

The UK Duty Burden



- Current excise duty policy - increasing alcohol duty by 2% above inflation every year up to and including 2013 - entrenches the tax discrimination faced by Scotch Whisky in the UK. Every year the duty gap with other drinks widens, damaging competitiveness.
- Scotch Whisky is taxed more heavily than other alcoholic drinks.
- The annual excise 'escalator' should be abolished and duty frozen.
- A typical 70cl bottle of Scotch Whisky costs £10.35, the Government takes more than 70% in tax.
- It breaks down like this:

Excise duty	6.34
VAT	1.35
Total tax (75%)	<hr/> 7.69
Scotch Whisky (25%)	2.66
	<hr/> <hr/> £10.35

THE SCOTCH WHISKY ASSOCIATION SAYS:

The Government should review its policy of pre-determined excise duty rises up to 2013. The annual excise 'escalator' should be abolished and duty frozen. Industry competitiveness is being harmed at a time of challenging economic conditions at home and abroad.

Further information from: The Scotch Whisky Association