

Port Askaig Scotch Whisky

Tasting Notes

Port Askaig Cask Strength

Nose: Sweet and smokey. Hints of golden syrup, sugar puffs, shortbread and soot. becomes faintly medicinal, with bandages and medicine cabinet aromas. Bonfire smoke, hay and sherbert. With water, becomes more grassy and flax-like with a hint of sweetpea.

Palate: On the full side of medium-bodied. Intensely flavoured, with coal, barley, honey, hay - like chewing peated barley husks. Becomes quite hot mid-palate as the alcohol bites, but the generous peat and honeyed edge balance it out. Water lifts a briney citrus character into focus.

Finish: Good length, warming, with straw, smoke and a dash of pepper.

Comment: A vibrant, but not unbalanced young-ish full strength Islay. A great winter dram.

Port Askaig 17 year old

Nose: Citrus and sweetness initially, with lemon juice, orange zest, honey and lemon curd. The phenols are restrained, lurking in the background as coal and wet burnt wood. With time more sooty notes emerge, alongside grapefruit, tangerine peel and faint medicine cabinet hints.

Palate: A soft entry at first, with honey and lemon from the nose and a hint of brine. Then a rush of spongecake accompanies the tangerine and grapefruit, before the coal finally emerges mid-palate, settling onto the tastebuds for a long, but balanced peaty, smokey rumble.

Finish: Long, becoming warm. Coal and pepper with some delicious flashes of honey and marmalade.

Comment: Quite worryingly drinkable and extremely more-ish. The balance is faultless, with each flavour element getting its moment in the limelight before dropping back into the ensemble. An absolutely delightful dram.



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Port Askaig 25 year old

Nose: Orange (blossom and zest), honeysuckle, oak and a waxy character. Melon, faint notes of cocoa, ash and burnt wood.

Palate: Medium-bodied. Strong, pure malty flavours. More woody than the nose would suggest, as the oak asserts itself. The citrus is here, lemon and orange zest, with some golden toasted barley, brine and linseed oil. The phenols are quite restrained: coalsmoke and ash. A spicy character spreads itself across the tongue - wood spice, dusty libraries, drying oak tannins. Water lifts the orange notes very well.

Finish: Medium length, dry. Becomes more briney with a trace of lemon zest and pepper. The oak rumbles on with a trace of smoke.

Comment: A distinguished elder statesman. An oaky, citrusy treat, best taken with a small drop of water to release the fruitiness.

Port Askaig 30 year old

Nose: Lovely honeysuckle notes initially. Sugared almonds. Really appetising. Leafy, with restrained oak in the background.

Palate: Beautiful soft mouthfeel. Slowly growing surge of leafy, smokey, oaky flavours. Appley, with hints of pepper and chilli. An autumn bonfire.

Finish: Slow fade, lingering spices.



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