

VILLA SALETTA

The Whisky Tasting

Tasting Master: Pietro Malaguti

SPEYSIDE

Glen Grant 10 years old: Bottling Note

A great beginner's whisky right here from the Glen Grant Distillery, produced in tall pot stills. This 10 years old Speyside single malt, having spent a decade in bourbon casks, boasts oodles of light, malty notes. A top dram for warmer weather.

Nose: Medium. Vanilla, toffee apple. Herbal, hint of smoke.

Palate: Firm. Sweetness, fruity, vanilla. Gentle peat, malty.

Finish: Dry, supple peat, toffee.

HIGHLANDS

Glenmorangie 10 years old: Bottling Note

The Original is the flagship single malt Scotch whisky from the Glenmorangie Distillery in the Highlands. Matured in a combination of first-and-second-fill American white oak casks for 10 years, the expression is a benchmark for creamy, approachable single malt. A long-running go-to dram for many whisky enthusiasts this stuff is superb as an aperitif, though more than suitable for enjoying on a cooler evening.

Nose: Very fruity and thick. Rich notes of lemon, nectarine and apple. Spices.

Palate: Fresh and balanced, vanilla. Boiled sweets, very creamy, tiramisu, toffee.

Finish: Quite long, gentle, malty and very fruity.

ISLAY

Laphroaig 10 years old: Bottling Note

Really smoky and iodine rich. This has to be one of Scotland's most characterful drams. Laphroaig are known for their medicinal malts, and the classic 10 years old is no exception.

Nose: This opens on big, smoky muscular peat notes. There are spices, and liquorice, as well as a big dose of salt. This whisky has become slightly sweeter in recent years, and it appears beautifully on the nose, amidst the classic iodine/sticking plasters and cool wood smoke we love.

Palate: Seaweed-led, with a hint of vanilla ice cream and more than a whiff of notes from the first aid box (TCP, plasters etc). The oak is big and muscles its way into the fore as you hold this whisky over your tongue. An upsurge of spices develops – cardamom/black pepper/chilli.

Finish: Big and drying, as the savory, tarry notes build up with an iodine complexity.

Overall: The only malt from Laphroaig's range that John Campbell recommends with water; try it, it opens up the palate massively, providing a dazzling array of additional flavors...



Pietro Malaguti has been working as an appointed whisky taster by Single Malt Club, Bologna for several years, before moving to Ireland where he now lives with his wife Simonetta. He's a professional I.T. and web engineer and his great passion for music, and specifically the Great Highland Bagpipe, led him to establish in 2004 a school of piping in conjunction with the former College of Piping (Glasgow). He officially translated their beginner's tutor into Italian language and held PDQB exam sessions in Italy for novice pipers with the presence of the College's director and principal Mr. Robert Wallace as examiner.

References:

- Website: <https://bagpipes.it>