Highland.

There could be named several reasons for the disappearance of the nice ClearLabel-bottles. On one hand, the Cadenhead's-Logo, which is pasted directly on the bottle, shall be emphasized in comparison to the name of the distillery. Everybody shall see, that there is a Glenfarclas from Cadenhead's and not a Cadenhead's bottling of a cask, which is distilled at Glenfarclas-Destillery. Hence, the name of the distillery has taken a back seat and is more difficult to find on the label - but you can see right away, that it is a Bottling from Cadenhead's. The formerly used green-glass bottle has changed to a clear one. One reason might be to show that the whisky is not artificially coloured, what you couldn't see in a green bottle.

Last but not least, the fun in creating a new design and the changing desires for a new label among the company's leaders play a pivotal part in such a step.

(a) Original Collection

Only spring water is added to the Original Collection-whiskies to bring it to drinking strength at 46% ABV. There has been no colouring or chill-filtration. Every whisky is a single cask bottling. It is filled in a clear glass bottle with Tube.

Older Bottlings of the Original Collection have a green label with a white tab in the middle containing the information.

In between there was another design with clear label and oval tab. The new design from 2003 will be described later with the Authentic Collection.



From left to right:

Original Collection with big green label, small oval label and a special edition of the Authentic Collection for the 150th anniversary of Cadenhead's with a black and white label. The picture on the right shows the design of the Original Collection until 2003.(photograph: by the cadenheads.de website)

(b) Authentic Collection



The Authentic Collection-whiskies, unlike to the Original Collection-whiskies, are bottled at their natural matured cask strength. Again, there are no additions for colouring or chill-filtration. And again: only single cask bottlings can be found. Older bottlings may be raw cask without any filtration and may include particles of the wood. It has been bottled in a dark green

bottle with Clear Label (printed on the bottle) and a small tab with the dates of the bottling. These bottles are usually packed in a black cardboard box. New bottlings are packed in a tube with modernized design (a bit improper in my opinion).

In the beginning of the 1990s, on the occasion of the 150th anniversary, Cadenheads bottled a special edition in a green bottle with a black label. The former bottlings from the 1980s are in a brown dumpy bottle! (q.v. dot (d) other), sometimes with a white label. Both types of bottlings are not available nowadays in regular trade.

In the beginning of the 90th, on the occasion of the 150th anniversary, there was bottled a special edition in a green bottle with a black label. The former bottlings from the 80th are in a brown dumpy bottle! (q.v. dot (d) other), sometimes with a white label. Both types of bottlings are not available nowadays in regular trade.

In the middle of the year 2003 the design of the label changed again. The script is written in gold, the ribbon with the Cadenhead-logo was placed in the bottom right corner and the data field on the left. It looks a bit better than before.



Old and new:
Two Highland Parks dest. in 1979 by Cadenhead's. On the left is a bottling of the year 2000 and on the right of 1996 with Clear Label. The banderole of the cap dissapeared at the new bottlings.

(c) **Chairman's Stock**



This is the luxury class bottlings from Cadenhead's. The casks, from which these bottlings from were purchased from the private stock of the Chairman. These are excellent whiskys in general, which are favoured by collectors, too. Bottled without any additives or chill-filtration as always. In former times the bottles of the Authentic Collection were used and only a golden seal was pasted on the cap. You shouldn't be confused from the

writing "Authentic Collection" of the clear label bottle. At the end of the 1990s, there is a modernised packaging with a golden tube and paper label, no longer a clear label bottle. Chairmans Stock bottlings are on a high-priced-level and these bottlings shall be discontinued in 2003, the last one shall be a Glenlossie 24yo.



Golden:
Charmans Stock
in a modern
design

Little differences (left):

Unlike the Authentic Collection (which can be read on the bottle in the middle of the clear label) the cap is bronze and has a golden seal (look also at the small picture above).

This Royal Brackla was bottled in 1992.

(d) Sonstige

Until 1994 there were bottled several Single Malts under the second label DUTHIE's also. There is a collection of "Cadenhead's World Whiskies", too. These are Bottlings with bourbon, canadians, single grain whiskies and whiskies from other countries as well. Cadenhead produces some blends (Putachieside, Hielanman and Moidart) and stores Demerara-Rum as well and sells Cognac and Wine also.



In the middle:
A brown dumpy bottle dest. In 1984! Normally in a black cardboard box (photo by: Jürgen Marz)
Left: In the beginning of the 90s the green bottle was used for the first time for the 150th anniversary.

Left: Small Cadenhead's bottling from 1990 with only 18,75cl and a white cardboard box.



Left: Some Cadenhead's bottlings are available as 0,35l bottles, too – with screw-cap. The Name of the distillery and the ABV are on the backside of the bottle. Middle: handwritten label on a small bottle! Right: Original Collection with green label.



Cadenhead's bottled for Japan: with big fawn label and Japanese characters. Although this bottling contains a Glendullan the cap shows the sign of springbank!! (Springbank is owned by the same family as Cadenhead's.)



Second label:
These Bowmores were bottled by Cadenhead's under the label DUTHIE's. The Highland Park on the right, also. (photograph: whiskyfair.de)
For DUTHIE's, several labels and bottle colours were used.

Part 1.02 Gordon & MacPhail

Adress: G&M, George House Boroughbriggs Road, Elgin, Moray, IV30 1JY, UK

Web: www.GordonandMacPhail.com

Tel.: 01343-545111

Fax: 01343-540155

Proprietor: Fam. Urquhart



G&M is one of the most distinguished independent bottlers of single malt whisky. After the last war only a few people outside Scotland knew about single malts, because nearly the complete amount of production was used for blending. Because of the closing of many distilleries some whiskies survived only at G&M as a single malt. G&M owns a big stock of old casks of nearly any distillery.

The company G&M was founded in 1895 by James Gordon and John Mac Phail in Elgin. The Head Office is still in the same building. From outside you wouldn't think of a whisky shop, because G&M started as a grocery, and it is still one. So you have to search for the whiskies which are at the end of shelves full of cheese, sausages and other foods. Beside the G&M-bottlings they sell several Original bottlings as well.

In 1993, the company purchased Benromach Distillery, adding "distiller" to its list of titles.

(a) **G&M (standardbottlings)**

The G&M standardbottlings are in a different package than the Connoisseurs Choice whiskies. There is a screw cap too, and they are bottled as a rule at 40%ABV; but some bottlings are available at natural cask strength, too. For exportation there are also bottlings with unusual 46% ABV and cork stopper. The labels of the G&M standard collection are different in dependence on the distillery. Usually the name of the distillery is sizable on the Label. The style of the packaging has changed several times.



Odd Strathisla:

Both Strathislas have been bottled in the year 2000, but the one on the right was bottled for japan with unusual 46% ABV and a cork stopper. The bottle on the left is the typical G&M one: with screw cap and at 40% ABV. (the standard packaging you can see at dot (d) Rare Old). The picture on the right shows a standard G&M bottling, bottled before 1990. The package is quite unadorned and the vision panel is only a thin cellophane film.

(b) Connoisseurs Choice

This is the best known range of G&M. There are bottlings available from more than 40 different distilleries in different ages and vintages. The standard bottling is at 40% ABV. But there have been some bottlings at natural cask strength, too. Sometimes the bottling year is not written on the bottle, so you can only evaluate it by the label. The design of the packaging and the label has changed several times, but it's used always a standard clear glass bottle with screw cap and a cardboard box. The first edition had a red or golden screw cap and a black label with red and gold. Strathisla from the 30's, Mortlach from the 30's and 40's, Talisker from the 50's and many more were bottled with this label. The edition was very successful and therefore it was extended. The second edition got a darkbrown label, which was used from the end of the 1970's until 1988. On every bottle the year of distillation and the bottling-year was printed. In the following edition a light-brown label was used (1988-1991) with no declaration of the bottling year. These bottles contained 75cl. In 1991, a small tab with the bottling year was pasted on the shoulder of the bottle and the volume was only 70cl further on. Not later than 1997 the tab with the bottling-year was pasted at the neck of the bottle and the label-design has changed. From 1999 a cork stopper is used instead of the screw cap. And in 2003 the old custom of bottling at 40%ABV is abandoned: now an internal team of experts decides, which ABV (40%, 43% or 46%) would be the best for the bottlings.



Left: CC-Bottlings since the year 1997.

Right: CC- Bottlings till 1996 (this one's from 1994) with simple packaging.



1st Edition:
Left: the 1st edition of the CC-Series with the black label.
(photo by: whiskyfair.de)

2nd Edition: The old CC-Bottlings with darkbrown label (photo by: Hans Auditor)

3rd Edition:
From left to right:
Bottled in 1988, 1991, 1994 and 1996
(photo by: Hans Auditor)



4th Edition:
From left to right:
Bottled in 1997, 1997, 1998 and 1999 (with cork stopper)
(photo by: Hans Auditor)



A rare CC-bottling of an Oban from 1989/90.
The declaration of the age can be found on the
shoulder-label.
(photo by Peter Nowacki)

GM caskstregth - series

In this range there are only bottlings filled in natural cask strength, as you would expect from the name. The bottle has a cork stopper and is packed in the usual G&M cardboard box. The label is white with the eye-catching writing “Cask”. Further on, the year of distillation, the distillery and the ABV is declared.



Stronger:
This bottle demonstrates
that G&M doesn't bottle
at 40% ABV only.

(c) Centenary Reserve

bottlings of different distilleries where filled at 40% ABV in a bottle with screw cap. It is a two-part label similar to the Rare Old-bottlings. At the head there is the writing “Centenary Reserve” and the G&M-logo. At the bottom there is the name of the distillery and the bottling year.

Further on there is a Benromach with the labelling “Centenary Reserve” with a big brown label and similar tube, bottled with screw cap as well. But this one was bottled in 1998, not in 1995!



Centenary Reserve (Benromach) with brown label (on the left, photo by: Flo Borchers)
And the two-part labelled Centenary Reserve from G&M (on the right, photo by: Hans Auditor)

(d) Spirit of Scotland

Bottled by the sub-company “Speymalt”, bottlings of this range were bottled with 40% and natural cask strength also. As a rule of G&M, it is used a standard bottle with screw cap and a small label with the bottling-year patched on the neck of the bottle.



An Ardbeg from Spirit of Scotland,
bottled at 40% ABV.

(e) Rare Old



Under the designation Rare Old there are bottled very old malts since the middle of the 90's. These bottlings are packed in a Wooden Box. The label is divided into two parts: a darkbrown "Rare Old" sign and a smaller label with the name of the destillery underneath. These bottles are with cork stopper, non-typical for G&M!

Beware: there are several bottlings of the standard range with the writing "Rare Old" (see photograph). But you cannot count these bottlings among the "Rare Old"-range.



Two bottlings of the vintage 1965 with box of the standard range. Misleading you can read the writing "Rare Old" on the label.



A real Rare Old bottling with wooden box and cork stopper.

(f) Speymalt

SPEYMALT is a sub-company of G&M. These bottlings have a red tape along the bottle. They are filled at 40% ABV in a standard bottle. The packaging is the usual G&M box or a wooden box for the older and exclusive bottlings. The label Speymalt is also used for exportation but without the red tape – for Meregalli for example. Furtheron, the range of the Label SPIRIT OF SCOTLAND is bottled by “Speymalt Whisky”.

(g) MacPhails Collection

These bottles bear a plain black label. They are bottled at 40% ABV in a standard bottle. A brown tube ist used for packing. As a rule young malts at 8-10years are bottled with this label. There are older whiskies with nice decanters as well.



MacPhail's Decanter:
A 22yo. Highland Malt,
dest. in 1964.
(photo by: Matthias Bohnsack)

(h) Private Collection

In this range, G&M released several Imperial and Caol Ila bottlings with several finishes (cognac, sherry, port) in the year 2001. The Imperial finishes matured in a bourbon refill barrel and then 2 years in the finishing barrel. The Caol Ila bottlings matured in a bourbon refill hogshead before finishing for 2 years as well. All bottlings were filled at 40% ABV in a standard bottle and labelled with a white label with declaration of date of distillation, bottling, cask no. and no. of the bottle. Later on, there was released also a calvados finish of Imperial and Caol Ila, and in the year 2002 there was bottled a Caol Ila vintage 1965, matured in a refill sherry cask and filled at natural cask strength(!). A green tube is used for packaging.



The Private Collection from G&M. (photo by: Thomas Lipka)

(i) **Sonstige**

G&M offers a multitude of second labels and ranges. They bottle several blends as well and some malts with new brandnames as Glen Gordon, Glen Fraser, Glen Avon, cause the original destillerie mustn't be named. Further on, there are vatted malts under the label of PRIDE OF (ISLAY, SPEYSIDE and so on). And worth mentioning there are the old Glen Grant Bottlings in crystal decanters.



Little comparison:

From left to right: standard (Glen Mhor 1965), standard (Mortlach 15yo.), and Connoisseurs Choice-bottling from 1997 (Mosstowie 1979).

Part 1.03 Signatory

Address: Signatory Vintage Scotch Whisky Co. Ltd., 7&8 Elizafield, Bonnington Industrial Estate, Newhaven Road, Edinburgh EH6 5PY

Web: none

Tel.: +44 131 555 4988

Fax: +44 131 555 5211

Proprietor: Andrew W. Symington



Signatory is a quite young company and was founded not until 1988 in Edinburgh. In 1992 the company enlarged and moved from the original location in Leith to the current location. A small bottling plant was built there. Signatory established to one of the three biggest independent bottlers of single malt whisky within a few years. Until 1998, Brian Symington was co-owner but left the company then.

Unfortunately, Signatory has no web-presence in the internet.

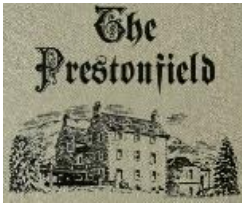
Primarily there was the idea of signing every bottling-release from a famous person and so dedicating the whisky to this person. But this idea hasn't been implemented, cause there were no person found to sign the bottles, as the first cask, a Glenlivet 1968, was bottled. With only 100,000 Pounds Signatory was founded and within the first 5 years the company went almost bankrupt – more than one time. In 1993 Signatory has managed to work with at a profit – and the had a name in the whisky-business with their vintage-bottlings. Today, Signatory is the second largest independent bottler of whisky in Scotland and was awarded “Bottler of the year” in 2002. In August of 2002, Signatory bought a destillerie also: Edradour, the smallest scottish destillerie.

The focus of Signatory is on single cask bottlings at natural cask strength or at 43% ABV. On every bottle the cask no., the no. of the bottle, the amount of bottles and the date of destillation and bottling is declared. According to his account the owner opens every cask and satisfies himself of the quality of the content.

A multitude of severals ranges and second-labels from Signatory exists. Sometimes, there were cask-vattings (4-5 casks together), which where sold under several labels (i.e. Dun Eideann, Signatory, Ultimate) with identically cask-declaring.

The company caused sensation with two bottlings of long closed distilleries like Killyloch and Ben Wyvis.

(a) **The Prestonfield**



The Prestonfield is one of the second-labels of Signatory. It is used for France for the Whisky-Shop „La Maison du Whisky“. The bottles are in a solid cardboard-box with leather imitation and vision panel. The Whisky is bottled at natural caskstrength or drinking strength and filled up in a clear glass bottle, as a rule it is a single cask bottling. Cask no., bottle no. and the amount of bottles are declared as usual for Signatory.

Some of the labels have a very colourful design (i.e. a Springbank-bottling). Also a blended whisky and a vatted malt is bottled under The Prestonfield-label.

“The Prestonfield” is a hotel the Symington-brothers worked for in the 80’s. At that time, they organized some private bottlings for this hotel. This was the beginning of Andrew Symingtons relationship to whisky.

These old bottlings have no relations to France and “La Maison”. Apparently the Symingtons got the right to the name ‘The Prestonfield’



Brora 1981 at natural caskstrength in a yellow box. This bottle is from France and was bottled in 2000.

(b) Dun Eideann



Dun Eideann is another second-label of Signatory which is used for several markets in spite of providing competition against the Signatory bottlings. These whiskies are filled at 40% ABV in a clear glass bottle. They are packed in a red velvet-box with vision panel or in a simple cardboard box. There are premium bottlings with a decanter and a wooden

box as well.

These bottlings are chiefly for the swiss market (Wine and Spirit Club Divo), for France (Auxil Import), for Italy (Donato & C) and for Spain. The longest trade connections consists with Italy since the end of the 80's. The bottlings for the swiss and french market have a label in gold brocade design. There is an italian website for Dun Eideann:

www.duneideannsinglemalt.com



The red velvet-style box from Dun Eideann (for Italy) with gold writing and a "Castle-label".



The gold brocade style label for the french and swiss market (the right bottle is a Glendronach OB, no Dun Eideann ;-))

(c) **Signatory Vintage (metal tube)**



The Signatory Vintage range is filled at 43% ABV in a standard clear glass bottling and packed in a metall tube in principal. This is the standard edition of Signatory and is sold at a moderate prize. The colour of the tube varies in dependence of the whisky-region: yellow for Highland, light-blue for Islay, and green-yellow for Lowland. From the year 2000 there are two-parted tubes, above in yellow colour, and copper-coloured underneath. Latterly there are bottlings with the writing “natural colour”, which shows that the whisky is not artificially coloured. This seemes to be necessary cause of the discussion about artificial colour by the customers. But according to their account, Signatory didn't use artificial colour at any time.



Two Broras from 1981:

The left one is bottled in 1999, the right one in the year 2000. You can see the label has changed as well and the bottle bears a clear-label “S” now.

(d) **Signatory Vintage (velvet box)**



In this range are only whiskies at natural cask strength, filled in a dumpy bottle and packed in a velvety cardboard box. This is the upmarket range of signatory. The prize varies from age, and popularity of the distillerie. There are quite rare and excellent bottlings among them.

The colour of the boxes varies, there are red, fawn, blue and black boxes, but there is no relation to the whisky-regions.

The label with the typical vintage-barrel varies between light blue and fawn colours. These cask-strength bottlings are not coloured, but it might be that they were chill-filtered. But this should be avoided more and more.



Colourful:

Dumpy-bottles in different coloured velvety boxes (darkblue is absent on the photograph)

(e) **Silent Stills**



In this range there should be only whiskies of closed, mothballed or dismantled distilleries. But there are bottlings of producing distilleries as well, as you can see on the photograph. (This Bladnoch was bottled on 31.1.2000. Bladnoch was reopened later in the year 2000, so strictly speaking it was silent at the bottling-time.) The bottlings are filled at natural cask-strength and seem to be indented for the collectors. The dumpy-bottles with long neck are packed in a wooden box with a miniature of the whisky and a round piece of wood. This should be from the head of the barrel. The labels are in different colours. There will be released circa 6 bottlings per annum.



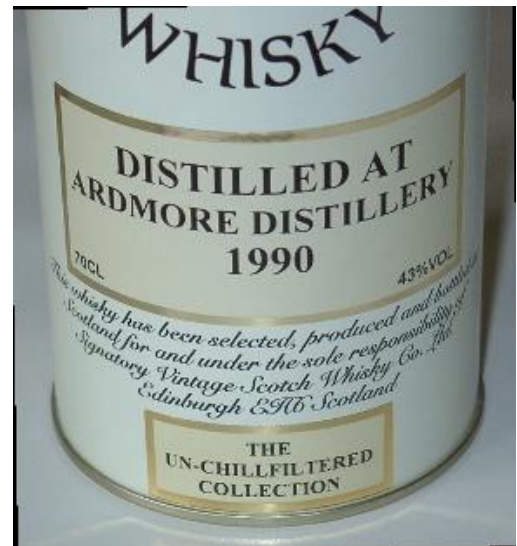
Whisky in a box:

Bottlings of the Silent Still-range will be delivered with a miniature and a barrel-piece. Here you can see a Bladnoch.

(f) **Un-chillfiltered Collection**

This range contains unchill-filtered and non-coloured whiskies bottled at 46% ABV. Because of customers were setting store by natural bottlings, Signatory apparently sees chances on the market.

This range is released about the year 2000. The package is a metal-tube with the typical Signatory-“S” and a label which declares the distillerie-name and the date of destillation. The standard-bottle bears a label with every information in the typical Signatory-style. Sometimes you will find the standard tube which bears a small additional “Un-chillfiltered Collection”-label.



The additional Label placed on a standard tube.

Silver the package – golden the content of the bottle:
the Unchillfiltered Collection (photo by: Flo Borchers)

(g) Decanter Collection

The Decanter Collection was released in 2002. The decanters bear only a Clear-label and the details of the bottling are on a tag, fixed on the neck of the bottle. The package is a pseudo-metal cardboard-tube. The bottle is straight with a very short neck. Although it doesn't really look like a decanter it is a very unusual bottle-type and looks pretty with the gleamy tube. The bottlings of the Decanter Collection are high-prized.



The Decanter-Collection from Signatory.

(h) Sailing Ships-Serie

One of the early ranges of Signatory, starting in 1988 but stopped later. There were many miniatures in tartan-style boxes. The label showed a sailing ship. The big bottles were in a big blue box with a sailing ship as well. Every box contains a leaflet with the history of the ship which is on the label. These bottlings were in a standard-style bottle and filled at 40% ABV. They weren't single cask bottlings but vatted from several casks. Sometimes, the same batch have been divided and bottled on the one hand under the label "Sailing Ships" and on the other hand for "The Prestonfield".

(i) Others

Signatory offers a lot more ranges at different price classes. So there is a range with a big wooden box, which contains a glass and a miniature as well, some millenium-bottlings in different ranges, Big-box range, the Wildlife-Series, Very Rare and Old, a range Caol Ila resp. Port Ellen "3XXX days old" for Kirsch-Import (Germany), and many miniatures in tin-tubes. There are offered many so called half-bottles with 0,375l resp. 0,35l, with screw cap and tube.



So called Big Box from Signatory with certificate



Millenium-edition in wooden box.



Low cost label:
3XXXdays old Caol Ila
for Kirsch-Import (Germany)
with label from the Signatory-printer.



These dumpy bottles have been bottled around 1988/89. With big "S" and bottled at 43% and at untypical 46% ABV.



Vintage:
A Vintage-bottling from 1996 with big "V" at the label and bottled at cask strength.



Signatory- miniatures in many variations:
With metal or cardboard-tube, in black box or in tin-box as a set.



Big One
A Signatory-bottling
with wooden box and 3 l content,
bottled for the Millenium.

Part 1.04 Douglas Laing

Address: Douglas Laing & Co Ltd., Glasgow G3 6EQ

Web: www.douglaslaing.com

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: Fred & Stewart Laing

This independent bottler started as a blender. The company was founded in 1949 by Fred Douglas Laing. Single Malts are bottled since 1999. Today's proprietors decided, that most of their casks in stock are too good for blending. Originally, they had the wish to bottle 50 bottlings of different distilleries for 50th company anniversary. This was the birth of the OLD MALT CASK – Series As we know today, D.Laing has bottled more than 50 bottlings – and still there are coming more!

D.Laing owns a big stock of casks, partly very old ones. These casks are used for blending or were bottled as Single Malts.

Since the middle of the 1990s there is a Joint-venture with the company „Kedir“ (India).

(a) Advanced Series

The Advanced Series is bottled only in small bottles with 0,2l . The bottlings have 50% Vol. alcohol. The bottle has an uncommon short neck and a plastic screw cap. No chill-filtration or coloring has been used. Apparently, D. Laing wants to get new customers, who either cannot afford or don't want to buy the „big“ bottles of the Old Malt Cask – series.



For a real tasting: The 200ml-Samples of the Advanced Series.

(b) Old Malt Cask



The packaging of this series is a 6-edged wine-red or green paper box, using a clear or green bottle. Only single cask bottlings are offered. Neither the cask number nor the bottlenumber is shown on the label –

but the whole number of bottles, which were bottled from the cask is written on the label. That's why it's a little bit difficult to name exactly a special bottling (look at the numerous Ardbeg-bottlings). Further on the year of the bottling and distillation can be found on the label. Usually the OLD MALT CASK is bottled with 50%, but there were several bottlings released in cask strength. These Malts are neither colored nor chill-filtered. On some bottlings, a bolded „Single Cask Bottling“ is printed on the paper box.

There are existing a number of special bottlings i.e. for Alambic - Germany, for Islay Whisky Shop, for The Whisky Shop - Speyside Way Bar (Tokyo) and others. This can be read on the label also.



Left: Only 96 bottles were bottled of this Bowmore, dest. In 1966. The small, golden label and the green/red cap is typical for the Old Malt Cask-series.

Right: The Old Malt Casks bottled in a clear bottle with the wine-red paper box and the bolded „Single Cask Bottling“ printed on the box! (Photo by: Teresia Kuhr)

(c) **McGibbons Provenance**



The Provenance-Series, which is released by the DL-sub-company THE MCGIBBON'S, has a clear standard bottle and a white 6-edged paper box. Its common bottling strength is 43%, but some bottlings are available with 46% or in cask strength. The year of the distillation and the bottling can be found on the

label. Additionally there is a small picture of the season (spring, summer, autumn and winter) when it was distilled. Further, there is a small tasting note on the label. The most bottlings have no cask number written on the label, but there are single cask bottlings in this series. On the label of these bottlings you can find the cask number. No chill-filtering or coloring has been used in this series.



Season greetings:

A Brora of the „Autumn-Distillation“ on the left and a Port Ellen of the „Winter Distillation“. On the very left you can see the 6-edged paper box of the Provenance-bottlings.

(d) Platinum

This series is relatively new. It started in 2002, I think. It's a series for the collector. The first bottlings of the Platinum-series were only bottled for the Japanese market. After a short time a set of 6 bottlings appeared on the European market also. The Platinums are single cask bottlings, bottled in caskstrength. In D.Laing's opinion, they are one of the best malts they have bottled ever. Partly, the malts of this series have been matured more than 30 years! The packaging is a darkgreen Bigbox (cardboard), containing a green dumpy-bottle and a so called certificate of authenticity.



Some bottlings of the Platinum-series from D.Laing
(Photo by: official promotional photo from the internet)

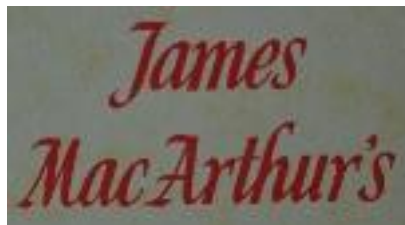
Part 1.05 James MacArthur

Address: James MacArthur & Co. Ltd., Edinburgh

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: Arthur Winning



The name of this company comes from a historical personality: James MacArthur



He was a Farmer, who travelled much and often and stayed in hotels next to the distilleries in Scotland for overnight, where he got an extra dram directly from the barrel.

The backlabel of each bottle tells a small history of the respective distillery from where the whisky comes and a tastingnote also. On the frontlabel you can find a picture from a still, the business logo, the age of the whisky in years and the alcohol strength (regularly 43%). One indication is missing: the year of destillation and the bottling date.

Usually it comes with a standard clear liqueur bottle, and sometimes it comes with a simply thin cardboard box with just the still picture and the logo printed on it. No further details on the box.

In 1994 MacArthur bottled a range of whiskies with the label: „In Celebration 500 Years of Scotch Whisky 1494 – 1994“ This range were bottled at caskstrength, in a green standard liqueur bottle. James MacArthur has a range from the lower to the upper prices. Some details are missing on the label, for example if they are using coloring and/or chill filtering.



Two bottlings of JMA:

On the left a bottling with the green-bottle from 1994,
On the right is a bottle filled up at the end of the 90's.

(a) Old Masters

In the series of " Old Masters " from JMA they offer bottlings at caskstrength with the indication of the distillation and year of bottling and the cask number (if necessary also a bottle number). The back label of each bottle tells a small history of the respective distillery from where the whisky comes and also a tastingnote. The bottlings are naturally, not chill-filtered and not colored. As packaging for this, the green standard bottle is used and a wine-red box with a window - or the standard JMA-cardboard box.



A 37yo. Strathisla
from the Old Masters - series
from James MacArthur.

Part 1.06 Hart Brothers

Adress: Hart Brothers Ltd., 85 Springkell Avenue, Glasgow G41 4EJ, Scotland

Web: www.hartbrothers.co.uk

Tel.: 44 (0) 141 427 6974

Fax: 44 (0) 141 427 9300

Proprietor: Donald und Alistair Hart



The company „Hart Brothers“ was founded in 1988, like Signatory. The Brothers Donald and Alistair Hart have more than 30 years of experience in the whiskybusiness. The bottlings from “Hart Brothers” are offered in drinking strength or caskstrength (since 1997). However the standardstrength is 43 Vol.% alcohol.

(a) Finest Collection

The first bottling of the Harts may be a Glenugie 23yo. dest. 1965 or a Bowmore 31yo. Dest. 1957! The Glenugie was bottled in 1988, but it was in the year 2000 as it appeared on the market. The clear bottle is packaged in a darkgreen paper-tube and is named „Finest Collection“. Enclosed with each bottle is a A5-paper with the tasting notes corresponding to the bottling. Since 2001 the packaging has changed: a 4-edged paperbox with a window similar to the Gordon&MacPhail-packaging. The color darkgreen is still for the bottlings with 43%. The caskstrength-whiskys have a brownred paperbox now.

In february 2003 the next change in the packaging-design happened. The paper-tubes are used once more, but now with a metallic finish of the surface. And there is a new color: blue. These bottlings are looking almost like the ones from Dun Bheagun! The official color code of the Hart Brothers is now:

green: 10-29yo. Whisky with 43% or 46%

Blue: 10-29yo. Whisky in caskstrength

Red: 30yo. Or older in caskstrength

That there errors in the packaging shows the picture of the Royal Brackla. It was bottled with 43% and has a blue papertube. Furthermore, it is a bottling from 1997, but it was labeled in 2003. The A5-paper containing the tasting notes was eliminated.



left: The first(?) HB-bottling, with a beige Cap, the Glenugie dest. 1965. The Caps of this bottling became gold-colored later. right: The 12yo. Lagavulin in caskstrength with the brownred tube. below: The blue papertube from 2003.



(b) Other bottlings

Furthermore the Hart Brothers released several boxes with 5cl-minis, containing a miniature of a whiskybottle and a nosing glas. Then, there are some Blends distributed by the Hart Brothers: OLD GLASGOW, HART's and SCOT'S LION.

There existing special bottlings for various importers: i.e. for Societe Dugas (Paris) called „Collection Dunvegan“.

Part 1.07 Vintage Malt Whisky Company

Address: VMW Co., 2 Stewart Street, Milngavie, Glasgow G62 6BW

Web: www.vintagemaltwhisky.co.uk

Tel.: +44 141 955 1700

Fax: +44 141 955 1701

Proprietor: Brian Crook



(a) Cooper's Choice

Brian Crook, who worked for the Bowmore-distillery before, bottles under the label „The Cooper's Choice“ at 43% and at caskstrength since 1992. There are only single cask bottlings



of rare distilleries or distillation years in this range. The clear standardbottle with a light gift box is used. There are 6 different label designs, each showing a different picture of a cooper at work. The gift box shows all the 6 different label-pictures on both sides. The cooper-pictures are still used for the newer bottlings, though the design of the gift box and the label

has changed. Since 2001, the box is black, darkgreen or beige with golden cooper-pictures in the lower region of the box. The label on the bottle is more slender and you can find only a small cooper-themes.



Typical for Cooper's:
The big round picture of a cooper
On the label. This bottling is from 1999.



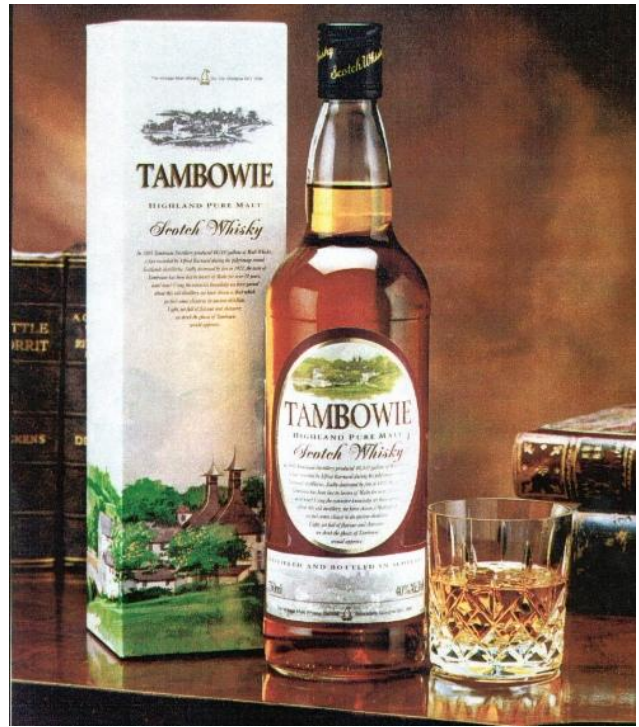
The Cooper's Choice with a new design - with black, darkgreen or beige cardboard box.
(Photo by: VMW)

(b) Others

The most sold whisky from Brian Crook is named FINLAGGAN and was not released under the label Cooper's-Choice. Furtheron, there are two whiskys named TANTALLAN and GLENALMOND, as well as the pure malt TAMBOWIE, which is not available in all countries.



GlenAlmond and Tatallan: 2 bottlings with the declaration of the dest.year (both photos by: VMW)



The 10yo. Finlaggan and the Tambowie from VMW (both photos by: VMW)

Part 1.08 Ian MacLeod

Adress: Ian MacLeod & Co.Ltd., Russell House, Dunnet Way, Broxburn EH52 5BU

Web: www.ChieftainsChoice.com

Tel.: 01506-852 205 Fax: 01506-856 434

Proprietor: Peter J. Russel & Co. Ltd.



Founded in 1936 by Leonard J. Russel the company is a subsidiary company of Peter J. Russel & Co. Ltd. . After the whisky is bought it is stored in ware houses of the respective distillery and will be transported to the filling store of Ian MacLeod only when it is ready for bottling. All together Ian MacLeod bottles about 10 million bottles of whisky per year. Their stock contains more than 20.000 casks of all well-known distilleries and all ages, from new whiskys to destillations matured up to 50 years. Besides whisky they bottle Gin and Wodka also. MacLeod has several second-labels and a big bottling line at Broxburn. In April 2003, Ian MacLeod bought the Glengoyne distillerie.

(a) MacLeod's Malt / Regional Malts

This is a range for beginners, who are interested in Malt whisky. There are available 5 Malts of the following regions: Speyside, Highland, Islay, Island und Lowland. They should show the huge palette of aroms of malt whisky to the interested people.

(b) Chieftain's Choice



The Chieftains Choice – Series is bottled at 43% or at caskstrength. The dumpy-bottle with long neck is used and a gift box. This range offers great stuff for the price to be paid. In general, you can find the bottlings in the lower price-segment. Newer bottlings are using a golden tube instead of the gift box.

The malts of higher quality, which are more expensive, of this range are bottled at 46% ABV and using a big black cardboard box. No chill-filtering is used. Further, there are sets containing a bottle of whisky and glasses.



Left
A 19yo. Brora,
bottled of 2 different
casks and the black
BigBox

Right:
Normal Chieftains-
bottling at 43%.



The golden tube reminds a little
of the „Chairman's Stock“-Range of Cadenheads.

(c) Shieldaig Collection

Under this label, the independent bottler „Ian MacLeod & Co.Ltd.“, bottled a 10yo. Talisker – named „Island“ – and a 10yo. as well as a 15yo. Caol Ila – named “Islay”- and a 10yo. „Highland” for the french company „Société Duglas“.

The bottles used are a clear so-called Ariane-bottle, containing only 0,5l, and a standard bottle for the 15yo. Caol Ila. These bottlings offer very good whiskys in the lower price-segments.



The 0,7l-bottling
of the Shieldaig Collection.

(d) **Dun Bheagan Collection**



In this range a „Pure Malt“, matured more than 8 years, is bottled. It matures in traditional oak-casks and is not chill-filtered.

But there are „Single Malts“ under this label, too. Also matured more than 8 years and not chill-filtered. Similar to the range „Regional Malts“ the bottlings named with the region: Lowland, Highland und Islay.

Last but not least there is a range called „Vintage Single

Malt Collection“. It offers (single cask) bottlings at different ABV of many distilleries and is not chill-filtered.

The color of the gift box varies from black to darkblue/darkgrey. The label-design is very colorful. Since 2002 the gift box was replaced by a gleamy cardboard tube. You can find now the casknumber(s) and the amount of bottles of the bottlings.

**DUN BHEAGAN
Single Malt Collection**



The Vintage-range of Dun Bheagan: with gift box (left) and the new tube (right).

(e) Hedges & Butler

Besides the well-known cigarettes-brand there were released single malt whisky under this label, also. H&B is a wine and spirits merchant, founded at London in 1667. H&B supplied the british and foreign royal houses. The single malts from the „H&B Vintage Malts“-range are the main malts for the H&B ROYAL BLEND. They were put aside by their masterblender for further maturing. The labels of this limited range are showing a picture of scottish life at the beginning of the last century. The clear standard-bottle is used and the ABV is 43%. The range contains single cask bottlings with the declaration of the cask- and the bottle-number.



A 10yo. Clynelish
From the „Vintage Malt“-range
of H&B.
(photo by: Stephan Weigel)

Part 1.09 Blackadder

Adress: Blackadder International, Logie Green, Larkhall, ML9 1DA, Scotland

Web: www.blackadder.com

Tel.: (+44) 1435 883309

Fax:

Proprietor: Robin Tucek



The company has its name from historical person: Bishop John Blackadder, who lived in Glasgow in the 14th century. The Blackadder company was founded in 1995 by Robin Tucek and John Lamont when they left the Malt Whisky Association. Each cask, which is bottled by Blackadder, has been chosen by Robin Tucek. Tucek is the co-author of the popular Book „The Malt Whisky File“. It's the philosophy of Blackadder to bottle only single cask malt whisky at cask strength or at 43%ABV without chill-filtering or coloring. They are using clear bottles, so the customers are able to see the natural color of the whisky. They are using only a particle-filter to filter wood particles and similar things out of the whisky. Of course, the "Raw cask"-bottlings are not filtered with a particle-filter either.

The bottling of „A drop of the Irish“ is an exception of this rule: this whisky is not a single cask malt – it is bottled from several casks of one distillery (and it is an Irish Single Malt). Under the label BLAIRFINDY Blackadder offers a raw-cask-version of Glenfarclas. Due to the bottling it has been matured between 20 and 25 years in a sherry-cask. There is 40yo. one also. If you do a blind tasting you won't think that this is a Glenfarclas, because it hasn't the typical Glenfarclas aroma.

(a) Single Cask Single Malts

This is the standard range of Blackadder, bottled in a clear standard bottle at 43% or 45% (standard) or at caskstrength (natural strength). You can find the sort of cask, distillation and bottling date as well as the cask number and a small information of the respective distillery on the label.



Left and middle:
standard-bottlings at 43%
ABV.

Right: A Clynesh at cask
strength from the „Natural
Strength“ – Range (you can
read this above the name of
the distillery).

(b) Raw Cask

These whiskys are bottled directly from the cask. This means, that they're bottled at caskstrength and without any filtering. These whiskies can contain particles like parts of wood from the cask. The clear standard bottle is used. You can read „RAW CASK“, as well as the ABV in a circle in the middle of the label. Furtheron, the distillation year, the bottling year, the cask number and sort of the cask, and the amount of bottles from this cask are declared.



definitely unfiltered:
„wood-particles“ of a Raw-Cask-bottling

Some of the Raw-Cask-bottlings of Blackadder are available as a Mini also.

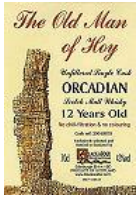
(c) Limited Edition

The Lim. Ed. Malts from Blackadder are strictly limited (as the name says it). Bottled at 43% ABV or at caskstrength and of course neither chill-filtered nor colored. You can find a big „Limited Edition“-sign on the label, which is placed on a clear standard bottle..



Limited:
Blackadders Lim.Edition
with the big writing in the
upper region of the label
(photo by: whiskyfair.de)

(d) Old Man of Hoy / Orcadian



This is a 12yo. or 10yo. single cask bottling from a sherry cask. This whisky comes from the most northern distillery of Scotland and it should be a whisky in the “style of old school” (probably Highland Park). The cask number is declared on the label. The „Old Man“ is available in drinking- or caskstrength.

(e) Aberdeen Distillers

A second-label of Blackadder, where you can find younger bottlings (about 10 till 12 years matured) in general. The whiskies are bottled at 43% ABV, not chill-filtered and not colored. The whiskies are single cask bottlings with the cask number declared. The design of the label is very similar to the design of the standard range of Blackadder; but with a big celtic „A“ on it.

(f) The Clydesdale Original Scotch Whisky Co. Ltd.

Another second-label of Blackadder! But the whiskies in this range are bottled at caskstrength. Again, no chill-filtration or coloring is used here. The bottlings are from a single cask and the cask- and bottlenumber is declared. The label is light blue and glued to a clear standard bottle.

Part 1.10 Adelphi

Address: Adelphi Distillery Ltd., 3 Gloucester Lane, Edinburgh EH3 6ED, Scotland

Web: www.adelphidistillery.com

Tel.: 0131 - 226 66 70

Fax: 0131 - 226 66 72

Proprietor: Jamie Walker



The Adelphi Distillery (one of the largest of Scotland) was founded in 1826 and closed 1902. The reopening was 1993 from the great-grandchild of the latter operator by Jamie Walker. Adelphi keeps samples of selected barrels direct from brokers or of the respective distillery. After extensive examination of the barrels, they decide what's coming up on the market next as a Adelphi filling. Criteria for the choice are rarity, mature, taste and smell. Fillings of Adelphi are settled in upper levels of the price segments. Usually "The Adelphi" is directly filled up by the barrel at caskstrength, without filtering or extra coloring. Those whiskies can contain suspended matters and wood particles also.

The very small front label, which shows only the destilleriename, the age and the Adelphi



Logo is remarkable. On the backside, you can find a small tiny label as well. There is the barrel number and alcohol strength indicated. Usually it comes with a standard clear liqueur bottle. They also offer small 10 cl bottles. This give people the possibility to try an expensive whisky in a smaller bottle, if they don't want to spent so much money. Further Adelphi offers still two Blends: ADELPHI PRIVATE STOCK und BREATH OF ANGELS.

Remakable:
The small label
of the Adelphi-bottlings

Part 1.11 Scotch Malt Whisky Society (SMWS)

Address: SMWS, 4 Giles Street, Leith, Edinburgh EH6 6DJ
SMWS, 19 Greville Street, London EC1N 8SQ

Web: www.smws.com

Tel.: 0131 - 554 3451
020 – 7831 4447

Fax: 0131 – 553 1003
020 – 7242 8494

Proprietor: Glenmorangie plc



The SMWS started as club of whisky friends, who shared portions and prices of a barrel of whisky. By prospering of the Society, it has been transferred into a private limited company, which has been bought by Glenmorangie plc. at the beginning of 2004. Thus, SMWS is as an "independent" bottler a daughter of a conglomerate in Whisky industry. How far the altered property situation influences the character of the SMWS will show the future.

There are bottlings for the members, clubrooms in Edinburgh and London and branches (partly with own Member Rooms) in Germany, North America, Netherlands, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Japan, France and Australia as well. The SMWS sells its bottlings only to members.

The bottle is the green standard bottle with a quite crypto designation number on the label: i.e. 41.11. The first number is an indication for the distillery, the second is the casknumber of the bottling. For the translation the SMWS gives appropriate lists to its members to the hand. The label contains the alcohol strength besides the "double number" also, Distillation and bottling year, age and bottle size. Of course, they don't colour or cool filter the Whisky; and all bottles are bottled at cask strength.



Only for members:

The big circled Logo in the middle is the sign of the SMWS. The small circle in the lower right shows the double-number. Not all bottles are coming with a cork. Some of the bottles have a screw cap.

Part 1.12 The Bottlers

Address: The Bottlers, 4 Giles Street, Leith, Edinburgh EH6 6DJ

Web:

Tel.: 0131- 554 2652 und 332 5166

Fax:

Proprietor: Zubair Mohamed

THE BOTTLERS

A small bottler, led by the wine merchant the Zubair Mohamed (Raeburn Fine Wines). This bottler has the same location and can be find in the same building as the SMWS! But they don't use the same bottling line, each is doing it on its own. The beige label is on a clear "cognac bottle" (with slim neck), with black writing and in a simple design. The bottlings are bottled at cask strength and with indication of the barrel number provided as single barrel bottlings. The bottlings are neither treated nor chill-filtered.



A bottlin from
1994 in the cognac-bottle

Part 1.13 Milroy Associates

Address: Milroy Associates, PO-Box 7431, London N11 1AW

Web:

Tel.:

Fax:

Proprietor:

This company writes the slogan „Keepers of Quality“ on their labels. But sometimes they are using chill-filtering. Further some bottlings for the French Whisky shop "La Maison" are existing, these bottlings do not even show the distillery name on the label. Milroy has used a label showing a scotsman for the millenium bottlings.



Left: A bottling for the french shop „La maison du whisky“. A 21yo Macallan. In the middle of the label you can see the logo of LaMaison. Right: An example of a Millenium-Bottling. (photo by: Stefan Hennig)

Part 1.14 Lombard

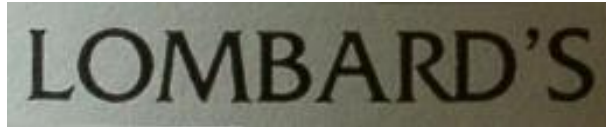
Address: Lombard Scotch Whisky LTD.

Web:

Tel.:

Fax:

Proprietor:



These bottlings carry the beautiful title „JEWELS of the HIGHLANDS (ISLANDS, ISLAY etc.). It is filled up in the clear standard bottle with 50% ABV. The label shows each source region with a typical picture: for example the Highland Cattles at a lake for the Highlands or there are sea gulls on a blue sky for Islay Malts. Further the filling date and distillation year, as well a very short Tasting note is indicated. Another series of Lombard's is dedicated to the „golf courses“ of Scotland and was available in the center of the 90's.



Jewels:
Brora dest. 1981 with
Highland Cattles on the label

Part 1.15 Murray MacDavid

Address: Murray McDavid Ltd., 56 Walton Street, Knightsbridge, London SW3 1RB

Web: www.murray-mcdavid.com

Tel.: +44 (0) 141 842 3000

Fax: +44 (0) 141 842 3001

Proprietor: Gordon Wright, Mark Reynier, Simon Coughlin



The company was created by the 3 owners beginning to the middle of the 90's. Only Gordon WRIGHT was working in the Whisky business before, the other two were working in the Wine business. The common bottling strength is here 46% ABV. Murray McDavid offer their first-class Malts in their natural form, without additional colors or cooling filtering. The standard bottle is clear and with the signature "Murray McDavid" along the side engraved. As packing they use an orange box. MMD uses also a secondary label with the name LA RESERVE and a third label with the name MCINTYRE, found mainly on the Japanese market.

(a) Standard MMD

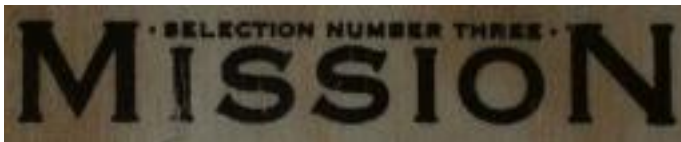


Left the MMD-bottle from front view.
On the picture right you can see the
engraved letters.





Discreetly:
A MMD filling in normal standard bottle
with a simple label for Italy.

(b) Mission MMD

At the end of 2002 MMD brought an assortment in an edition of 600 pieces on the market. It contained the distilleries Royal Brackla, Dallas Dhu, Highland Park, Clynelish, Glenlivet

and Lagavulin. The Malts are filled up with 46% alcohol strength and originates either from First fill or Refill Sherry or American Oak barrels. The fillings are between 23yo. and 30yo. All these bottles have a new designed bottle with a clear-label (reminded to the Authentic Collection of Cadenhead's with the small horizontal labels) packed in natural wood boxes. This series was increased 2003 and 2004 with further fillings.



secret mission:

Small bright label and clear-label and an elegant bottle, in the lower region it is narrower than the standard bottle. To hardly recognize: In the lower region the signature is printed on the bottle in golden color.

Part 1.16 Scott's Selection

Address: Robert Scott & Co., Rutherglen, Glasgow

Web: www.speysidedistillery.co.uk

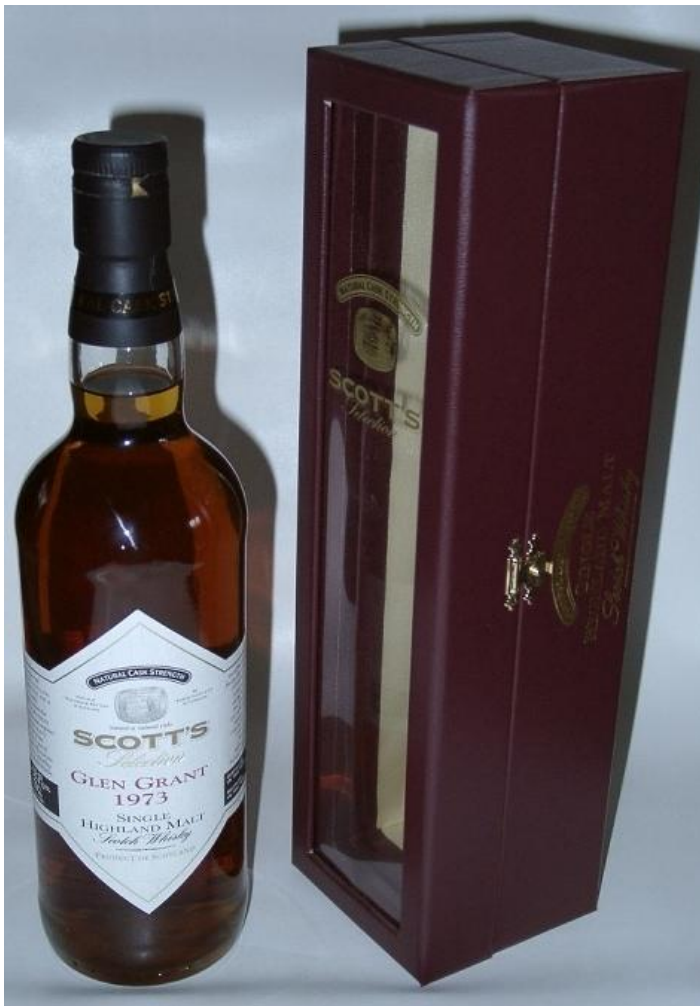
Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor:



The Highland-, Lowland- and Islay-Whiskies of Scott's Selection are normally filled up in Cask Strength and are chill filtered.

It comes in a clear standard bottle in a box with sight window in different colors. The rhombus styled label contains the exact alcohol content, the distillery, the age and the distillation year. There are 5cl-samples available, too.



Typical for a Scott's Selection:
Rhombus styled label
and a colored cap.

Part 1.17 Kingsbury

Adress: Kingsbury Wine & Spirits Co. Ltd., 14 Elysium Gate,
126-128 New King Road, London SW6 4LZ

Web:

Tel.: 020 7471 8500

Fax: 020 7731 8041

Proprietor:

The label is simply held since the Millennium: white with black writing letters, "Celtic Label" and "Hand Writing Label". From 1992 to 2000 however, a more multicolored label with a unicorn were used. Kingsbury received timewise excellent barrels via Cadenhead's (for example: Ardbeg 74/92 or Lagavulin 78/93). The printed address and telephone/fax number are old and no longer valid! Kingsbury is led today by japanese people, with a main office in Aberdeen and is so a scottish company. However a majority of the bottlings is exported to Japan.



Kingsbury³:
Celtic-Label, Unicorn-Label and Hand-writing-Label (from left to right)

Part 1.18 Samaroli

Adress:

Web: www.samaroli.it

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: Silvano Samaroli



SCOTCH WHISKY MERCHANTS & BOTTLERS

An independent bottler from Italy. The fillings are very rare in Germany - although Samaroli offered its first series in 1979 already. Since then, regularly further fillings were offered. For the german market long time an importer was missing here probably.

The brand new web page contains a lot of pictures of the numerous different labels of the various Samaroli fillings.



An example for the many
Samaroli-Labels.
(photo by: Flo Borchers)

Part 1.19 Morrison Fairlie

Address: Morrison Fairlie Distillery Co., Stirling, Scotland

Web: www.scotdram.com (that's what you can read on the label!)

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: Peter Fairlie

The company bottles under the name SCOTMALT. The company name is only very small indicated on the label. There is a lot of information printed on the label: Bottling- and destillation year, cask number, bottle number, alcohol strength and distillery name. A small information about the Distillery and a (very) detailed tasting note. Some of the tasting notes are attempting for a smile. For example: the finish of the Macallan 89/01; they wrote: „very long, shimmering over the loch“.

Scotmalt comes in the clear standard bottle. If no chill filtering was used, it is likewise a note of this on the label.



Lots of data on the label:
Scotmalt from Morrison Fairlie

Part 1.20 Glenhaven

Address: Glenhaven Scotch Whisky Co., Glasgow

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: none



Until a few years ago, Glenhaven supplied only the american market with its fillings. Glenhaven Whiskies are available in germany, however offered relatively rare. By the death of the head of the company Bill Thompson (around 1997), this company disappeared. Fillings, in the trade to be offered are residues. The whiskies are neither chill-filtered nor colored and all are at caskstrength. They are filled in the clear standard bottle with a simple beige colored label. On the label the age, Alcohol strength and the designation „special individual cask bottling“ as well as date of filling and destillation is declared.



The Glenhaven-fillings with the typical golden circle and the script in the label.

Part 1.21 Wilson & Morgan

Adress:

Web: www.wilsonandmorgan.com

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: Fabio Rossi

WILSON
&
MORGAN
BARREL
SELECTION

An Italian company and it belongs to Rossi & Rossi. The barrels are personally selected by Fabio Rossi. Usually single barrel fillings are released. Since 1992 it is filled up under the label BARREL SELECTION with 46% (partly sometimes 45%, also) and at cask strength. At the beginning, Fabio Rossi bought his casks at Cadenheads, later he visited and bought them directly from the specific distillery. The drinking strengths are filled up in a clear standard bottle with a black gift box. The cask strengths have a green standard bottle and are delivered in a wooden box with acrylic glass window. There is also a HOUSE MALT, an 8yo. single malt from the Isle of Islay.

Further there is still the series RUM NATION, which contains various kinds of rum.



Modern styled label:
Barrel Selection from W&M

Part 1.22 Praban na Linne

Adress: Somewhere in the south of Skye

Web: www.gaelic-whiskies.co.uk

Tel.: 01471 833 496 Fax: 01471 833 260

Proprietor: Sir Ian Noble



The Company was founded in 1976 by Sir Iain Noble of Eilean Iarmain as part of a project to create employment in the south of Skye. The whiskies are having all gaelic names and they are made for the taste of the people living at the Hebrides. From the beginning they have been labeled in Gaelic language which sets them apart, and so they soon came to be called "The Gaelic Whiskies". At Skye they say "having Gaelic on the label improves a great flavour"! As an exceptional there was the TE BHEAG, since for a long time the only unfiltred Blended Whisky of the world! It is sold with brown and white (for the international market) label since 1992. A further product is the 12yo POIT DHUBH, in past times it had a black label, today it is a green label. Since October 1999 it is released only with 43% and with another box. There is also still the POIT DHUBH in a 8yo and a 21yo version; however does not commit itself, whether it is itself

here around a vatted or a single malt. As the third product there is the MAC NA MARA, a blend whisky with less Malt contents than the TE BHEAG. Today it is one of the few remaining family businesses in the Scotch whisky business. The main markets are Scotland and England, France, Holland, Italy and Canada. They are represented in Spain, Belgium, Switzerland, New Zealand, Japan, Hong Kong, and Australia, also

Part 1.23 MacKillop's Choice

Adress:

Web: www.mackillopschoice.com

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: Lorne MacKillop



Since 1984, Lorne Mackillop is a member of the institutes of the of masters of Wine in London. At that time, he was the youngest person to be accepted as a Master of Wine. With approvement of Lorne Mackillop, he decides which barrel going to be filled up under the label "The MacKillop's Choice" or not. There are Single Malts from 12yo to 38yo from different kinds of barrel (Bourbon, Sherry, Madeira) as single barrel fillings. They are bottled in a clear standard bottle with gift box. It is not colored nor chill-filtered and available with 43% ABV or at caskstrength.

"Only those whisky casks I have approved after careful selection are chosen to bear my family's name."- Lorne Mackillop



MacKillop's Choice
with a signed gift box
(photo by: Stephan Weigel)

Part 1.24 Master of Malt

Adress: The Master of Malt, 96a Caverley Road, Royal Turnbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2UN

Web: www.masterofmalt.com

Tel.: 44(0) 1892 513 295

Fax: 44(0) 1892 750 487

Proprietor:



You can find a whole row of Single Malts of different distilleries. However, the quality of the fillings are passing all quality classes. 70cl- standard bottles and 5cl- mini bottles are filled up. The alcohol content ranges from 43% to caskstrength. The Master of Malt have an on-line Shop in the internet, also.

Part 1.25 Peerless Collection

Address: Duncan Taylor & Co. Ltd., 4 Upperkirkbridge, Huntly, Aberdeenshire, AB54 8JU

Web: www.dtcscotch.com

Tel.: +44 (0)1466 794 055

Fax: +44 (0)1466 730 337

Proprietor: Euan Shand und Alan Gordon

Web: www.dtcscotch.com , you can find the american importer under www.stuartandgunn.com

On repeal of prohibition in the US, the merchantman Abe Rosenberg and his two brothers founded a company called „Star Liquor“. Rosenberg developed diverse interests in proberty, from the Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami to a rum plantage on the Virgin Islands, and even a small Whisky-company in Scotland: Duncan Taylor & Co.



DUNCAN TAYLOR & CO LTD
SCOTCH WHISKY MERCHANTS AND EXPORTERS. EST. 1938

After the Second World War Rosenberg decided to go into partnership with Charlie Guttman. Guttman was the owner of „Paddington Industries“, the importer of J&B for the US. Rosenberg raised the distribution and wholesaling from 25.000 cases/year of J&B to more than 3,5 Mio. Cases/year, within the next 30 years. This company was sold in 1980 to “Grand Met”.

From the early 1960s, Rosenberg also bought casks of fresh destillated malt whisky from different distilleries, especially from distilleries of the Isle of Islay, and let them stored there for further maturing. His holding-company for this was Duncan Taylor & Co.

Duncan Taylor & Co. had a stock in excess of 3000 casks of Single Malt and Single Grain Whisky, averaging 35years old. Scotch Single Malt was Rosenbergs private investment interest. After his death at the age of 85 years in 1994 the business mothballed leaving nearly 4000 casks in bond ranging from 21 to 40 years.

The next 8 yearsthe company was lead by a trust, which was founded by Rosenberg and his wife. In 2000 trust contacted Euan Shand, to sell the company. As Shand discovered the quality and the quantity of the whiskies, he decided, to buy the company himself. Together with his business colleage Alan Gordon, he raised the capital and bought the business in 2002. The headquarters were moved from New York to Huntly.

DTC owns a bottling plant in Huntly and controls the process from the cask to distribution. In Dezember 2002 a presentation shopwas opened in Huntly. In April 2003 DTC gets two „Gold Awards“ of the Scottish Enterprise Grampain Food and Drinking Forums.



Since the takeover in 2002, DTC released single malts and single grains from different distilleries under the label PEERLESS. Placed in the upper price-segment there are only single cask bottlings at caskstrength. The whisky is packed in a standardbottle (with the Logo as a „Clear-Label“) with a long, tiny label and a colored cardboard box, which bears the logo besides the writing „Rare Auld Scotch Whisky“. The label declares all necessary data: name of the distillery, age, distillation- and bottling year, region, ABV, cask

number and bottle number. All bottlings are 21 years old or older and neither chill-filtered nor colored. The casks are stored at the warehouses of the specific distilleries until they are bottled.



A Bowmore from the Peerless-Collection.
The box and banderole
can vary in color.

(a) Others

SN TARTAN, SCOTTISH GLORY, GLEN ALBA, GLENDARROCH: These are all blends or vatted malts.

Part 1.26 Berry Brothers & Rudd

Address: Berry Bros. & Rudd Ltd., 3 St. James Street, London SW1A 1EG, UK

Web: www.bbr.com

Tel.: +44 171 396-9666

Fax:

Proprietor: Simon Berry

BERRY BROS & RUDD

This company is situated in England and offers a small range of Single Malts. But there they should have some very interesting Sherry Cask fillings in their range. The company Berry Brothers & Rudd supports some different kind of Blended Whisky and has some replacements in Tokyo, Japan.

The main business for Berry Bros is the Wine business. It is one of the oldest wine shops in the world, which is still existing.

The company was created in 1698, however Whisky is published since 1923; the CUTTY SARK. Further, two Vatted Malts are published: BERRY'S ALL MALT (12yo and 17yo) and BERRY'S PURE MALT (12yo). Since 1760 the company supplies the british Royal House.



Old and new:

„very old“ fillings with old label from the 70s (left) and the modern label (right). – No, the picture is not inclined, it is because of the barrel bottom ☺

Part 1.27 Scotch Single Malt Circle (SSMC)

Adress: SSMC, Auf der Hofreith 35, 40489 Düsseldorf

Web: www.scotchsingle.de

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: Maggie und Bill Miller



A club and/or "Circle" from Germany, it sells its fillings only to members. Similarities to the SMWS are probably quite intended, because the principle is the same. Originally Maggie and Bill Miller wanted to create a German agency of the SMWS. This was not the way it works and so they founded their own Circle with success. They offer their own fillings. The SSMC was created at the beginning of the 90s and meanwhile it has over 1000 members. Membership Payment is moderate and contained also a quarterly newsletter. Meetings and tasting are offered, also. The fillings are not chill-filtered, not colored and at caskstrength. The clear standard bottle is used. The light brown label contains all necessary data: Filling- and destillation year, distillery name and alcohol strength.



Left:
The typical SSMC-Etikett
with all necessary data.
(photo by: from the SSMC-Webpage)
Right:
Old styled Label of SSMC with typing
„Douglas of Drumlanrig“
(photo by: Hans Auditor)

Part 1.28 Single Barrel Collection

Adress: Le Monde du Vin, Torstr. 147, 10119 Berlin

Web: www.le-monde-du-vin.com

Tel.: +49 (0)30 28 09 5959 Fax: +49 (0)30 28 09 5961

Proprietor: Anthony Evans

This in Berlin resident company (however in Scottish hand), belongs to the group „Le monde du vin“. Since 2002 it is on (German) the market and has different distilleries in its program. The fillings of the Single Barrel Collection are usually quite young (approx. 10-15 years) and impress by extreme alcohol contents, partially over 65%! The prices are settled in the lower to the middle level. The label contains all data up to the barrel and bottle number. It is not chill-filtered and not colored. This company stopped its activities in 2003 first times and we are waiting for what's coming next.



Different kind of fillings of the Single Barrel Collection. The label is in hand writing design and has twin labels.

Part 1.29 Merchant's Collection

Adress: D&C, Zola Predosa, Bologna

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor:

A standard bottle was used and the bottling strength is at 43%ABV. The large label indicates beside a thistle and only the original region of the Single Malts! On the small shoulder label you can find the distillery name of the filling. By the way, the bottling was done by the Signatory-bottling-line.



Trader like:
shoulder label und thistle,
the typical signs of the
Merchant's Collection.

Part 1.30 Liquid Gold Enterprises Ltd.

Adress: Liquid Gold Enterprises Ltd., Colintrave, Argyll PA22 3AH, Scotland

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor:

This bottler appeared on the german market in late 2003. But theres is a Highland Park existing, which was bottled in 2001. So, you can suppose that LGE existed in 2001 already. There are 3 ranges:

(a) Spirit of Islay

As the name says it: only Islay-malts are released in this range. Curiously an Isle of Jura was released in this range also. The name of the series doesn't match in this case.

(b) Celtic Legend

In this range are offered single malts with 46% and in caskstrength. Besides the distillation and bottling year, the casknumber is declared at the oval label, also. The bottlings are not chill-filtered.



Celtic Legends: a Clynesh and a Glen Grant ! (left photo by: Stephan Weigel, right photo by: Robert Fletcher, Canada), by the way, the Glen Grant was only available in Canada.

(c) Caledonian Selection

In this range LGE offers bottlings in a nice decanter with a golden colored „clear-label” (directly printed on the bottle). The bottlings are single cask bottlings with the writing “Single cask Single Malt Scotch Whisky” and 40% or 46% ABV. This range is not chill-filtered nor colored. The sort of the cask, the cask number as well as distillation- and bottling year are declared at the neck-label.



A Highland Park 1992/2001
in the decanter from LGE.
(Photo by: Werner Lorenz)

Part 1.31 Celtic Whisky Compagnie

Adress: Celtic Whisky Compagnie, Crec'h ar Fur, 22610 Pleubian, France

Web: www.celtic-whisky.com

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: Jean & Martine Donnay

Celtic Whisky Compagnie



This is a small french bottler, who releases 2 different ranges as well as different pure malts, irish single malts and a blend. CWCie was founded in may 1997 and is a family business since then. They are experementing with different kind of cask finishings. This company was the first bottler, who matures a whisky in a sauternes-cask! They are using only first fill casks for the finishing. The malts were matured in Scotland, then further matured in Brittany (France) in the own warehouses of the company.

The bottlings of CWCie have been awarded 3 medals: two Silver Medals and one Gold Medal by the tasting panel of the Concours Mondial de Bruxelles in 2002 and 2003!

Further the owners of CWCie are building a distillery with the name „Glann ar Mor“. The first distillation will take place in 2004; the first bottling of an Glann ar Mor – whisky should be ready in 2008.



(a) Celtique Connexion

This range offers “double matured” whiskies with 43% or 50% ABV. Only „first fill“ – casks are used for finishing. The finishing takes place in different casks i.e. Sauternes, Armagnac a.o. The clear standard bottle is packed in a black cardboard box or a nice wooden box. The own warehouses of the company, where the maturation of the finishing takes place, is situated at the northern shore of France. Mild temperatures and high humidity favouring a maturation of high quality.



A Caol Ila from the „Celtic Connexion“-range with the wooden box.
(photo by: CWCie)

(b) Spirit Safe & Cask Selection

There were released only bottlings with 43%, till now. The bottlings are single malts from a single cask with the declaration of the destilling year; they are neither chill-filtered nor colored. The clear standard bottle with the black cardboard box is used for this range also.



A Bruichladdich 1992
From the „Spirit Safe“-range.
(photo by: CWCie)

(c) Others

CWCie bottles 2 irish single malts also: CLONMEL and the 8yo. THE PEATED CLONMEL. Furtheron, there is the GLENFINNAN and THE POT STILL – two 8yo. pure malts, as well as the GLEN TORNESS, a 5yo. pure malt. Last but not least the CWCie-range contains a blend from the Isle of Islay, which has a minimum of 50% Islay-Malts: THE ISLAY CONNECTION.



The full range of the CWCie-bottlings. (photo by: CWCie)

Part 1.32 Highlands & Islands Scotch Whisky Co. Ltd.

Address: Highlands & Islands Scotch Whisky Co.Ltd., 2 Stewart Street, Milngavie,
Glasgow G62 6BW

Web: www.whisky.sageweb.co.uk

Tel.: 0141 955 1700

Fax: 0141 955 1701

Proprietor: VMWC



**The Highlands & Islands
Scotch Whisky Company Ltd.**

An independent bottler, belonging to the VMWC. It's on the german market since 2003. The range contains several younger single malts from the Islands and from Islay. But there are 2 other series: THE CASK & WHISTLE and SCOTTISH CASTLES. The Scottish Castles-range is distributed by JWW (Jack Wiebers Whisky World), also (you can find the discription of this range in the JWWW-chapter). The whisky is bottled in a green or a clear standard bottle.

(a) Black Cullin

This bottling contains an 8yo. single malt (probably Talisker). The name comes from the Cullin Hills on Skye.

(b) The Ileach

A malt from Islay without a declaration of the age – and real “turf-monster”! It's a younger Lagavulin, probably.

(c) The Pibroch

Another Islay-Malt, 12yo. and a Bowmore, probably. This bottling is named after the ship „Pibroch“, which was travelling between Islay and the mainland a long time. It transported goods from the mainland to Islay and brought back the whisky in return.



The 3 bottlings of H & I.
(photo by: H & I)

(d) Glen Andrews

A 10yo. Speyside-Whisky. The only official information about this whisky is, that it comes from a distillery, which was founded in 1823.

(e) Scottish Castles

This is the same series of single cask-bottlings, that is distributed by JWWW in germany. The labels are the same. Maybe they share casks. You can find a photo and a discription of these range in the chapter about JWWW.

(f) The Cask & Thistle

This is the range where H & I offers single cask whiskies with 46% ABV, bottled in the standardbottle. There are 2 younger malts and a 27yo. Linkwood!

Part 1.33 Moray Malt Whisky Ltd.

Address: Moray Malt Whisky Ltd., Edinburgh, Scotland

Web:

Tel.:

Fax:

Proprietor:



A bottler, who bottles Whisky as well as rum, cognac and port wine under the label THE SECRET TREASURES OF... . The single malt whisky is bottled at 40% or 44% ABV and packed in a standard bottle (blue labels, only). There are blue and white labels containing the age, distillations- and bottling year as well as the cask number. It seems, that the bottles with the white labels are the newer bottlings. The bottle was changed here also. They have now a bottle with a clear-label in the upper region of the bottle (like Peerless Collection).



A 20yo. Mortlach, that was bottled in the year 2000.

Chapter II. Importers

Several Importers don't import whisky to their home-country only, but release bottlings of single malt under their own name and sometimes with a specially created new label.

Particularly the Italian importers are significant in this respect. Today the bottlings of Moon, Sestante and Intertrade are rarities, but these importers could release excellent bottlings of diverse single malts in the 1980s already – a time, when only a few whisky-enthusiasts were interested in single malts.

To explain why these old bottlings taste often better than present bottlings of the same age (same time of maturation in barrel), you have to know that these importers had enough money and a good sense for exclusive whiskies at a time when not many people were interested in that matter. So extraordinary barrels could be bought, which went for blending otherwise. Ferdinando Fiori and Reno Marnardi were the first big Italian importers.

Often there were used very colourful labels which were specially designed for the bottlings. Not all bottles could be pictured in this guide so that the photographs could be only exemplary.

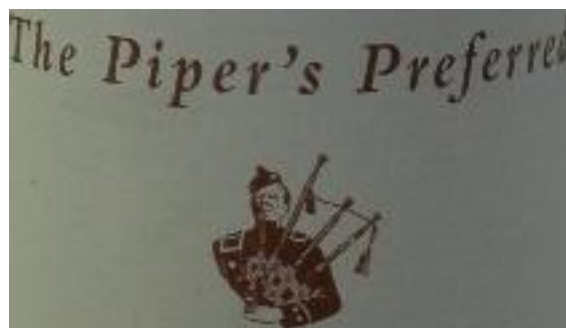
Part 2.01 Piper's Preferred

Address:

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: none



Under the label 'Piper's Preferred' there were bottlings of the german importer "Scotchconnection" released. But they were bottled in Scotland. These bottles where filled at 46% ABV or at cask strength. The plain label which is fitted on a clear glass standard bottle declares only the year of destillation, no age. All whiskies are single-cask bottlings with no chill filtration or colouring. There should be about 14 different Piper's bottlings, from cheap



beginners whiskies to old rarities, filled between 1996 and 1998. After the Scotchconnection has discontinued there activities, these bottlings are very hard to find on the market. But the Scotch Source Company (another german importer) would like to expand that range under another label and with declaration of age. But till now, these were only intentions.

Piper's Parade: There are black or golden caps of aluminium or plastic.

Part 2.02 Kirsch-Import

Adress: The House of Whiskys, Schnepker Str. 24-26, 28857 Syke-Schnepke

Web:

Tel.: 04242 1537

Fax: 04242 4338

Proprietor: Dieter Kirsch

This is an importer who imports more than 600 sorts of whiskies, including independent bottlers like Cadenhead's, Gordon&MacPhail, JamesMacArthur and Signatory. The focus is on single malts, but there are bourbons available, too.

There were own bottlings released as well, the so called Kirsch-Bottlings like several Anniversary-Bottlings of several distilleries due to the 25-year anniversary of the importer. They bear a plain white lable with black writing. The bottlings due to the 20-year anniversary were filled at Signatory and bear a painting of an artist on the back-side.



Small label on the front in Signatory-style, on the back a painting of an artist. This bottling is filled at 43% ABV but in a dumpy-bottle with velvet-box, which normally is used only for the caskstrength-range of Signatory.

Part 2.03 Sestante / Silver Seal

Address: Italy

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: Reno Marnardi

Sestante-Bottlings are not available in normal whiskysshops anymore, because the imports of this company had stopped in 1990. But these bottlings are treasured by collectors and conoisseurs, so they are quite expensive now and hard to find. They are bottled in a clear glass or green glass standard-style bottle with or without a box; the labels are mostly very colourful. There were released some bottlings in decanters as well.

Since 1999/2000 the same owner releases new bottlings under the label "Silver Seal". There is used a clear-glass pudgy bottle with small neck, packed in a cardboard-box. The logo shows an emblem with the letters "SS" in a thistle. Here is the colourcode of the label: yellow – Islay, blue – Highlands and green – Lowlands. The "first bottling"-label is not on every bottling. In the beginning, Silver Seal bought bottles from Douglas Laing and refilled in new bottles but now they buy casks from DL and bottle them as Silver Seal-bottlings.



Silver Seal bottle from the year 2000 (left) and a colourful Glenugie from Sestante, bottled in the 1980s (on the right; photo by: whiskyfair.de)



Two other bottlings from Sestante: on the left there's a Cragganmore, that was bottled by G&M for Sestante and on the right there's an Oban with a coats of arms – shaped label.
(both photos by Peter Nowacki)

Part 2.04 Moon-Import

Address: Italy

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor:

Another italian importer! These bottlings are high-prized in germany, too and hard to find in whisky shops. Moon is rumoured to have good relationships to the italian independent bottler Samaroli... The labels of the Moon-Bottlings are mostly very colourful as well, but are suptler in structure than the Sestante-labels. There are series of bottlings (like Sails in the Wind ect.)

(a) Sails in the Wind

This range has old sailing ships on ist labels. The cardboard box shows a picture of the same sailing ship as the label. The whisky was bottled at 46% ABV.



Sails in the wind:
Bottlings from the „Sails in the Wind“ – range from Moon Import.

(b) Cars

This range is dedicated to old vehicles. There is no distillation- and bottling year declared. It was bottled at 43% or at cask strength. The bottles are having a wax-sealed cork and a corresponding designed cardboard tube.



Old vehicles and old whisky:
The Cars-range from Moon-Import.
(photo by: Matthias Bohnsack)

(c) **Horae Solaris**

The range „Horae Solaris“, which was dedicated to sundials, was bottled in 1998; at different alcohol strengths and with the maximum number of bottled bottles.



Sundials:

Various colored Sundials are shown by the labels of the Horae Solaris-range.
(photo by: Matthias Bohnsack)

(d) In the Pink

Flower-motifs were used by many independent bottlers – so Moon does also. This range was bottled in 2000 at 46% ABV. The labels are showing various plants with pink colored flowers. The cardboard tube has a corresponding design..



getting pink:

The flowers of the In-the-pink-range.
(photo by: Matthias Bohnsack)

(e) Toutes Mare

The labels of this range, bottled in 1996/97, showing a beautiful map of an ocean region.
Bottled at 50% ABV each bottling has a corresponding design cardboard tube as packaging.



The 7 seas:

Here are 3 of the 7 bottlings from the TOUTES-MARE-range.
(photo by: Matthias Bohnsack)

(f) De Viris illustribus

This range has an uncommon motif: knights from the Middle Ages. Bottled in 1995 at different alcohol strengths. The corresponding designed cardboard tube was used for this range also, of course.



Back to the Middle Ages:
The knightlabels of the De-Viris-Illustribus-Serie from Moon-Import.
(photo by: Matthias Bohnsack)

(g) Other series

There are two other ranges I have no pictures from: Costumes and Animals. The Costumes range was bottled in 1988 and the Animals range in 1989. Both ranges were bottled at 46% ABV.

(h) Costumes

The Costumes range was bottled in 1988 with 46% ABV.



Fancy-dress ball:
The Costumes-range
from Moon-Import.
(photo by Peter Nowacki)

(i) Animals

The Animals-range was bottled in 1988 and shows animals (what else?) on the labels. This range was bottled at 46% ABV.



Beware of the animals:
Several bottlings of the Animals-range.
(photo by Matthias Bohnsack)

Part 2.05 Intertrade / High Spirits / Turatello

Address: Italy

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: Ferdinando Fiori

Another big importer of the “whisky-not-yet-in-vogue-time”! Intertrade bottled at drinking strength and cask-strength, single-cask-bottlings and small batches from several casks.

Furthermore they imported many G&M bottlings to Italy.

Fiori founded the company Turatello with a partner, but this company closed down after a few years. From Turatello, there are chiefly Port-Ellen- and Ardbeg-bottlings in drinking strength.

In addition, the “Taverna della Artisti” belonged to Ferdinando Fiori (q.v. store-bottlings).

Fernando Fiori’s present-day label is “High Spirits”.



Unusual Glenfiddich:
a bottling from the middle
of the 1980s from Intertrade
(photo by: whiskyfair.de)

Part 2.06 Ultimate / van Wees

Adress: Van Wees, Lensderweg 260, 3817KH Amersfoort, Niederlande

Web: www.whiskyworld.nl

Tel.: +31 (0) 33 461 53 19

Fax:

Proprietor: Han & Maurice van Wees

An importer from the Netherlands, who buys the casks from Signatory but bottles under an own label. A standard-style bottle is used. The label is a bit similar to the ones of the “Single Malt Collection” from Signatory and declares every important date like cask-no., bottle-no., ABV etc.. The bottlings are neither chill-filtered nor colored. The range contains always a minimum of 16 different bottlings from all regions.



The left bottle is filled at 43% ABV, the right one at 40% ABV.

Part 2.07 Giuseppe Meregalli srl

Address: G. Meregalli srl, Via Visconti 43, Monza

Web: www.meregalli.it

Tel.: +39 39 230 1980 r.a. Fax: +39 39 322 313

Proprietor: G. Meregalli



An Italian importer, who imports besides whisky also wine, champagne, grappa, cognac and armagnac. The company was founded in the year 1856, starting as a wine store. But the company got the name Meregalli not until 1969. Nearly all of the whiskies are bought from Gordon & MacPhail. Besides the Meregalli-logo the name G&M is labeled on the bottles. The standard-style bottle with the G&M-typical 40% ABV is used.



Meregalli imported the G&M-bottlings with several labels, sometimes under the G&M-second-label "Speymalt" as well.



Also the so called Celtic-Label
you can find among the Meregalli-bottlings.

Part 2.08 Jack Wiebers Whisky World

Address: Jack Wiebers Whisky World, Wiener Str. 20, 10999 Berlin

Web: www.jwww.de

Tel.: +49 30 612 6104 Fax: +49 30 612 89 166

Proprietor: Lars-Göran Wiebers



Jack Wiebers Whisky World

A german importer with domicile in Berlin, who releases own bottlings since 1998. The whisky is bottled in Glasgow. There are various ranges - only single cask bottlings - and every important detail is declared on the label.

(a) Castle Collection

This range is not to confound to the homonymous range of the shop “The Whisky Castle” in Scotland! In this range usual younger malts were bottled at drinking strength (43% ABV or 46%ABV). In the meantime the 9th series of this range is released. The label shows scottish castles, is fairly colourful and is fitted on a clear-glass standard bottle. On the back label there is some information about the castle shown on the front. These bottlings are from contingents of Coopers Choice and the same whisky often is bottled for Italy as well under another label.



A Mortlach from series 7
with the colourful Castle-label.

(b) Premier Malts

In this range of Jack Wiebers older cask-strength bottlings were released. Again a standard bottle is used, but packed in a box with vision panel. The label is fawn coloured with golden border, red writing and has the shape of a barrel.

(c) Old Train Line Collection

This is the exclusive range of JW WW. It is bottled in a clear glass standard bottle at natural cask-strength as well. The label is designed like an old train-share – suitable to the name of the collection. The paper of the label is very thick – similar to deckle edged paper. There is no colouring nor chill-filtration in this range.



Boarding on the train:

Some bottlings from the Old-Train-Line-Collection with beautiful labels (photo by: Matthias Bohnsack)

(d) Prenzlów Portfolio Collection

In this series whiskies at caskstrength were released. The standard bottle is offered with a so called leather box. The label shows a picture of the german artist Alfred Prenzlów, who is well-known for his drawings of landscapes and distilleries. The bottle number is declared on the label.



A combination of art and scotch:
Prenzlów Portfolio Collection.

(e) **Auld Distillers Collection / Jack & Jack**



This new range appeared on the market in 2003/2004 and contains limited edition bottlings of single malt whiskies bottled at caskstrength. The label contains data of the following points: age, date of distillation, ABV and number of bottles, which were bottled. The label is designed in an old-fashioned black&white style and shows a small picture of the distillery. The standard bottle is packed in a so called Leatherbox.



Auld
Distillers
Collection

Part 2.09 McNeill - Import

Address: McN – McNeill-Import, Mühlstr. 100, 63741 Aschaffenburg

Shop: Dudelsack, Treibgasse 6, 63739 Aschaffenburg

Web: www.whiskymax.com oder www.dudelsack.com

Tel.: 06021 / 218931

Fax: 06021 / 447361

06021 / 219654 (Shop)

06021 / 21614

Proprietor: Andy McNeill und J.Barthel



This importer pursues the whiskyshop “Dudelsack” in Aschaffenburg but also bottles some own whiskies under the label “McNeills Choice”. They are filled in a standard bottle, mostly at 40% ABV, but other ABVs can be found as well. The label can be in hand-writing-style or with a coloured picture of a castle. Only single-cask-bottlings were released, among others the only bottling of a Bowmore 1993 with rum finish, filled at 48% ABV.



Here is a colourful McNeills-label.

Part 2.10 Velier Import

Address: Velier-Import, Genua, Italy

Web:

Tel.:

Proprietor:

This is the italian main-importer for Ardbeg and Signatory situated in Genua. There are own bottlings from different distilleries: Port Ellen („Islay Dreams“), Caol Ila and a Glen Grant with the writing „Dark Side of the Moon“. The own bottlings were bottled by Signatory.



Island dream:
A Port Ellen from Velier-Import.
(photo by : Matthias Bohnsack)

Chapter III. Other Bottlers and Brands

Here will bottlers be listed who are seem not to be as independent as the famous brand-name suggests. Mostly they are companies who are linked to a large group. In the other way that could be companies who are bottling only a certain numbers of malts from special distilleries and release them under another name than the distillery's one. It's your decision to count these bottlers as independent bottlers or not. But to complete the listing of bottlers on the pages before we have to tell their names. And because they will cross our line sometimes.

Part 3.01 Angus Dundee

Address: Angus Dundee plc, 79 Marylebone Lane, London W1M 5GA, UK

Web: www.angusdundee.co.uk/first.htm

Tel.: +44 (0) 20 7224 2373

Fax: +44 (0) 20 7224 2205

Proprietor:



Angus Dundee is a bottler and blender from London who bottles mainly blends. His experience in whisky-business is no less than 50 years. He's got two labels: ANGUS DUNDEE and JAMES PARKER. The whisky of both labels is generally bottled into standard-bottles (sometimes with paper-box). The older premium-blends are available in crystal-decanter or in ceramic-bottles.

(a) Angus Dundee

Under this label only blends of different ages (up to 35 years!) go to the market as well as a vat made out of 20 single malts.

(b) James Parker

Under the label of JAMES PARKER blends are sold who are 3 years old minimum up to premium-blends and single-malts. The single-malt's name is GLEN PARKER. It's a highland-malt with no declared age.

Part 3.02 Brands Development

Address: 18 Huntly Business Centre, Huntly, Aberdeenshire, AB54 8FG

Web: www.brandsdevelopment.com

Tel.: +44 (0)1466 794 055

Fax: +44 (0)1466 730 337

Proprietor:



Brands Development is situated in Huntly, in the north-east of Scotland. Their profession are single-malts and De Luxe Blends. There's a large portfolio of blends, vatted malts and single-malts. The most famous labels are WHISKY GALORE & PEERLESS.

(a) Whisky Galore

Web: www.thewhiskygalore.com



The name "Whisky Galore" refers to the homonymous novel of C. Mackenzie. There is a clear glass standard bottle used with a beautiful designed label. The whisky is filled at 40% ABV. For 2002/2003 some single malts were bottled at 46% ABV as well. These ones bear a label very similar to the "Single Barrel Collection". Even a

Vatted Malt is available under the label "Whisky Galore" and the Blend SS POLITICIAN as well. This name should be well known from the abovementioned book.

(b) Duncan Taylor & Co. Ltd.

Web: www.dtcscotch.com

The history of the PEERLESS Collection is described in the chapter „Peerless Collection“. Brands Development is only a merchandising company for this product.

Part 3.03 Ainslie & Heilbron

Adress: Ainslie & Heilbronn

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: United Distillers

Founded in 1868 this bottler and blender beared the name Ainslie & Co.. In 1921 there was a fusion with David Heilbron & Son. Ainslie and Heilbron then was temporary the owner of the distillery Clynelish. But today this company is owned by United Distillers. The best-known blend with the name AINSLIE`S ROYAL EDINBURGH is not released any more. But there are other blends available: AINSLIE`S, AINSLIE`S DE LUXE, AINSLIES`S KINGS LEGEND.

Under the name AINSLIE`S ISLAY SINGLE MALT a 8yo. Bunnahabhain of less quality is bottled. It is filled at drinking-strength in a green glass standard bottle with black and red label. The box is black and red as well.



Nice box, but poor whisky:
The Islay Single Malt of Ainslie´s.

Part 3.04 Hawksburn

Address: Hawksburn Spirits Int. Ltd - PO Box 111 Bexhill TN40 2WB

Web: www.hawksburn.co.uk

Tel.: +44 7050 622226

Fax: +44 7050 622221

Proprietor:



Hawksburn is an independent company that released 12 brands of scotch, gin, vodka and cigarettes. The whisky is blended and bottled at the bottling line of Ian Macleod!

Part 3.05 Chalie Richards

Address: Grove House, Foundry Lane, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 5PL

Web: www.chalie-richards.co.uk

Tel.: +44 1403 250 500

Fax: +44 1403 250 123

Proprietor: Halewood International Ltd.

This company was founded by John and James Chalie about the year 1700. Today, this brand is owned by Halewood. A blend, a vatted malt and a single Highland malt is released as well. All three of them bear the label CHALIE RICHARDS.

Part 3.06 William Lundie & Co. Ltd

Address: 11 Fitzroy Place, Glasgow G3 7RW

Web:

Tel.: +44 1412 210 707

Fax: +44 1412 263 717

Proprietor:

Under the name LISMORE a 21yo. and a 25yo. single malt is released. There are several blends and vatted malts under this label. Further on, the company distributes a lot of other brands for export.

Part 3.07 Gordon Graham & Co

Adress:

Web: www.blackbottle.com

Tel.: +44 1738 639 424

Fax:

Proprietor: Highland Distillers Co. Ltd.



This Company was founded by Gordon and Charles David Graham in 1879, which created the BLACK BOTTLE - Blend in 1879 the first time. Today, this Blend is released by Highland Distillers. The bottling is available as a 10yo. and a version without any declaration of the age. The BLACK BOTTLE contains Whiskies from all distilleries on Islay. The bottle is pot-still-shaped and only the 10yo. has a black colored bottle. The no-age one has green one.



The two Black Bottles:
On the left is the 10yo. and
on the right is the one without
a declaration of the age
(Fotos: www.blackbottle.com)

Part 3.08 Aberfoyle & Knight

Adress: Glasgow

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor:

This company releases the DEERSTALKER malt. This single malt is available as a 12yo. and a 18yo. malt and it's from Balmenach disillery.

Part 3.09 Compassbox Whisky

Address: CompassBox Whisky, 24 Great King Street, Edinburgh EH3 6QN

Web: www.compassboxwhisky.com

Tel.: +44 20 8876 0495

Fax: +44 20 8876 1192

Proprietor: John Glaser



The company was founded in 2000 by John Glaser. In first release, there were available 3 whiskies, a blend, a vatted malt and a vatted grain. All of these are non-chillfiltered and not artificial coloured.



The Monster from
Compassbox!

Part 3.10 St. Andrews Beverages Ltd.

Address:

Web: www.standrews-beverages.co.uk

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor:

The logo features the text "THE BENIVOR ELITE SELECTION" in a bold, serif font. The text is dark brown and is set against a light beige rectangular background.**(a) The Benivor Elite Selection**

The name of this release is from the hill Benivor on the Western Isles. Till now there are released 3 single malts, one of them a 27yo. Mortlach. They are bottled in a standard-bottle with red-brown gift-box. The Single Malts were picked out by Wallace Milroy.

(b) Others

Beside the prementioned single malts there is a 21yo. Blend named THE CHAMPION, too. This one is bottled in a chinaware-decanter and is packed in an extensive box.

Part 3.11 Bottlings for japanese bars

In Japan there are whisky-drinkers too! That is not really astonishing because in Japan is the biggest distillery of the world (Suntory-distillery). Some bottlers release some whiskies especially for japanese whisky-bars under their own label. There is a notice of the exclusiveness of the bottling on the label (q.v. chapter 1.04 Douglas Laing).



Excursion to Japan:

Exclusive bottlings for japanese whisky-bars. The Clynelish bears a german poem on the backside-label!

Part 3.12 Festival Abfüllungen

For Festivals there are often filled special single cask bottlings with unique label (f.e. for the Whisky Fair in Limburg). In the following there is a photograph with several festival-bottlings of german whisky-festivals.



Here the festival bottlings of Bad Krotzingen, Kiedrich, Idstein and 2x Limburg!

Part 3.13 Vintners Choice

Address: Quality Spirits International Ltd., Scotland, ML4 3AN

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor:



In fact, vintners have nothing to do with whisky, but it isn't easy to find a melodic name for a company ;-). There are available four Pure Malts (Island, Lowland, Highland, Speyside). The clear-glass standard bottle is packed in a giftbox and filled at 40% ABV. The Island contains whiskies from all Islands – including Islay! The labels are have a classic design with a map of scotland, which is colored corresponding to the colorcode. The backlabel contains a poem by Stuart William Gunn. The standard bottled is packed in a present box and is bottled at 40% ABV. The bottlings were aged 10 years and they are colored!

The colorcode is: blue=Island, yellow=Highland, red=Speyside and green=Lowland.



Der Island Pure Malt
from Vintners Choice.

Part 3.14 Scottish Liqueur Center

Adress:

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor:

As you can imagine from the name whisky-liqueurs will be released by this company. The most established liqueur should be the COLUMBIA CREAM. But besides the liqueurs single malts are released as well. At the moment there is a Tomatin called EILEAN DUBH, filled at drinking-strength and a single cask-bottling of Mortlach-distillery called BEINN A`CHEO, filled at cask-strength.

Part 3.15 The Gleneil Scotch Malt Whisky Co.

Address: Gleneil Scotch Malt Whisky Co., PO-Box 14030, Edinburgh, EH9 2YG, Scotland

Web: www.gleneil.com

Tel.: 01438 89 46 50 Fax: 01438 89 46 51

Proprietor:

The Clan
GLENEIL
CROSS ME WHO DARES!



This company releases only one single malt: the Gleneil 12yo. It is a whisky of the Gleneil Clan. It is filled at 46% ABV in a clear glass dumpy bottle with long neck. Unfortunately it is not mentioned from which distillery the whisky comes from. Further on, you can buy clan-accessories like a wooden quaich etc.

Part 3.16 Michel Couvreur

Adress: Fankreich

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor: Michel Couvreur

Couvreur is a Frenchman and the only person in the world having the official right to stock scotch whisky outside of Scotland but call it “Scotch Single Malt”. He stores the whisky in a wine cellar near Beaune in Burgundy. There are released six different whiskies of Couvreur, which are bottled in a square bottle with handwriting etikett and a waxen seal (which is hard to remove). These whiskies are:

- GRAIN SCOTCH WHISKY – a 4yo. Grain
- SCOTCH WHISKY – a 12yo. Blend from 54 different malts, bottled at 43% ABV and at cask strength 59% ABV.
- PALE SINGLE SINGLE MALT WHISKY – a single malt from a sherry-cask
- SPECIAL VATTING 3 HOGSHEAD WHISKY – a vatted malt from 3 whiskies (5yo., 11yo., and 15yo.), all from ex-bourbon casks and filled at 45% ABV.
- VERY SHERRIED SINGLE SINGLE MALT WHISKY – a 30yo. single malt, matured 16years in a sherry cask, the most expensive Couvreur whisky.
- SINGLE SINGLE BERE BARLEY MALT SCOTCH WHISKY – a 13yo. experimental whisky, matured in Bere-Barley-casks. It is bottled at 45% ABV, the water comes from Loch Katrine.

Chapter IV. House- or Shop-bottlings

By house or shop fillings all labels are to be understood, which were not bottled by an "genuine bottler". This means, Shops are filling under their own label in Scotland. This can also mean, that only a half barrel under the "house label" was filled up and the other half of the barrel appeared under the label of an independent filler. However, an exact statement can be made only with 100% security, if on both fillings the same barrel number was indicated. From this follows, the fact that house or shop fillings does not offer by any means worse quality than the genuine fillings. Additionnally, it is acommon procedure to buy fillings of a large bottler (for example: GM or Signatory) and provide then with an own label.

Part 4.01 Glenscoma

Adress: Scoma – Scotch Malt Whisky GmbH, Am Bullhamm 17, 26441 Jever

Web: www.scoma.de oder über www.whisky.de

Tel.: 04461-91 22 37

Fax: 04461-91 22 39

Proprietor:



This whisky shop in Northern-Germany offers various own fillings under the label GLENSCOMA since 1982. There are vintage whiskies with age indication, not chill-filtered and in different alcohol strengths (43%, 46% and at caskstrength, also) as well a vatted malt called ALDUNIE. It comes in a standard bottle with gift package. The label shows the respective Distillery or the source region as map.

Part 4.02 La Maison

Adress: La Maison du Whisky, 20 rue d'Anjou, 75008 Paris

Web: www.whisky.fr

Tel.: +33 (0) 142 650 316

Fax: +33 (0) 147 307 191

Proprietor: Thierry Benitah



A french whisky shop near Paris, which offers some exclusive bottlings from Milroy's (with "la Maison" Logo on the label). However, the fillings carry no distillery name on the label; on the Internet page this is named. The prices are ok, however high postage costs are to be paid, if you order from Germany. This Shop existed already since the beginning of the 1960s and offers a big variety of different bottlers and distilleries.



Exclusive-filling
for La Maison with paper box.
bottled by Milroy's.

(a) Straight from the Cask

This range was initiated by T. Benitah and bottled by Signatory. The dumpy bottle contains only 0.5l and is packed in a rough wooden box. The Edradour released in this range was directly merchandised by Signatory. There is no chill-filtration or coloring. As you can imagine from the name, these bottlings are filled directly from the cask into the bottle – in caskstrength, of course.



Directly from the cask into the wooden box:
Straight from the Cask - range
(photo by: Edouard Lethelier)

Part 4.03 Whisky.de

Adress: HBB GmbH, Waldseestr. 23, 30177 Hannover

Web: www.whisky.de

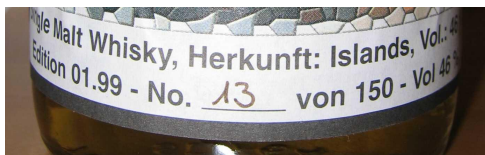
Tel.: +49 511 270919-0

Fax: +49 511 270919-99

Proprietor: all members, (contact: Dr. Clemens Dillmann)



The whisky portal in german language! An Internet Whisky Club, that sells its fillings to members only. Only one filling is published per year. The limited edition are 100 -150 bottles (thus approx.. a quarter up to a half barrel). A characteristic of the fillings is, that no Distillery on the label is indicated. That is not because of it, that it does not contains Single Malt (it is one), it is because each member can try it as a “blind tasting” and the result comes after some weeks. The Whisky Club offers a lot of further information about Whisky and Scotland. The four levels for a Club membership are: FAN (for free, just newsletter), FRIEND 29€(Whisky for Club price, newsletter); JUNIOR DEFENDER 69€(Whisky, own homepage and newsletter) and DEFENDER 109€(Whisky, Magazine, Homepage and newsletter) Some shops are likewise accessible via the portal, and even portions of a still stored barrel from a certain Distillery can be acquired.



Sample of a Club bottle - 1999 Talisker
(photo by: Stefan Hennig)

Part 4.04 Alte Tabakstube Stuttgart

Adress: Alte Tabakstube Stuttgart, Alte Kanzlei (Schillerplatz), Stuttgart, Deutschland

Web: www.tabakstube.de

Tel.: 0711-29 27 29 Fax: 0711-2 26 14 10

Proprietor: Ralph Knyrim

The Alte Tabakstube Stuttgart (short: ATS) sells mainly cigars, whistles and accessories for this. Besides this also Cognac, Armagnac and Whisky is going to be sold. The prices are quite highly settled, but it is a must to look sometimes again, because the Whisky assortment contains many rare pieces.

The ATS fills up also even Whiskies. These bottlings are ok for the price. The label is simple and contains all necessary data: alcohol content, age, filling- and distillation date, cask and bottle number and the distillery, of course. Most fillings are available both, at drinking strength and at cask strength. The bottle varies, usually however a Dumpy Bottle is used. Naturally they are not chill-filtered and not colored. The bottling is done in Scotland. A small list of the distilleries, from which fillings are existing: Macallan, Glen Grant, Springbank (31yo.!), Royal Brackla, Highland Park, Clynelish. At present only the Clynelish is available.



The ATS-Clynelish in the Dumpy-Bottle.



An ATS-bottling in the standard-bottle.

Part 4.05 The Whisky Castle



Address: The Whisky Castle, Tomintoul, Scotland

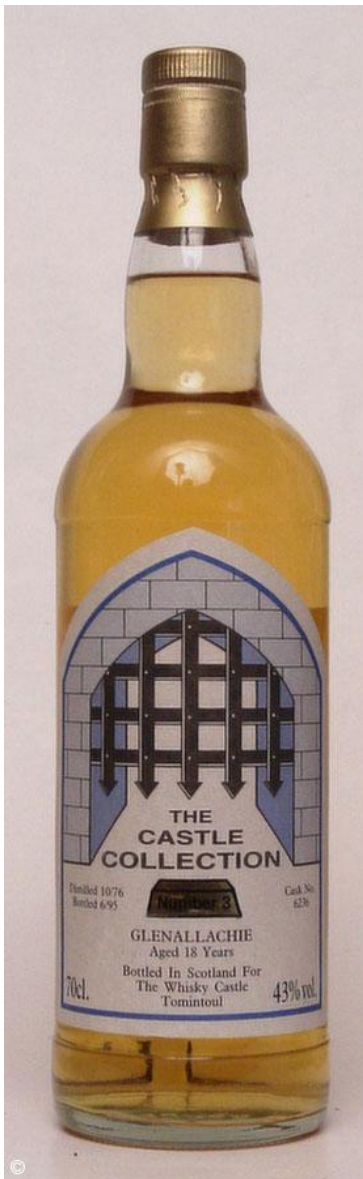
Web:

Tel.: 0180 758 0213

Fax:

Proprietor:

The Whisky shop „The Whisky Castle“ has bottled single malts under the label „The Castle Collection“ or “Whiskycastle lim. Edition Centenary” (incl. a mini). It contains single cask fillings with 43%. On the label, it shows a castle entrance, the distillation and filling up year, as well as the cask number.



The castle-label
Of The Whisky Castle.
(photo by whisky-auction.com)

Part 4.06 Oddbins

Adress: Oddbins

Web: www.oddbins.com

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor:

The company Oddbins is actually a trade in wine chain with over 50 branches in Great Britain. Also Whiskies are offered, mainly however the original fillings and the Rare Malts Selection of UDV. Not all shops are directly well sorted; the two Shops in Edinburgh (example: to the Royal Mile) have a tidy selection of Single Malts and Bourbons at reasonable prices (anyhow for Scottish conditions). Here, also a few independent bottlers are in the program. There are always some open bottles available for a tasting, so no-one does have a big surprise by buying one of these bottles. Oddbins fills up even some own malts. These are partitioned after regions: thus there is for example an Islay-Malt or a Highland-Malt and so on. These fillings do not carry the distillery name, but they are Single Malts from the appropriate region with age indication.

Part 4.07 Royal Mile Whiskies

Adress: Royal Mile Whiskies, 379 High Street, The Royal Mile, Edinburgh EH1 1PW

Web: www.royalmilewhiskies.com

Tel.: 44(0) 131 225 3383 Fax: 44(0) 131 226 2772

Proprietor:

This is the most popular shop in Edinburgh on the Royal Mile. The offer is very large and for each purse there is something to find. The own fillings are usually filled up in a standard bottle. Different labels are used.

Part 4.08 MARA – Malt Rarities

Adress: MARA – Malt Rarities, Cahenslystr.14, 65549 Limburg

Web: www.maltwhisky-mara.com

Tel.: 06432-508690 Fax: 06432-508691

Proprietor: Roland Puhl

This Shop is specialized in whisky rarities and offers within this range a very large selection since 1999. All the same whether original filling or independent filler, imports or shop fillings: you will find (nearly) everything which is "rare", inclusive excellent consultation and to fair prices. In addition the Whisky Fair in Limburg is organized by Mara. To the 4th. Company anniversary they bottled a Port Ellen (that so far first bottling of Mara); in a 35cl decoration bottle and with 46% alcohol strength.



The MARA-Bottling
to the 4th
anniversary

Part 4.09 Barrique

Adress: Barrique GmbH, Leineweberstr. 33, 31191 Groß Lobke

Web: www.barrique.com

Tel.: 49 (0) 5126970-0 Fax: 49 (0) 5126970-97

Proprietor: Hans-Heinrich Bendix, Sabine Bendix

Barrique is a cooperation; with franchise-partners their shops are operating. They offer various alcoholics, like liquor, Cognac, Rum and Whisky in large glass balloons. The Whisky is then drawn off from the glass balloons in decoration bottles and marked by hand. The Whiskies are bought as barrels via auctions. On demand one can try before the purchase first times, of course.



A view on a glass balloon from Barrique. On the left picture is an example of a decoration bottles. (both photos by: Teresia Kuhr)

Part 4.10 George Strachan Ltd.

Adress: George Strachan Ltd., Station Square, Aboyne, Aberd.shire, AB34 5HX Scotland

Web: www.royal-deeside.org.uk/gws.htm

Tel.: 44 (0) 13398 86121 Fax: gleich wie Tel.

Proprietor:

*George
Strachan Ltd*

A shop in Aboyne founded in 1926. Meanwhile, additional shops in Ballater and Braemar are existing. Over 500 Single Malts are offered, mainly Minis for collectors; and large bottles also. From the end of the 1970s to the beginning of the 1980s the company bottles whisky also. Bottled in a green Dumpy Bottle with green label, beside the age and distillery name and the alcohol content is declared. They were offering very old malts, too.

George Strachan Ltd.
OF
DEESIDE



Two bottlings of G.Strachan from the 70's/80's in the green Dumpy-Bottle.

Part 4.11 Krügers Whiskygalerie

Adress: Krügers Whiskygalerie, Holsteinerstr. 18-20, 24768 Rendsburg

Web: www.whiskyauction.com

Tel.: 04331 / 56564

Fax: 04331 / 25459

Proprietor: Thomas Krüger

Thomas Krüger is according to his own statements (see his web page) a "crazy" whisky collector. He began as a mini collector and started in 1994 to import whisky. Beside his shop he operates an international Whisky auction on his web-page also, where you can get many rarities. There are also own fillings under the name „Krügers Schlosswhisky“ (= Krügers Castlewhisky). Partially also art names are used, like for example: "Baffo" or "Eidora" and many more. The fillings can be in cask or drinking strength. The standard bottle with cork is used; some fillings are available as 0,35l- bottle.



Owner of a Castle:
A Mortlach - Schloßwhisky
(Castle - whisky)(left) and a
Bowmore labeld as „Baffo“ (right)
from Rendsburg.

Part 4.12 Taverna della Artisti

Adress: Taverna della Artisti, Rimini

Web:

Tel.: Fax:

Proprietor:

Ferdinando Fiori (see also Intertrade, Turatello, High Spirits) was the owner of the Taverna della Artisti in Rimini until the end of the 1990s. F.Fiori released sometimes his fillings with only the name of the restaurant signed on the bottle and not the name of one of his other companies. The business with the various import-companys was probably only a hobby.

Part 4.13 BarMetro

Adress: BarMetro, Piazza de Angeli, Via di Martinett 3, Milano

Web: www.barmetro.it

Tel.: +39-02-43 52 71 Fax: +39-02-469 55 56

Proprietor: Giorgio d'Ambrosio

Giorgio D'Ambrosio is the owner of the metro bar in Milano, very close to the San-Siro Stadion. It is considered as a Mecca to Whisky lovers. In addition D'Ambrosio having one of the most important collections in Italy. With the shop fillings it's like so often here: also GM fillings with a G d'A label on it, in drinking or cask strength. The label-designs are simple.

Part 4.14 Corsini

Address: Corsini Bottigliera, Verona, Italy

Web:

Tel.:

Proprietor:

A wine and spirits shop in Verona, which offers own bottlings. At least their Port Ellens were bottled by Signatory for Corsini.



Sword-Label placed on a bottle Port Ellen from Corsini (photo by: Matthias Bohnsack)

Part 4.15 Big Market

Adress: Big Market, Buckower Damm 86, 12349 Berlin

Web: www.big-market.de

Tel.: 030 604 56 86

Fax: 030 604 56 86

Proprietor: Hans-Jürgen Horn

big market

This Shop offers more than 8000 different alcoholics and might be Germanys largest Whisky and Cognac market. Further there is offered rum, Wine, sparkling wine, Grappa, fruit liqueur etc.. Big Market accommodates Germanys first Whisky museum! The offer reaches from cheap stuff for a few euro up to rare pieces, which can be cost some thousand euros. The Shop exists since 1965. Own fillings are released under different label-designs. The standard bottle is used, partly with wax sealing in drinking or at cask-strength, also. The labels carry the signature "special filling" or "anniversary filling" (if they appeared to a company anniversary).



Unicorn and herald:

The simply labels carry a logo with a unicorn in the upper level. The herald is on the 2nd, 4th and 6th. bottle on the label; from the left. (photo by: Olaf Karlinsky)

Part 4.16 Ernst Flickenschild

Adress: Ernst Flickenschild, Itzehoe

Web: www.whizita.de

Tel.: +49 (0) 4821 2676

Fax: +49 (0) 4821 3979

Proprietor: Manfred Kröger

This shop was founded in 1905 by Johann Flickenschild as a cigarmaker-shop and is lead by Manfred Kröger in the 5th generation, now. They are still trading with cigars and tabaccos, as well as whisky. The own bottlings have the clear standard bottle and the Label contains all necessary data.



A bottling from
Ernst Flickenschild.
(photo by: whizita.de)

Part 4.17 World of Whisky St. Moritz

Address: World of Whisky – Hotel Waldhaus am See, Via dim Lej 6, CH-7500 St. Moritz

Web: www.world-of-whisky.ch

Tel.: +41 (0) 81 836 60 65

Fax: +41 (0) 81 836 60 60

Proprietor:

This whiskytrader is the main importer of Signatory for Switzerland. The own bottlings were also bottled by Signatory and even they are “Silent Stills”. They are packed in a big red or blue colored box, but the mini and the wooden piece from the cask is missing – as we know them from the Signatory-range. The label is black and in “hand-writing”-style.



A Port Ellen bottling from Switzerland. (photo by: Matthias Bohnsack)

Chapter V. Unknown Bottlers

Meanwhile such a chapter became necessary. Some bottlers are only a very short time on the market and only a few bottlings were released. So you can find only very spare information about these bottlers. Further on, there are old bottlers which do not exist anymore or were taken over by other companies. In this chapter, bottlers are listed from which not enough information is available to fill an own chapter. If you have some information about one of these bottlers (or others that were not mentioned) – let me know!

- Angelshare (there is a Balvenie and an Ardbeg-bottling)
- Robert Watson LTD., Aberdeen
- Archibald Wallace & Co. LTD.
- Vintage Hallmark Lim.
- Scotdram (maybe Morisson Fairlie?)
- Montgomerie Co. Lim.
- Matthew Gloag & Son Ltd.
- R. Thorne & Son
- R.G. Thomson & Co., Leith

Chapter VI. Appendix

Part 6.01 cask types

Sometimes the cask-type is declared on the labels, so here is a list of casks, which are in use:

- **Gorda oder Bodega Butt** – with 600 litres the biggest cask in use
- **Pipe** – cask used for port wine; capacity 500 litres
- **Butt** – used for sherry; capacity 500 litres as well
- **Puncheon** – a cask with a capacity of 545 litres
- **Dump Puncheon** – 460 litres
- **Hogshead** – the most used cask-type with a capacity of 250 litres, ex-sherry or ex-bourbon-barrel
- **(American) Barrel** – the typical bourbon-cask, 200 litres
- **Kilderkin or Kinken** – 82 litres
- **Quarter or Firkin** – 45 – 80 litres
- **Anker** – ca. 40 litres
- **Octave** – 22,5 litres



For drawing conclusions from the number of bottles which can be filled from one cask, you have to know the capacity of the cask, the ABV and the evaporation (ca. 2-3% p.a.) The tempo of maturation increases the smaller the cask is, cause of the bigger surface. That seems logical, cause a comparatively bigger amount of wood gives the aroma to a smaller amount of whisky.

Part 6.02 Shapes of bottles

Independent bottlers use mostly the standard- bottle for spirits. There are several other bottle-types as well, like dumpy bottles with long neck, which were in former times the standard for whisky. Really special bottle-types are rare for independent bottlers, these you can find rather at original-bottlings. Exeptions are the crystal-decanter for some exclusive bottlings of the independents.

- **Standard bottle** – usually clear-glass, sometimes even green glass, at 70cl or 75cl capacity, as a rule with straight or slightly curved neck. The outside-diameter is 74mm, the height is about 29cm.
- **Dumpy bottle** – clear-glass or brown glass, mostly at 70cl, pretty short and cone-shaped neck, outside-diameter is 92mm, the height 20,5cm (f.e. Signatory or old Cadenhead-bottlings).
- **Dumpy bottle with long neck 1** – clear-glass, sometimes even brown-glass, as a rule at 70cl, the neck is slightly curved, the outside-diameter is 92mm again, the height is about 23,5cm (f.e. ATS)
- **Dumpy bottle with long neck 2** – clear-glass, sometimes brown-glass, as a rule at 70cl, the neck is quite curved, the outside-diameter is 80mm, the height is 25,5cm. (f.e. Ian MacLeod, ChieftainsChoice)
- **Ariane** – mostly clear-glass, this elegant straight bottle owns a longer neck than the standard bottle, but only an outside-diameter of 60mm, the height is about 34cm, the capacity is only 50cl. (f.e. Shiedaig Collection)



From left to right: standard bottle in clear-glass and green glass, dumpy bottle with long neck 2 and 1, Ariane bottle (unusual black glass) and dumpy bottle.

Part 6.03 Abbreviations of Independent Bottler Names

Often the long names of the independent bottlers were abbreviated. Mostly, a shortage of 2 letters is used. Here is a list of often use abbreviations:

Abkürzung	Abfüller
AD, A	Adelphi
ATS	Alte Tabakstube Stuttgart
BA	Blackadder
BBR	Berry Brothers & Rudd
CC, Conn	Gordon & MacPhail, Connoisseurs Choice
CD, Cad	Cadenheads
CH	Ian MacLeod, Chieftain's Choice
CO	Coopers Choice
CWCie	Celtic Whisky Compagnie
DB	Ian MacLeod, Dun Bheagun Coll.
DE	Signatory, Dun Eideann
DL, OMC	Douglas Laing, Old Malt Cask – Reihe
GH	Glenhaven
Gibb., MG	Douglas Laing, McGibbons – Reihe
GM, G&M	Gordon & MacPhail, Standardreihe
GS	Glenscoma
HB	Hart Brothers
JMA, MA	James MacArthur
JWWW	Jack Wiebers Whisky World
KI	Kirsch – Import
LB	Lombard Brands
MF	Morrison Fairlie
MKC, KC	MacKillops Choice
MMD, MD, MMC	Murray McDavid
MOM	Master of Malt
PP	Piper's Preferred
Prest	Signatory, Prestonfield
RO	Gordon & MacPhail, Rare Old – Reihe
Sam	Samaroli
SC	Scott's Selection
SH	Ian MacLeod, Shieldaig Coll.
Sig, Sign, SY	Signatory
SOS	Gordon & MacPhail, Spirit of Scotland
WG	Whisky Galore
WM	Wilson & Morgan

Part 6.04 With a little help from...

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VMWC	- The VintageMaltWhisky Company, for prof. photos and logos of their bottlings
Thomas Lipka	- for the photo of the Private Collection (G&M)
Peter Nowacki	- for photos of Sestante and G&M
Michael Thiemicke	- for photos and infos about Moray Malt Whisky ltd.

The other photographs were taken from myself or were taken from the websites of the independent bottlers, same with the Icons of the company-logos.

Part 6.05 Bibliography

Cause you don't have to reinvent the wheel every time, there are some books, from which I copied some parts. Other information is from web-sites of the bottlers, their labels on the bottles, the persons who are named in chapter 6.04 and certainly my own experience.

Stefan Gabanyi
Schumann's Whisky-Lexikon
Heyne-Verlag, ISBN 3-453-11529-5

Micheal Jackson
Malt Whisky
Heyne-Verlag, ISBN 3-453-05925-5

Charles MacLean
Malt Whisky
Heyne-Verlag, ISBN 3-453-14414-7

Jim Murray
Whisky & Whiskey
Lichtenberg-Verlag, ISBN 3-7852-8407-1