MALT WHISKY

When it comes to picking a malt whisky there is a lot to choose from.

There are five whisky regions in Scotland - Campbeltown, Highlands & Islands, Islay, Lowland and Speyside. Each offers a different and distinctive personality. Ask your server for assistance.

SPEYSIDE

The most densely populated whisky region in the world, famous for fertile glens and, of course, the river Spey. Home to about 60 distilleries despite the small physical size of the region, it's the most important region for whisky production by sheer volume. Speyside whiskies are known for being frugal with peat and full of fruit. Apple, pear, honey, vanilla and spice all have a part in expressions from this region, which are commonly matured in Sherry casks. With so many distilleries in Speyside, there's a lot of variation in the flavours of the whiskies. There's no real distinctive Speyside character, though most of the whiskies produced there are fairly sweet. If you're looking for a more sherried, heavier taste, you can look for a Glenfiddich 15 year or Macallan 12 year, or for a more floral taste, you can look for a Longmorn or even a Glen Moray.

LOWLAND

Soft and smooth malts are characteristic of this region, offering a gentle, elegant palate reminiscent of grass, honeysuckle, cream, ginger, toffee, toast and cinnamon. The whiskies are often lighter in character and perfect for pre-dinner drinks. The region of Scotland closest to England, whiskies from the Lowlands are light, dry and fruity. Most Lowland distilleries were traditionally triple distilled, but with only one, Auchenstoshan still utilising this practice, the typical Lowland characteristic flavour profile is due to the large copper stills used, the long fermentation time and because most are unpeated.

HIGHLANDS

This region, which also takes in the islands, has a huge diversity of flavours and characters. The largest geographical whisky-producing region of Scotland, if not one with the most distilleries; only about 30-ish in total. From lighter whiskies all the way through salty coastal malts, the Highlands offers a whisky for all palates. The western Highland distilleries have a fair amount of peaty taste to them, and tend to be sweet and dry, while the North Highland whiskies tend to be light, spicy and dry. The rest of the whiskies in the Highlands are generally fruity, but not quite to the same degree as the Speysides. They still have a dry finish. Some famous ones include Oban, Glenmorangie, Dalmore and Royal Lochnagar.

CAMPBELTOWN

Campbeltown whiskies are varied and full of flavour. Hints of salt, smoke, fruit, vanilla and toffee mingle in whiskies of robust and rich character. Once home to 30 distilleries, the mighty have fallen far indeed. Now home to only three operational distilleries, Campbeltown is lonely these days. The whiskies produced here, Springbank, Glen Scotia and Kilkerran, are very similar to Islay malts and have a peaty, briny character.

ISLAY

Islay is a magical island where the majority of its population are involved in whisky production. Famous for fiery, heavily peated whiskies. Some of the most distinctive tastes in Scottish whisky come from this region, which is rich in peat bogs and sea spray. Despite its small size, it has some of the most famous distilleries in Scotland - a fame brought about by the (non-too-coincidental) peaty character of most of its whiskies. The Islay whiskies are not for everyone. Variously described as "medicinal", "cough syrup", "barbecue", "chao-da", these drams are something of an acquired taste. The more famous, representative brands are Ardbeg, Laphroaig and Lagavulin.

WHISKY FLIGHTS

Breakfast Whisky Flight - A great way to start your journey into the world of whisky. £24.00

Auchentoshan American Oak (Lowland) - Oaky and sweet palate, with barley sugar & vanilla.

Arran 10 (Island) - Sweet. quite malty, digestive biscuits, followed by green fruits & a subtle smoky layer.

Fettercairn 12 (Highland) - Vanilla, pear and soft spices on the nose and refreshing nectarine, tropical fruit & roasted coffee to taste.

Regional Picks - Wee dabble into the different whisky regions of Scotland. £26.00

Benriach Original 10 (Speyside) - Still packs plenty of creamy orchard fruits notes, plus a waft of earthy peat.

Glen Scotia Double Cask (Campbeltown) - Powerful, oily with a touch of German brandy character.

Caol Ila 12yr (Islay) - Good body, oily, tar, elegant smoke. Hints of boiled sweets.

All about the Smoke - For the lover of the peated and smoky malts. £27.00

Ardbeg An Oa (Islay) - Plenty of peaty oomph, although perhaps lighter in body. Notes of golden syrup & Black Tea.

Isle of Raasay (Campbeltown) - Subtly peppery, before notes of fresh cream, digestive biscuit, buttered toast (very slightly burnt) arrive.

Kilchoman Sanaig (Islay) - Light fruits, this time of the peach variety, with dark chocolate raisins & a whisper of red berries. Peat grows and grows, with a little black pepper too.

Art of the Finish - A house favourite and great examples of the art in whisky making £28.00

Glenmorangie Quinta Ruben 14yr (Highland) - Fantastic Port cask finished expression with chocolate mousse, Bourbon biscuits, orange oil, more almond notes (now toasted), blackcurrant and raisins.

Bowmore 15 (Islay) - Finished in Sherry casks, imparting a rich sweetness that blends well with the peaty, smoky elements making a rich, woody, pine oil. Syrupy. Lovely creamy toffee & malt.

Balvenie 14yr Caribbean Cask (Speyside) - Finished in casks which previously held Caribbean rum with the sweet vanilla forming a creamy palate with notes of apples & mangoes with a hint of orange in the background.

William's Flight of Fancy - A selection of our finest malts £95.00

Glenfiddich Grand Cru 23yr (Speyside) - This single malt initially ages in American and European oak casks, before being moved over to rare French cuvée oak casks, A palate of melted butter on rye toast, sandalwood, peach, soft peppery hints drift in later, with just a pinch of mint.

Aberfeldy 21 (Highlands) - Time spent in fine sherry and bourbon oak casks creates a luxurious richness. It has a honey nose and creamy intensity. A treasure hunt for heather honey, creamy macadamia nuts & chewy beeswax. It's plush with orange, dried fruits, toasted coconut, silky oak & a trace of smoke.

Dalmore Cigar Malt (Highlands) - Dalmore Cigar Malt was discontinued in mid-2009, causing quite an uproar indeed. The whiskies used for the reworked version were actually slightly older, but naturally still pair perfectly with a cigar. Toffee & caramel edging towards the burnt cinder-toffee side of things. Flamed orange-zest, & perfectly integrated sherry.

SPEYSIDE

Aberlour 12	£7.30
Balvenie 12 Double Cask	£7.50
Balvenie 14 Caribbean Cask	£10.10
Balvenie 16	£24.00
Benriach 10 The Smoky Ten	£7.50
Benromach 10	£7.00
Cragganmore 12	£6.50
Craigellachie 13	£9.00
Glenfarclas 105 (cask strength)	£12.30
Glenfarclas 10	£6.80
Glenfarclas 15	£13.00
Glenfiddich 12	£5.70
Glenfiddich 15	£8.40
Glenfiddich 18	£19.50
Glenfiddich 21 Reserva Rum Cask	£23.00
Glenfiddich 23	£48.00
Glenlivet 12	£9.80
Glenlivet 18	£18.90
Glen Moray Classic	£5.00
Glen Moray 18	£19.80
Glen Spey	£5.80
Knockando 12	£6.50
Macallan 12 Double Cask	£11.00
Macallan 18 Double Cask	£43.50
Singleton of Dufftown 12	£5.70
Speyburn 10	£7.50
Tamdhu 12	£6.90
Tamnavulin Double Cask	£5.70
Tomintoul 10	£6.50

CAMPBELTOWN

Glen Scotia Double Cask	£6.60
Glen Scotia Victoriana	£12.00
Glen Scotia 15	£11.50
Kilkerran 12	£7.60
Kilkerran Heavily Peated	£10.50
Longrow	£11.00

HIGHLANDS

Aberfeldy 12	£7.50
Aberfeldy 21	£42.00
AnCnoc 12	£6.50
Ardmore	£5.50
Balblair 12	£6.50
Balblair 18	£22.00
Blair Atholl 12	£9.50
Clynelish 14	£9.80
Dalmore 12	£9.30
Dalmore 15	£15.90
Dalmore Cigar Malt	£17.50
Dalwhinnie 15	£7.30
Deanston 12	£6.50
Edradour 10	£6.50
Fettercairn 12	£7.50
Glendronach 12	£8.90
Glendronach Ode To The Embers	£10.30
Glendronach Ode To The Valley	£9.85
GlenCadam 10	£6.90
Glengoyne 12	£5.60
Glengoyne 21	£38.00
Glenmorangie 12	£6.90
Glenmorangie Nectar d'Or	£11.90
Glenmorangie 14	£8.80
Glenmorangie 18	£28.00
Loch Lomond	£5.90
Oban 14	£11.90
Old Pulteney 12	£5.70
Old Pulteney 15	£12.70
Royal Brackla 12	£12.00
Royal Lochnagar 12	£6.70
Tomatin 10	£5.90

LOWLANDS

Auchentoshan American Oak	£5.50
Auchentoshan Triple Wood	£7.30
Auchentoshan 18	£17.00
Bladnoch Vinaya	£10.50
Glenkinchie 12	£6.30
Lochlea	£9.20
Kingsbarns Dream to Dram	£6.80

ISLAY

Ardbeg An Oa	£7.30
Ardbeg 5	£7.30
Ardbeg 10	£7.80
Ardbeg Corryvrecken (cask strength)	£11.50
Bowmore 12	£6.10
Bowmore 15	£11.40
Bowmore 18	£20.00
Bruichladdich Classic Laddie	£7.20
Bunnahabhain 12	£6.60
Bunnahabhain 15	£12.50
Bunnahabhain 18	£24.00
Caol Ila 12	£8.30
Kilchoman Sanaig	£9.50
Kilchoman Machair Bay	£7.90
Lagavulin 8	£9.50
Lagavulin 16	£14.00
Laphroaig 10	£6.80
Laphroaig 10 Sherry Cask	£10.00
Laphroaig 16	£16.00
Port Charlotte 10	£7.90
Smokehead	£4.90

ISLANDS

Arran 10	£6.40
Highland Park 12	£6.30
Highland Park 18	£24.00
Isle of Jura 10	£6.10
Isle of Jura Journey	£5.90
Isle of Jura 18	£17.00
Isle of Raasay	£8.40
Ledaig 10	£6.10
Talisker 10	£7.00
Talisker 18	£30.00
Tobermory 12	£6.70

BLENDED

Bells	£4.90
Chivas Regal 12	£4.80
Famous Grouse	£4.90
Johnnie Walker Red	£4.90
Johnnie Walker Black	£5.10
Johnnie Walker Gold	£8.30
Monkey Shoulder	£4.90
Sheep Dip	£4.90
Whyte & Mackay	£4.70
Woodsman	£4.90

AMERICAN WHISKEY

Basil Hayden	£7.10
Buffalo Trace	£4.80
Bulleit Bourbon	£5.20
Evan Williams	£4.70
Jack Daniels/Fire/Honey/Blackberry	£4.70
Jim Beam	£4.80
Knob Creek Bourbon	£5.40
Makers Mark	£4.80
Sazerac Rye	£5.50
Woodford Reserve	£5.30

IRISH WHISKEY

Bushmills Black Bush	£5.50
Busker	£4.90
Jameson	£4.90
Red Breast 12	£8.90
Tullamore Dew	£5.50

REST of the WORLD

Amrut (India)	£10.30
Cardrona Growing Wings (NZ)	£14.00
Hakushu Distillers Reserve (Japan)	£11.30
Miyagikyo (Japan)	£12.00
Yamazaki Distillers Reserve (Japan)	£11.30