

Newcomers Whisky Club

November 30, 2012

G....the A, B, C, D's of Scotch



"You'll be in charge of the music down here."



Tonight's Menu

Glenlivet 12 year old

Dalmore Gran Reserva

Balvenie, Signature 12 year old

Carol Ila, 12 year old

Ardbeg Uigeadail



The Glenlivet 12 year-old (*Speyside*)

Two centuries ago, the illicit whisky from the remote and wild region of Glenlivet was sought after for its smooth and characterful qualities. The defining fruity 'pineapple' note from the sma' stills lives on to this day in George Smith's definitive legacy of The Glenlivet. The Single Malt That Started It All.

COLOUR: Bright and lively gold. **NOSE:** Exquisite delicacy of summer-like fragrances, with playful interlacing of floral and fruity aromas. A sensuous touch of exotic fruit, notably pineapple. It opens in time on creamier and richer notes of stewed greengages and ripe apricots. Oak tenderly enhances that enticing bouquet with more vanilla and nutty notes and an echo of toasted oats. **PALATE:** Honeyed floral notes shine through. A silky feel, flowing on the tongue. Smooth and sweet fruit notes of white peaches and pears poached in vanilla syrup. **FINISH:** Marzipan and fresh hazelnuts followed by a gentle spiciness of grated ginger.

Trivia: Almost half of all the Glenlivet whisky that is bottled as a Single Malt is sold in the USA.

Miscellaneous reviews:

Light and perfumed. Quite complex in spite the light impressions. Apples. Breakfast cereals. Incredibly appetizing. Heartier in the mouth, full oak flavours and some gentle spice. Again, complex but in no rush to give away its secrets. Marzipan and tiramisu. This balance of oak and spice sits comfortably for minutes, gently drying late in the game. SUMMARY: A favourite the world over and quite easy to see why. As dangerous as this might be to say, I think this is a morning dram! Light and refreshing, even minty. Might be confused as bitterness to a newbie, so not a first-timers tippie. Has a real pick-me-up quality with great oak characteristics, even if the malt is slightly hidden by the spice. Plays it a bit safe, but is a real charmer. (www.drwhisky.blogspot.com)

Color: Pale gold. Nose is a limited range of sharp and herbal notes, not silky or caramel-like. Aromas of grass, hay, and green apple. There is some undertone of sugar and butter, like stale shortbread cookies. There is a cereally brightness to the flavor, developing out of the initial burn with notes of vanilla, spices, and brown sugar. Reminds me of hot oatmeal with brown sugar and cinnamon. There is something Bourbon-like about the dry notes, like a corn syrupy sweetness instead of a malty one, but it is a pleasant sweetness. The finish is of medium length, but rounds out the earlier flavors, and does not lessen the experience. More cinnamon. (www.scotchnoob.com)

Newcomers Whisky Club

September 2, 2012

Whisky Fun



Kilts not required!

Tonight's Menu

Compass Box Great King Street

Glenfarclas 21 y.o.

Old Pulteney 17 y.o.

Bruichladdich, The Laddie Ten

Ardbeg Alligator



COMPASS BOX

Great King Street

Blended Scotch Whisky

Great King Street is the brand new mission from *Compass Box*; a mission to get people to rediscover the joys of Blended Scotch. Bottled at 43%, *Great King Street* will offer a style and approach to Blended Scotch that has not existed before: using a high proportion of malt whisky (about 50%), truly excellent quality grain whiskies, and the careful use of new French Oak aging for added complexity. All bottled at natural colour and without chill-filtering. The style is rich, round and fruity with hints of toasty oak, vanilla and spice. The name

and label are inspired by *Compass Box's* registered office address – 24 Great King Street, in Edinburgh.

Compass Box is a boutique Scotch whisky maker and Craft Blender. Whisky maker John Glaser handpicks casks from Scotland's finest distilleries to create a range of innovative and delicious whiskies that span every style Scotch whisky has to offer.

The Compass Box Philosophy:

We are pioneers in the use of different varieties of oak for maturation and are on a never-ending quest to blend flavours in ways that create compelling and unique whiskies.

We age whiskies in the highest quality oak casks and, with these building blocks, create a house style with richness, balance and purity of flavour.

We believe in great whisky, gauging quality by flavour, not age statement. This is why we feel it's important to constantly seek new approaches and new techniques to make whisky ever created.

We use artisanal methods, with small-batch production, no caramel colouring and no chill filtration.

After a series of esoteric and expensive releases, Compass Box has decided to bring it all back to the people with a blend — and how! The journey sets out as we might expect; all sweet vanilla ice cream, stewed pear tart, and Peach Melba, but then a wave of spice and white pepper provides an unexpected but delightful twist. It's like Spice Tree meets Hedonism...Spiconism if you like. — Dominic Roskrow (www.whiskyadvocate.com)

On the nose there is a good combination of honey vanilla and malt with a hint of grape fruit in the back ground. Also in the back ground is some welcome oak spice (black pepper, chilies, clove, nutmeg etcetera and all enhanced by some leather and tobacco notes). All very good rich and luxurious; the fruitiness of the grapefruit is also very good (think citrus of some fashion). The taste is quite honeyed at first and then the malt arrives while quickly being over taken by the grapefruit/citrus as previously described. The chilies are also present and again the consistent harmony of the malt, grapefruit/citrus and the oak spice is VERY good. The finish is a mirror image of the nose and the taste with a very pleasant addition of some dry unsweetened cocoa powder or even 90% chocolate. The finish is dead straight line rail lines heading towards the horizon and equally long. Delightful; find a bottle and enjoy it. (www.whiskyintelligence.com)

