

The World of Scotch Whisky

Many countries produce whisky, but Scotch can only be made in Scotland and by definition must be distilled and matured - in Scotland - for a minimum of 3 years. Scotch Whisky has been made for more than 500 years and uses just a few natural raw materials - water, cereals, and yeast.

Scotland is home to over 100 malt and grain distilleries, making it the greatest concentration in the world. Many of the Scotch Whisky distilleries featured on this map bottle some of their production for sale as Single Malt (ie, the product of one distillery) or Single Grain Whisky.

However, the majority of all Scotch Whisky is consumed as Blended Scotch Whisky. This means as many as 50 of the different Single Malt and Single Grain Whiskies are blended together, ensuring that the individual Scotch Whiskies harmonise with one another and the quality and flavour of each individual blend remains consistent down the years.

Malt whisky is usually classified in one of five main categories - Highland, Lowland, Speyside, Islay, and Campbeltown - according to the geographical location of the distillery in which it is made. In many ways, the geography and climate of each region influences the character of the whisky produced there.



Highland Malt

The Highland region is geographically the largest Scotch Whisky producing region. The rugged landscape and changeable climate, and in some cases, coastal locations, are reflected in the character of its whiskies, which embrace wide variations.

As a group, Highland whiskies are rounded, robust and dry in character, with a hint of smokiness/peatiness. Those near the sea carry a salty tang; in the far north the whiskies are more notably heathery and slightly spicy in character; while in the more sheltered east and middle of the region, the whiskies have a more fruity character.

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| 12. ABERFELDY
John Dewar & Sons Ltd | 33. GLENMORANGIE
Glenmorangie Co Ltd |
| 13. ABHAINN DEARG
Abhainn Dearg Distillery | 34. GLEN ORD
Diageo |
| 14. ARBIKIE
Arbikie Distilling Ltd | 35. GLENTURRET
Edrington |
| 15. ARDMORE
Beam Suntory | 36. HARRIS
Isle of Harris Distillers Ltd |
| 16. ARDNAMURCHAN
Adelphi Distillery Ltd | 37. HIGHLAND PARK
Edrington |
| 17. ISLE OF ARRAN
Isle of Arran Distillers Ltd | 38. ISLE OF JURA
Whyte & Mackay Ltd |
| 18. BALBLAIR
Inver House Distillers Ltd | 39. LOCH LOMOND
Loch Lomond Group |
| 19. BEN NEVIS
Ben Nevis Distillery (Fort William) Ltd | 40. MACDUFF
John Dewar & Sons Ltd |
| 20. BLAIR ATHOL
Diageo | 41. OBAN
Diageo |
| 21. CLYNELISH
Diageo | 42. PULTENEY
Inver House Distillers Ltd |
| 22. DALMORE
Whyte & Mackay Ltd | 43. ROYAL BRACKLA
John Dewar & Sons Ltd |
| 23. DALWHINNIE
Diageo | 44. ROYAL LOCHNAGAR
Diageo |
| 24. DEANSTON
Burn Stewart Distillers plc | 45. SCAPA
Chivas Brothers Ltd |
| 25. DORNOCH
Dornoch Distillery Co | 46. STRATHEARN
Strathearn Distillery Ltd |
| 26. EDRADOUR
Signatory Vintage | 47. TALISKER
Diageo |
| 27. FETTERCAIRN
Whyte & Mackay Ltd | 48. TEANINICH
Diageo |
| 28. GLENCADAM
Angus Dundee Distillers plc | 49. TOBERMORY
Burn Stewart Distillers Ltd |
| 29. GLENDRONACH, THE
BenRiach Distillery Co | 50. TOMATIN
The Tomatin Distillery Co Ltd |
| 30. GLEN GARIOCH
Beam Suntory | 51. TORABHAIG
Mossburn Distillers Ltd |
| 31. GLENGLOSSAUGH
BenRiach Distillery Co | 52. TULLIBARDINE
Tullibardine Ltd |
| 32. GLENGOYNE
Ian Macleod Distillers Ltd | 53. WOLFBURN
Aurora Brewing Ltd |

Speyside Malt

Speyside, a region that borders much of the length of the River Spey on the eastern side of the Highlands, is home to half of Scotland's Scotch Whisky distilleries.

The whiskies of this region are noted for their elegance and complexity. The flow of water over hills of granite and through moors of peat, add a refined smokiness to many of the malt whiskies and the slightly more sheltered nature of the terrain imparts a specific gentleness and delicacy to their character.

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| 54. ABERLOUR
Chivas Brothers Ltd | 79. GLENLIVET, THE
Chivas Brothers Ltd |
| 55. ALLT A'BHAINNE
Chivas Brothers Ltd | 80. GLENLOSSIE
Diageo |
| 56. AUCHROISK
Diageo | 81. GLEN MORAY
Glen Turner Distillery Ltd |
| 57. AULTMORE
John Dewar & Sons Ltd | 82. GLENROTHES
Edrington |
| 58. BALLINDALLOCH
Ballindalloch Distillery | 83. GLEN SPEY
Diageo |
| 59. BALMENACH
Inver House Distillers Ltd | 84. GLENTAUCHERS
Chivas Brothers Ltd |
| 60. BALVENIE, THE
Wm Grant & Sons Ltd | 85. INCHGOWER
Diageo |
| 61. BENRIACH
BenRiach Distillery Co | 86. KININVIE
Wm Grant & Sons Ltd |
| 62. BENRINNES
Diageo | 87. KNOCKANDO
Diageo |
| 63. BENROMACH
Gordon & MacPhail | 88. KNOCKDHU
Inver House Distillers Ltd |
| 64. BRAEVAL
Chivas Brothers Ltd | 89. LINKWOOD
Diageo |
| 65. CARDHU
Diageo | 90. LONGMORN
Chivas Brothers Ltd |
| 66. CRAGGANMORE
Diageo | 91. MACALLAN, THE
Edrington |
| 67. CRAIGELLACHIE
John Dewar & Sons Ltd | 92. MANNOCHMORE
Diageo |
| 68. DAILUAINNE
Diageo | 93. MILTONDUFF
Chivas Brothers Ltd |
| 69. DALMUNACH
Chivas Brothers Ltd | 94. MORTLACH
Diageo |
| 70. DUFFTOWN
Diageo | 95. ROSEISLE
Diageo |
| 71. GLENALLACHIE
Chivas Brothers Ltd | 96. SPEYBURN
Inver House Distillers Ltd |
| 72. GLENBURGIE
Chivas Brothers Ltd | 97. SPEYSIDE
Speyside Distillers Co Ltd |
| 73. GLENDULLAN
Diageo | 98. STRATHISLA
Chivas Brothers Ltd |
| 74. GLEN ELGIN
Diageo | 99. STRATHMILL
Diageo |
| 75. GLENFARCLAS
J & G Grant | 100. TAMDHU
Ian Macleod Distillers Ltd |
| 76. GLENFIDDICH
Wm Grant & Sons Ltd | 101. TAMNAVULIN-GLENLIVET
Whyte & Mackay Ltd |
| 77. GLEN GRANT
Glen Grant Distillery Co Ltd | 102. TOMINTOUL
Angus Dundee Distillers plc |
| 78. GLEN KEITH
Chivas Brothers Ltd | 103. TORMORE
Chivas Brothers Ltd |

Islay Malt

Islay, a small island off the west coast of Scotland, may be only 25 miles long but is home to 8 distilleries.

Islay is frequently lashed by Atlantic storms. Sea spray blows across the island, impregnating the peat used in the malting of the barley and blows into the warehouses where casks of Scotch Whisky lie maturing, thus affecting the taste and aroma.

Some of the Islay whiskies are pungent and powerful, with a distinctive whiff of sea air in them. Other distilleries that are in a more sheltered location, and use less peat during malting have a gentler but still clearly identifiable character.

1. ARDBEG
Glenmorangie Co Ltd
2. BOWMORE
Beam Suntory
3. BRUICHLADDICH
Bruichladdich Distillery Company
4. BUNNAHBHAIN
Bunnahabhain
5. CAOL ILA
Burn Stewart Distillers plc
6. KILCHOMAN
CAOL ILA
Diageo
7. KILCHOMAN
Kilchoman Distillery Co Ltd
8. LAGAVULIN
Diageo
9. LAPHROAIG
Beam Suntory

Campbeltown Malt

Campbeltown is a remote town at the southern end of the Mull of Kintyre on the west fringe of Scotland. At its peak, Campbeltown was home to more than 30 distilleries.

Campbeltown whiskies are robust in character and carry the salty tang of the sea.

9. GLENGYLE
J & A Mitchell & Co Ltd
10. GLEN SCOTIA
Loch Lomond Group
11. SPRINGBANK
J & A Mitchell & Co Ltd

Grain Whisky

Grain whiskies form the heart of Blended Scotch Whiskies. They are located primarily in the Lowlands, with the exception of one in the Northern Highlands. Grain whisky distilleries operate a continuous distillation process, always including malted barley, but unlike malt whiskies, also using other unmalted cereals, as well as yeast and water.

The main purpose of grain whisky is as the base to which the malts are added creating Blended Scotch Whisky, but a small proportion is bottled as a Single Grain and enjoyed for their subtle character.

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| 114. CAMERONBRIDGE
Diageo | 118. NORTH BRITISH
The North British Distillery Co Ltd |
| 115. GIRVAN
Wm Grant & Sons Ltd | 119. STARLAW
Glen Turner Distillery Ltd |
| 116. INVERGORDON
Whyte & Mackay Ltd | 120. STRATHCLYDE
Chivas Brothers Ltd |
| 117. LOCH LOMOND
Loch Lomond Group | |

Lowland Malt

The Lowland whiskies are produced in the south of Scotland, identified on the map as the area south of a line between Dundee and Greenock.

Lowland whiskies reflect the calm, lush countryside of the region and tend to be light, soft and mellow and gentle on the palate.

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| 104. AILSA BAY
Wm Grant & Sons Ltd | 109. EDEN MILL
Eden Mill |
| 105. ANNANDALE
Annandale Distillery Company Ltd | 110. GLASGOW
Glasgow Distillery Company Ltd |
| 106. AUCHENTOSHAN
Beam Suntory | 111. GLENKINCHIE
Diageo |
| 107. BLADNOCH
Bladnoch Distillery Ltd | 112. INCHDAIRNIE
John Fergus & Co Ltd |
| 108. DAFTMILL
The Cuthbert Family | 113. KINGSBARN
The Kingsbarns Company of Distillers Ltd |

Many distilleries open their doors to the public and unveil some of the secrets of making Scotch Whisky. A copy of a booklet showing the location of these distilleries, along with contact information and opening times, can be obtained from:



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