



Uncharted Whisky Syndicate Casks Update 2024

Hello!!!

Another year has marched on and here we are with the annual cask report and samples.

I hope you find this short commentary on the maturation progress of each cask sampled this year interesting! This year passed was exciting as we saw our first 3 Syndicate cask shares bottled; Stevie, Debbie and Bowie! There are no casks due to be bottled in 2025 but Keith and Mick will finally be sampled as they will have reached 3 years old.

Enjoy your samples and join us on Zoom on Friday 29th November 8pm for an online tasting of them. Some are excellent now; some need a few years yet.

Slainte,

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Elwood

Distillery: Highland Park (Whitlaw)
Filling ABV: 63.5%
2024 ABV: 61.3%
Distilled: 20/09/2017
Bottling due: Autumn 2027

Cask type: Ex-bourbon Hogshead
Finishing Cask: First Fill Oloroso Sherry
Finishing Period: Seven Years
Peat Level: Light
Cask No: 554

Whitlaw is the name often given to spirit distilled at the illustrious Highland Park distillery. That is where this spirit was born in 2017 and filled into an ex- bourbon stave Hogshead. Uncharted Whisky bought this cask in 2020 when it was just approaching 3 years old. We promptly re-racked this in a fresh first- fill Oloroso sherry Hogshead.

This dram has continued it's exponential improvement with another year in the oloroso sherry wood and three more to go!

Nose: Butterscotch, touch of smoke, vanilla

Palate: Unctuous, rich, well rounded and generous. The spirit is sweet with sherry influence, toffee, meatiness. We are delighted here as sherry has a huge influence without being a 'sherry bomb'.

Finish: Gently spiced finish

Jake

Distillery: Highland Park (Whitlaw)
Filling ABV: 63.5%
2024 ABV: 62.0%
Distilled: 20/09/2017
Current Age: 7 Years Old
Bottling due: Autumn 2027

Cask type: Ex-bourbon Hogshead
Finishing Cask: None- Full maturation
Finishing Period: Nil
Peat Level: Light
Cask No: 555



Whitlaw is the name often given to spirit distilled at the illustrious Highland Park distillery. That is where this spirit was born in 2017 and filled into an ex- bourbon stave Hogshead. Uncharted Whisky bought this cask in 2020 when it was still vibrantly malty and smoky. The ex-bourbon hogshead is very much a 'light touch' maturation that keeps the distillery character at the forefront. This is a great example of that.

Nose: Smoke comes out the glass accompanied by lemon sherbet and icing sugar

Palate: The smoke has truly jumped forward but mingles in with delicate florals, citrus and seaside salt

Finish: Buttery almost oily mouthfeel, sea salt and smoke linger.

Iggy

Distillery: Un-named Campbeltown

Filling ABV: 63.0%

2024 ABV: 58.5% vol.

Distilled: 17/03/2016

Current Age: 8 Years Old

Bottling due: Summer 2026

Cask type: First Fill Bourbon barrel

Finishing Cask: None- Full maturation

Finishing Period: Nil

Peat Level: Nil

Cask No: 11

Oh my! What a dram this is already! The first fill bourbon truly shines through. This is gorgeous. The nose needs a minute but once it has connected with the oxygen it truly opens.

At 8 years old this dram is full of layers. We get rich vanilla from the bourbon cask but also fresh fruit: peaches, kiwi and lemon zest. On the palate there are spices as well as rich buttery softness and some more mature leather. This is a quality spirit we cannot wait to see this bottled.

The ABV has only dropped by 0.5% and the whisky is drinking beautifully already. We're excited to see what the next 2 years bring!

Tam

Distillery: Tamdhu based "blended malt"

ABV: 65.0%

Current ABV: 59.4%

Distilled: 7/7/2016

Current Age: 8 Years Old

Bottling due: Summer 2026

Cask type: Ex-bourbon Hogshead

Finishing Cask: None- Full maturation

Finishing Period: Nil

Peat Level: Very light

Cask No: 5

This is even fruitier than last year. A lovely and bright dram, that is drinking well at 8 years old.

The nose smells lovely and fresh with notes of apple, coconut and peach. On the palate we have apples, a touch of hay and liquorice on the finish!

We are happy with the maturation here and the ABV is holding up well too. We cannot wait until Tam is bottled at 10 year old.



Winston

Distillery: Tamdhu based "blended malt"
ABV: 65.0%
Current ABV: 57.3%
Distilled: 7/7/2016
Current Age: 8 Year Old
Bottling due: Autumn 2026

Cask type: Ex-bourbon Hogshead
Finishing Cask: First Fill Pedro Ximenez Sherry
Finishing Period: 5 years
Peat Level: Very light
Cask No: 6

Spirit distilled at Tamdhu distillery makes up 99.9% of this blended malt. Aged it's first 5 years in ex-bourbon wood before being re-racked into first fill ex-Pedro Ximenez sherry cask in 2021.

We bought a rather fantastic bodega cask to mature this. Bodega casks are the highest quality but also the most expensive. They were used to mature sherry for a bodega, not a cask made for the whisky industry which had been seasoned with sherry. This means often that the flavours are the most complex, but the natural colour is not as dark. The ABV has held well but alas, the cask did develop a leak. As such, our losses are a little higher than we would like. The leak was repaired but another leak has appeared in the same place. This spirit was emptied into an airtight container to prevent any further losses while we are waiting for a replacement cask*. Thankfully the flavour of the liquid has continued to develop beautifully.

At 8 years old this whisky now smells like a mocha coffee with extra sprinkling of chocolate on top. This dram is truly moreish. A lovely buttery mouthfeel and notes of butterscotch, toffee, dates and figs.

*Due to the time spent outside the cask we will need to push the bottling date of Winston back as it is not aging while the liquid is outside of the cask. Bottling now due Winter 2026 instead of Autumn 2026

John

Distillery: Girvan
Filling ABV: 68.4%
2024 ABV: 62.8%
Distilled: 26/08/2010
Current Age: 14 years old
Bottling due: Autumn 2026

Cask type: Barrel
Finishing Cask: PX Hogshead
Finishing Period: 3 Years
Peat Level: Nil
Cask No: #58657

WARNING very high ABV! – Drop of water does not hurt!

The Pedro Ximenez sherry is much more prominent than last year. It jumps right out the glass on the first smell. Raisins, chocolate and cedar wood.

We would have expected that the ABV dropped a little, but this is not the case unless it is small enough to fall within the margin of error of the measurement. This dram developing well and 2 more years in the PX sherry will likely continue this excellent development path.



Paul

Distillery: Girvan
Filling ABV: 68.4%
2024 ABV: 62.8%
Distilled: 26/08/2010

Current Age: 14 years old
Bottling due: Autumn 2026

Cask type: Barrel
Finishing Cask: Oloroso Hogshead
Finishing Period: 3 Years
Peat Level: Nil
Cask No: #58657

WARNING very high ABV! – A drop of water does not hurt!

The oloroso is much more prominent than last year. It jumps right out the glass on the first smell. Without water: Tabacco, ginger and nutmeg. With water the oloroso sherry is coming through more pronounced. Nuttiness mixed with sweet, stewed fruits. This dram developing well and 2 more years in the oloroso sherry promise great things.

George

Distillery: Teaninich
Filling ABV: 63.55%
Current ABV: 62.32%
2024 ABV: 61.88%
Distilled: 24/02/2020
Current Age: 4 years old

Bottling due: Spring 2028
Cask type: Barrel
Finishing Cask: Madeira Barrique
Finishing Period: 5 Years
Peat Level: Nil
Cask No: #2020029

This whisky does not hang around. The nose is subtle with faint aromas of toffee, orange and madeira, oak but wow the palate is enormous. Savoury meatiness coupled with a huge madeira hit mingled in with the Teaninich's herbaceous nature make for a delicious 4 year old dram. Only 4 more years to wait until we bottle this cracker.

Ringo

Distillery: Teaninich
Filling ABV: 63.55%
2024 ABV: 61.56%
Distilled: 24/02/2020
Current Age: 4 years old
Bottling due: Spring 2028

Cask type: Barrel
Finishing Cask: Sauternes Barrique
Finishing Period: 5 Years
Peat Level: Nil
Cask No: #2020028

In 2024 the Sauternes influence is more than evident! It literally jumps out the glass. The golden sweetness paired with the herbal notes of the Teaninich work incredibly well. Tropical notes are starting to show on the palate. The angels were kind to us with this whisky and the abv only dropped by 0.3%. This whisky is still young and still has a bit of maltiness but promises great things, we cannot wait to see what the next 4 years bring. For those who don't know, Sauternes is an incredible dessert wine, it could be argued it's best the dessert wine in the world. Yields are tiny, maturation is long and as such, not many real winery casks are released to the whisky industry.