DISCOVER THE WORLD OF SCOTCH WHISKY

Many countries produce whisky, but Scotch Whisky 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 130 malt and grain distilleries, making it the greatest concentration of whisky producers in the world. Many of the Scotch Whisky distilleries featured on this map bottle some of their production for sale as Single Malt (i.e. the product of one distillery) or Single Grain Whisky.

The majority of Scotch Whisky is consumed as Blended Scotch Whisky. This means as much as 40 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 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

Highland Distilleries span the length of the River Spey and are distinct from other regions. The products of this region are very varied and span everything from the most traditional whisky, through the rich and more mature whiskies to the lighter and more traditional and refreshing whiskies.

The climate and environment of this region can produce a great variety of whiskies, with some having a hint of peatiness and others having a distinctive tang of the sea.

SPEYSIDE MALT

Spectacular scenery that borders both the River Spey and the River Lossie, creating a most diverse and unique environment for whisky producing.

The products of this region are very varied and span the full range of whisky, from light and refreshing to full and matured.

Islay is a small island off the west coast of Scotland, with mainly farmland and farmhouses, it is the perfect place to find some of Scotland’s most unique whiskies.

Campbeltown is a coastal town in the Lowlands region of Scotland. It is home to three of the largest whisky distilleries in Scotland.

Grain whisky is produced by blending malted and unmalted barley, or malted barley and maize. The resulting whisky is lighter and less complex than single malt whisky.

The Scotch Whisky Association

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