

RESTAURANT & BAR

The
BOTHY

THE PALM COURT HOTEL
ABERDEEN



WHISKY MENU

THE STORY OF SCOTCH

Whether the Scots learnt it from the Irish or not will always be a heated debate, but us Scots surely know our stuff. The history of Scottish whisky can be traced back over almost 500 years and is thought to have started with monks trying to distil beer in a search for the secret of eternal youth. In fact, the name whisky is derived from the Gaelic term for water of life: 'Uisge Beatha'.

As the popularity of Scotch grew, the Scottish Parliament took interest, looking to profit from the up-and-coming industry. In 1644 a tax was introduced on Scotch, but this only fuelled an increase in illicit whisky distilling across Scotland.

Over the next 150 years or so, smuggling became common practice. The excisemen, or gaugers, as they were known, and the illicit distillers all but declared war on one another, with the former often hesitant to venture into the rugged Highland in search of their tax money.

By the early 1800s, thousands of illicit stills were being confiscated yearly, and more than half the whisky consumed in Scotland was being enjoyed without the taxman stealing a cut.

Eventually, the Duke of Gordon, who had come to own an extensive amount of Scottish land, and on which land some of the finest illicit whisky in Scotland was being produced, had enough. The duke proposed to the House of Lords, that the Government should make it profitable to produce whisky legally.

The Excise Act of 1823 was passed, which sanctioned the distilling of whisky in return for a licence fee of £10, and a set payment per gallon of proof spirit.

Smuggling vanished almost completely over the next decade or so and, in fact, many of the present-day distilleries stand on sites once used by smugglers more than two centuries ago.

REGIONS EXPLAINED

Long ago, the only distinction between regions was between the Lowlands and the Highlands. The Highland line as it was known, was created after the 1784 Wash Act was introduced to establish differing regulations for Highland and Lowlands distillers. In turn, this led to dramatically different whisky between both regions.

Over the next few decades, three more whisky regions became widely recognised. These were Campbeltown, Islay and Glenlivet (which would later be named Speyside).

By the late 1900s, whisky makers began using the classification of regions to make single malt more accessible and in turn it became widely believed that whisky from a particular region would always taste a certain way.

A few decades on and we are now seeing inventive whisky makers break away from these traditional views and create ever more exciting and sometimes unexpected flavours from all over the country regardless of how history views their place of birth. We believe this allows for a far more unique tasting experience



LIGHT & FRUITY

These drams are bursting with fruity flavours ranging from tropical and citrus notes through to dried and stone fruits. Expect to find some vanilla and sweet toasted oak in these lighter bodied sips.

Auchentoshan American Oak Lowland, 40% <i>Vanilla, Cream, Coconut</i>	6.00
Lochlea Our Barley Lowland, 46% <i>Almond, Peaches, Chantilly Cream</i>	5.25
Old Pulteney 12yr Highland, 40% <i>Honeycomb, Citrus Peels, Maritime Salt</i>	6.50
Glengoyne White Oak Highland, 48% <i>Crème Brulee, Toasted Oak, Toffee</i>	6.50
Balvenie 12yr Double Wood Speyside, 40% <i>Fruit, Chocolate, Cinnamon</i>	7.00
Glenmorangie 12yr Original Highland 40% <i>Citrus, Stone Fruits, Vanilla</i>	7.50
Fettercairn 12yr Highland, 40% <i>Tropical Fruit, Sweet Oak, Spice</i>	7.50
Macallan Double Cask 12yr Speyside, 40% <i>Butterscotch, Wood Spices, Citrus</i>	9.50

RICH & SPICY

These drams are full of complexity and are typically full-bodied sips that fill your senses with joy. Expect to find warm spices, dried fruits, dark sugars and warm woody flavours.

Glenallachie 12yr Speyside, 46% <i>Treacle, Raisins, Nutmeg</i>	6.50
Tamdhu 12yr Speyside, 43% <i>Cinnamon Rolls, Berries, Sherried Oak</i>	7.00
Highland Park 12yr Islands, 40% <i>Heather, Honey, Light Peat</i>	7.50
Aberlour 12yr Speyside, 40% <i>Dried Fruit, Custard, Dark Chocolate</i>	7.50
Dalmore 12yr Highland, 40% <i>Chocolate, Orange, Cinnamon</i>	9.00
Old Pulteney 15yr Highland 46% <i>Dried Fruit, Toffee, Sea Air</i>	10.50
Highland Park 15yr Islands, 44% <i>Honey, Vanilla, Treacle</i>	12.25
Glenfiddich 18yr Speyside, 40% <i>Toffee, Apricot, Cinnamon</i>	14.00
Dalmore 15yr Highland, 40% <i>Raisin, Winter Spice, Cherry</i>	16.50
Macallan Double Cask 15yr Speyside, 43% <i>Dried Fruit, Oak Spice, Zesty Citrus</i>	19.50

EARTH & SMOKE

These drams are for the connoisseur who loves a helping of smoke with their whisky. Whilst often intense for those unaccustomed to earthy peat, these are complex sips with flavours more often associated with dessert such as salted caramel, custard & honey. Expect some maritime notes like brine and sea salt here also.

Laphroaig 10yr Islay, 40% <i>Peat Smoke, Sea Weed, Vanilla</i>	6.50
Old Ballantruan Speyside, 50% <i>Toffee, Toasted Cereals, Charcoal Smoke</i>	7.75
Port Charlotte 10yr Islay, 50% <i>Seaweed, Peat, Sea Salted Caramel</i>	8.00
Talisker Distillers Edition Islands, 45.8% <i>Peat Smoke, Sea Salt, Cacao</i>	9.50
Longrow Campbeltown, 46% <i>Coal Smoke, Burnt Caramel, Sea Salt</i>	10.00
Kilkerran 12yr Campbeltown, 46% <i>Light Peat, Toasted Marshmallow, Honeycomb</i>	11.00
Lagavulin 16yr Islay, 43% <i>Lapsang Tea, Pipe Tobacco, Sweet Spices</i>	12.00
Oban Distiller's Edition Highland, 43% <i>Sea Salt, White Pepper, Sweet Smoke</i>	13.00
Bowmore 15yr Islay, 43% <i>Smoke, Spices, Dark Fruit</i>	14.00
Highland Park 18yr Islands, 43% <i>Light Peat, Honey, Aromatic</i>	18.00

BLENDS

Blending is a fine art, and the best early blenders made Scotch whisky world famous. Some of the names like Alexander Walker, Arthur Bell and James Chivas, are still well known today. These whiskies are diverse in flavour but tend to be slightly softer on the palate compared to single malts.

Woodsman 40% <i>Vanilla, Woodsmoke, Spice</i>	4.50
Johnnie Walker Black Label 40% <i>Smoke, Dried Fruits, Toffee</i>	4.75
Monkey Shoulder 40% <i>Vanilla, Citrus, Oak</i>	4.75
Woven Homemade 46.4% <i>Nutty, Fruity, Spiced</i>	6.50

WHISKY FLIGHTS

Enjoy a guided tasting of 3 drams with your bartender.

The Flying Scotsman <i>A journey through the main flavours of Scotch. Fettercairn 12yr, Dalmore 12yr, Port Charlotte 10yr</i>	24.50
The Big Smoke <i>These whiskies are warming and smoky; the ideal choice for to escape the Scottish weather. Port Charlotte 10yr, Longrow, Lagavulin 16yr</i>	30.00
The Highlander <i>A taste of the drams the taxman was so keen to get his hands on. Macallan 12yr, Highland Park 15yr, Dalmore 15yr</i>	38.00

PALMCOURTHOTEL.CO.UK

T: 01224 310251 | 81 SEAFIELD ROAD, ABERDEEN, AB15 7YX