2018 International Whisky Competition® Official Results

Awards, Scores and Winners



International Whisky Competition Committee

Las Vegas, NV USA
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www.whiskycompetition.com

Highlights of 2018

Foreword

The 2018 International Whisky Competition took place at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas from May 15 to 17, 2018. A professional tasting panel made of whisky, spirit, beer and wine experts blind tasted each whisky on an individual basis. Each whisky was scored using a comprehensive 100-point scale system developed by Sebastien Gavillet, IWC Head of Judges. This process makes the International Whisky Competition one of the most professional competitions of its kind and the most followed whisky competition in the world.

Understanding the Scoring System

Judges were blind tasting, judging and scoring each whisky individually during 8 minutes based on the four main segments and eleven sub sections below:

- **Sight:** Colours (0 point), Visual appeal (5 points)
- Nose: Intensity and complexity (15 points), Distinctiveness of aromas (10 points),
 Balance of aromas (10 points)
- **Taste-Mouth Feel:** Palate and balance (10 points), Alcohol, body and complexity (10 points), Distinctiveness of flavours (10 points), Balance between flavours (10 points)
- Finish: Length and finish (10 points), Quality of finish (10 points)

Unique Medals with Winners Based on Scores

Medals are important and we believe too many medals are awarded by other spirits competitions, making the public suspicious of them. That being said, we're the only competition providing three medals for each category so that each win is unique and not duplicated with generic awards of lesser value.

2018 Judges

Sir Adam Carmer, Sebastien Gavillet, Francesco Lafranconi, John Paddon, Debbi Peek, Alex Renshaw, Max Solano, Ron Smith, Agi Toth.

2018 Whisky of the Year

Aberlour A'Bunadh Batch 52 (97.4 points)







Aberlour Distillery, Winner of the Golden Barrel Trophy

Master Distiller of the Year Graeme Cruickshank



2018 IWC Winners by Category

Scotland | USA | Canada | Ireland | Rest of the World

Best Single Malt Whisky

Scotland

1st Place: Aberlour A'Bunadh Batch 52 (97.4 pts)

2nd Place: Ardbeg Uigeadail (96.8 pts)

3rd Place: Glenmorangie Nectar D'Or 12 Year Old (96.6 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch 10 Year Old

1st Place: Laphroaig 10 Year Old (93.9 pts)

2nd Place: Glenmorangie The Original 10 Year Old (92.7 pts)

3rd Place: The BenRiach 10 Year Old (92.6 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch 12 Year Old

1st Place: Glenmorangie Nectar D'Or 12 Year Old (96.6 pts) 2nd Place: Glenmorangie Lasanta 12 Year Old (90.8 pts)

3rd Place: Bunnahabhain 12 Year Old (88.9 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch 13-17 Year Old

1st Place: Longmorn 16 Year Old (94.7 pts) 2nd Place: Aberlour 16 Year Old (91.3 pts) 3rd Place: Bowmore 15 Year Old (89.8 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch 18 Year Old

1st Place: The GlenDronach Allardice 18 Year Old (94.9 pts)

2nd Place: Glenmorangie 18 Year Old (94.8 pts) 3rd Place: The Glenlivet 18 Year Old (92.9 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch 19-24 Year Old

1st Place: The BenRiach 21 Year Old (95.9 pts)

2nd Place: The GlenDronach Parliament 21 Year Old (94.4 pts)

3rd Place: Glenmorangie 19 Year Old (91.2 pts)

Scotland

Best Single Malt Scotch 25 Year Old and Over

1st Place: Glenmorangie Grand Vintage 1989 27 Year Old (95.4 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch NAS (No Age Statement)

1st Place: Aberlour A'Bunadh Batch 52 (97.4 pts)

2nd Place: Ardbeg Uigeadail (96.8 pts) 3rd Place: SPEY Fumare (96.3 pts)

Best Single Malt (Highlands)

1st Place: Aberlour A'Bunadh Batch 52 (97.4 pts)

2nd Place: Glenmorangie Nectar D'Or 12 Year Old (96.6 pts)

3rd Place: SPEY Fumare (96.3 pts)

Best Single Malt (Islay)

1st Place: Ardbeg Uigeadail (96.8 pts) 2nd Place: Ardbeg Grooves (95.4pts)

3rd Place: Port Askaig 110° Proof (94.4 pts)

Best Single Malt (Speyside)

1st Place: Aberlour A'Bunadh Batch 52 (97.4 pts)

2nd Place: SPEY Fumare (96.3 pts)

3rd Place: The BenRiach 21 Year Old (95.9 pts)

Best Cask Strength (over 57% ABV)

1st Place: Aberlour A'Bunadh Batch 52 (97.4 pts) 2nd Place: The Glenlivet Nàdurra Oloroso (95.1 pts)

3rd Place: Port Askaig 110° Proof (94.4 pts)

Best Peated Whisky

1st Place: Ardbeg Uigeadail (96.8 pts) 2nd Place: SPEY Fumare (96.3 pts)

3rd Place: Glenglassaugh Torfa (96.2 pts)

Best Blended Scotch Whisky

1st Place: Dewar's 25 Year Old The Signature (96.4 pts) 2nd Place: Buchanan's 18 Year Old Special Reserve (95 pts)

3rd Place: Peat Chimney (Wemyss Malts) (93.9 pts)

Scotland

USA

Best Blended Scotch Whisky 12 Year Old

1st Place: Dewar's 12 Year Old The Ancestor (90.8 pts) 2nd Place: Buchanan's DeLuxe 12 Year Old (89 pts) 3rd Place: Black and White 12 Year Old (85.8 pts)

Best Blended Scotch Whisky 18 Year Old

1st Place: Buchanan's 18 Year Old Special Reserve (95 pts)

2nd Place: Chivas Regal 18 Year Old (90.8 pts)

3rd Place: Dewar's 18 Year Old The Vintage (90.1 pts)

Best Blended Malt Scotch

1st Place: Peat Chimney (Wemyss Malts) (93.9 pts)

2nd Place: Chivas Regal Ultis (91.9 pts) 3rd Place: Scallywag 13 Year Old (90.3 pts)

Best Value Scotch (Under \$30)

1st Place: Dewar's White Label (88.8 pts)

2nd Place: Johnnie Walker Red Label (88.5 pts)

3rd Place: Cutty Sark

Best Bourbon Whiskey

1st Place: Eagle Rare 10 Year Old (93.3 pts) 2nd Place: High West American Prairie (92.7 pts)

3rd Place: Woodford Reserve Distiller's Select (92.6 pts)

Best Rye Whiskey

1st Place: Woodford Reserve Kentucky Straight Rye (90.4 pts)

2nd Place: High West Rendezvous Rye (88.7 pts) 3rd Place: Rogue Spirits Oregon Rye (87.2 pts)

Best American Whiskey

1st Place: Sons Of Liberty Uprising Pedro Ximénez Finish (93.6 pts)

2nd Place: Eagle Rare 10 Year Old (93.3 pts) 3rd Place: High West American Prairie (92.7 pts)

Best American Single Malt

1st Place: Sons Of Liberty Uprising Pedro Ximénez Finish (93.6 pts) 2nd Place: Woodford Reserve Kentucky Straight Malt (92.8 pts) 3rd Place: Sons Of Liberty Battle Cry Sauternes Finish (92.1 pts)

Best Small Batch Whiskey

1st Place: Sons Of Liberty Uprising Pedro Ximénez Finish (93.6 pts)

2nd Place: Woodford Reserve Batch Proof (92.3 pts)

3rd Place: Ala Wai Batch 010 (92.2 pts)

Best Single Barrel Whiskey

1st Place: Colonel EH Taylor Single Barrel (87.1 pts)

Best Flavored Whiskey

1st Place: Citrus Distillers Pecan 2nd Place: Citrus Distillers Lime

3rd Place: Duke & Dame

*Awards By U.S. States (Only for Whiskeys Scoring Over 85 Points)

Best Kentucky Whiskey

1st Place: Eagle Rare 10 Year Old (93.3 pts)

2nd Place: Woodford Reserve Kentucky Straight Malt (92.8 pts)

3rd Place: Woodford Reserve Distiller's Select (92.6 pts)

Best Indiana Whiskey

1st Place: George Remus Repeal Reserve (90.7 pts)

2nd Place: Tanner's Creek Bourbon (88.3 pts)

3rd Place: George Remus Straight Bourbon (87.2 pts)

Best Oregon Whiskey

1st Place: Rogue Dead Guy (89.1 pts)

2nd Place: Rogue Oregon Single Malt (87.6 pts)

3rd Place: Rogue Oregon Rye (87.2 pts)

Best Texas Whiskey

1st Place: Ironroot Republic Hubris (92.1 pts)
2nd Place: Ironroot Republic Harbinger (89.3 pts)

USA Best Utah Whiskey 1st Place: High West American Prairie (92.7 pts) 2nd Place: High West Rendezvous Rye (88.7 pts) **Best North Carolina Whiskey** 1st Place: Mother Earth (89.6 pts) **Best Hawaii Whiskey** 1st Place: Ala Wai Batch 010 (92.2 pts) Canada **Best Canadian Whisky** 1st Place: Canadian Club Classic Small Batch 12 Year Old (92.3 pts) 2nd Place: Canadian Club 100% Rye (91.6 pts) 3rd Place: Alberta Premium Rye (87.7 pts) **Best Canadian Rye** 1st Place: Canadian Club 100% Rye (91.6 pts) 2nd Place: Alberta Premium Rye (87.7 pts) 3rd Place: Lot No. 40 **Best Irish Whiskey** Ireland 1st Place: Slane (85.2 pts) 2nd Place: Paddy 3rd Place: HYDE No.6 President Reserve

Best World Whisky World

1st Place: Cotswolds Single Malt

2nd Place: Jimsher From Saperavi Casks

3rd Place: Firstwatch Whisky

2018 Whisky Distillery & Ambassador Awards

Distillery of the Year

Ardberg Distillery

Ardbeg submitted their entire range and each of the 5 Ardbeg expressions scored over 90 Points, a first in the history of the International Whisky Competition. Proving exceptional craftsmanship in the art of making whisky, the Islay distillery attracts a worldwide following through its exclusive Ardbeg Committee annual release expression launch.

Brand Ambassador of the Year

Jack Teeling, Teeling Whiskey Distillery, Ireland

2018 Whiskies Scoring Over 90 Points

- 1. Aberlour A'Bunadh Batch 52 (97.4 pts)
- 2. Ardbeg Uigeadail (96.8 pts)
- 3. Glenmorangie Nectar D'Or 12 Year Old (96.6 pts)
- 4. Dewar's 25 Year Old The Signature (96.4 pts)
- 5. SPEY Fumare (96.3 pts)
- 6. Glenglassaugh Torfa (96.2 pts)
- 7. The BenRiach 21 Year Old (95.9 pts)
- 8. Glenmorangie Signet (95.5 pts)
- 9. Ardbeg Grooves (95.4pts)
- 10. Glenmorangie Grand Vintage 1989 27 Year Old (95.4 pts)
- 11. The Glenlivet Nàdurra Oloroso (95.1 pts)
- 12. Buchanan's 18 Year Old Special Reserve (95 pts)
- 13. The GlenDronach Allardice 18 Year Old (94.9 pts)
- 14. The GlenDronach Peated (94.8 pts)
- 15. Glenmorangie 18 Year Old (94.8 pts)
- 16. Longmorn 16 Year Old (94.7 pts)

- 17. The GlenDronach Parliament 21 Year Old (94.4 pts)
- 18. Port Askaig 110° Proof (94.4 pts)
- 19. Ardbeg An Oa (94.4 pts)
- 20. Ardbeg Corryvreckan (94.1 pts)
- 21. Glenglassaugh Revival (94 pts)
- 22. Laphroaig 10 Year Old (93.9 pts)
- 23. Peat Chimney (Wemyss Malts) (93.9 pts)
- 24. Sons Of Liberty Uprising Pedro Ximénez Finish (93.6 pts)
- 25. Eagle Rare 10 Year Old (93.3 pts)
- 26. Glenmorangie Tayne (93.1 pts)
- 27. The Glenlivet Nàdurra First Fill (93 pts)
- 28. The Glenlivet 18 Year Old (92.9 pts)
- 29. Laphroaig Select (92.8 pts)
- 30. Woodford Reserve Kentucky Straight Malt (92.8 pts)
- 31. Glenmorangie The Original 10 Year Old (92.7 pts)
- 32. High West American Prairie (92.7 pts)
- 33. Woodford Reserve Distiller's Select (92.6 pts)
- 34. The BenRiach 10 Year Old (92.6 pts)
- 35. Woodford Reserve Batch Proof (92.3 pts)
- 36. Canadian Club Classic Small Batch 12 Year Old (92.3 pts)
- 37. SPEY Chairman's Choice (92.2 pts)
- 38. Ala Wai Batch 010 (92.2 pts)
- 39. The Glenlivet Code (92.2 pts)
- 40. Sons Of Liberty Battle Cry Sauternes Finish (92.1 pts)
- 41. Ironroot Republic Hubris (92.1 pts)
- 42. Chivas Regal Ultis (91.9 pts)
- 43. Canadian Club 100% Rye (91.6 pts)
- 44. Old Forester Statesman (91.5 pts)
- 45. Buchanan's Master (91.5 pts)
- 46. Aberlour 16 Year Old (91.3 pts)
- 47. Dewar's 15 Year Old The Monarch (91.3 pts)
- 48. Chivas Regal Mizunara (91.3 pts)
- 49. Ardbeg 10 Year Old (91.3 pts)
- 50. Glenmorangie Cadboll (91.2 pts)
- 51. Glenmorangie 19 Year Old (91.2 pts)
- 52. Woodford Reserve Double Oaked (91 pts)
- 53. The Glenlivet 15 French Oak Reserve (90.9 pts)
- 54. Chivas Regal 18 Year Old (90.8 pts)

- 55. Glenmorangie Lasanta 12 Year Old (90.8 pts)
- 56. Dewar's 12 Year Old The Ancestor (90.8 pts)
- 57. George Remus Repeal Reserve (90.7 pts)
- 58. Aberlour 18 Year Old (90.5 pts)
- 59. Glenmorangie The Duthac (90.4 pts)
- 60. Scallywag 13 Year Old (90.3 pts)
- 61. The Glenlivet Founder's Reserve (90.3 pts)
- 62. Dewar's 18 Year Old The Vintage (90.1 pts)
- 63. Buchanan's Red Seal (90 pts)

Acknowledgments

Special thanks to Robert Hall from Bottega del Vino Crystal for supporting the 2018 International Whisky Competition and providing the official judging tasting glass, the Johnson's Whisky Tot BV17.

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