

2020 International Whisky Competition®

OFFICIAL RESULTS

Awards, Scores and Winners



INTERNATIONAL WHISKY COMPETITION COMMITTEE

LAS VEGAS, NV USA

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2020

www.whiskycompetition.com



"The Olympics of whisky competitions." - Jim McEwan, Master Distiller.

Highlights of 2020

FOREWORD

First we hope to find you and your families well amidst these difficult times. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2020 International Whisky Competition was pushed back by 4 weeks. The Competition was also moved by request of the judges to a more remote location and took place from June 10-14th in the beautiful town of Estes Park, Colorado. 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. This unique 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 for 8 minutes based on the following four main segments and eleven sub sections:

- Sight: Color (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

We're one of very few spirit competitions providing three medals for each category so that each win is unique and not duplicated with generic awards of lesser value.

2020 Whisky of the Year Dewar's Double Double 32 Year Old (96.4 Points)



Master Blender
of the Year
Stephanie Macleod

Winner of the Golden
Barrel Trophy
John Dewar and Sons



For the first time in the history of the International Whisky Competition®, Stephanie Macleod becomes the first woman ever to blend a Whisky of the Year, this year being the exceptional Dewar's Double Double 32 Year Old, which achieved a score of 96.4 Points. Additionally, four other of her blended Scotch whisky expressions received scores over 90 Points showcasing her inspiring abilities, dedication, and mastery in the art of blending outstanding whisky. This is the second year in a row that Macleod has received the Master Blender title and the first time that John Dewar and Sons has received the high award of Golden Barrel Trophy.



Best Single Malt Scotch

1st Place: Ardbeg Corryvreckan (96.1 pts)

2nd Place: Ardbeg Blaaack Committee Edition (94.23 pts)

3rd Place: Ardbeg Blaaack (94.20 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch NAS (No Age Statement)

1st Place: Ardbeg Corryvreckan (96.1 pts)

2nd Place: Ardbeg Blaaack Committee Edition (94.23 pts)

3rd Place: Ardbeg Blaaack (94.20 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch Under 10 Year Old

1st Place: Ardbeg Wee Beastie (92.6 pts)

2nd Place: Glen Turner Rum Cask Finish

Best Single Malt Scotch 10 Year Old

1st Place: Edradour 10 Year Old (90.0 pts)

2nd Place: Ardbeg 10 Year Old (89.1 pts)

3rd Place: The Cooper (88.5 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch 12 Year Old

1st Place: Glenmorangie Lasanta 12 Year Old (91.8 pts)

2nd Place: Glenmorangie The Accord (90.4 pts)

3rd Place: Aberlour 12 Year Old (88.7 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch 13-14 Year Old

1st Place: Glenmorangie Quinta Ruban 14 Year Old (92.2 pts)

2nd Place: Glenmorangie The Elementa (86.7 pts)

3rd Place: The Glenlivet 14 Year Old (85.7 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch 15 Year Old

1st Place: The Glenlivet 15 Year Old (89.9 pts)

2nd Place: Glenmorangie Cadboll Estate (87.7 pts)

2020 IWC Winners by Category



Best Single Malt Scotch 16-17 Year Old

1st Place: Aberlour 16 Year Old (89.7 pts)

2nd Place: Glenmorangie The Tribute (89.1 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch 18 Year Old

1st Place: The Glenlivet 18 Year Old (92.6 pts)

2nd Place: Glenmorangie 18 Year Old (91.7 pts)

3rd Place: Aberlour 18 Year Old (89.9 pts)

Best Single Malt Scotch 19-25 Year Old

1st Place: Glenmorangie Grand Vintage Malt 1996 (92.4 pts)

2nd Place: Glenmorangie Grand Vintage Malt 1995 (91.40 pts)

3rd Place: Ardbeg Traigh Bhan 19 Year Old (91.37 pts)

Best Islay Single Malt

1st Place: Ardbeg Corryvreckan (96.1 pts)

2nd Place: Ardbeg Blaaack Committee Edition (94.23 pts)

3rd Place: Ardbeg Blaaack (94.20 pts)

Best Highland Single Malt

1st Place: Glenmorangie Grand Vintage Malt 1996 (92.4 pts)

2nd Place: Glenmorangie Quinta Ruban 14 Year Old (92.2 pts)

3rd Place: Glenmorangie Lasanta 12 Year Old (91.8 pts)

Best Speyside Single Malt

1st Place: The Glenlivet 18 Year Old (92.6 pts)

2nd Place: The Glenlivet Caribbean Reserve (90.2 pts)

3rd Place: Aberlour A'Bunadh (90.1 pts)

Best Lowland Single Malt

1st Place: 1770 Glasgow Single Malt Scotch Whisky – Peated Release No.1 (87.9 pts)

2nd Place: 1770 Glasgow Single Malt Scotch Whisky – The Original 2019 Release

3rd Place: Auchentoshan American Oak Single Malt Scotch Whiskey



Best Cask Strength Scotch (Over 57% ABV)

- 1st Place: Ardbeg Corryvreckan (96.1 pts)
- 2nd Place: Aberlour A'Bunadh (90.1 pts)
- 3rd Place: Aberlour A'Bunadh Alba (87.9 pts)

Best Peated Scotch

- 1st Place: Ardbeg Corryvreckan (96.1 pts)
- 2nd Place: Ardbeg Blaaack Committee Edition (94.23 pts)
- 3rd Place: Ardbeg Blaaack (94.20 pts)

Best Blended Scotch

- 1st Place: Dewar's Double Double 32 Year Old (96.4 pts)
- 2nd Place: Dewar's Double Double 27 Year Old (92.9 pts)
- 3rd Place: Dewar's 25 Year Old The Signature (92.8 pts)

Best Blended Scotch 10 Year and Under

- 1st Place: Dewar's Caribbean Smooth (88.6 pts)
- 2nd Place: Dewar's Illegal Smooth (87.9 pts)

Best Blended Scotch 12-15 Year Old

- 1st Place: Dewar's 12 Year Old The Ancestor (90.4 pts)
- 2nd Place: Imperial 12 Year Old (89.2 pts)
- 3rd Place: Dewar's 15 Year Old The Monarch (88.0 pts)

Best Blended Scotch 16-20 Year Old

- 1st Place: Dewar's 18 Year Old The Vintage (85.9 pts)

Best Blended Scotch 21-24 Year Old

- 1st Place: Dewar's Double Double 21 Year Old (91.9 pts)

2020 IWC Winners by Category



Best Blended Scotch 25 Year Old And Over

1st Place: Dewar's Double Double 32 Year Old (96.4 pts)

2nd Place: Dewar's Double Double 27 Year Old (92.9 pts)

3rd Place: Dewar's 25 Year Old The Signature (92.8 pts)



Best Micro Distillery Whiskey (Under 150,000 Bottles)

1st Place: Old Hamer Straight Bourbon Cask Strength (90.9 pts)

2nd Place: Old 55 Single Barrel Bourbon Bottled-in-Bond (87.7 pts)

3rd Place: Old 55 Single Barrel American Single Malt (87.4 pts)

Best American Whiskey

1st Place: Eagle Rare 10 Year Old (93.0 pts)

2nd Place: 1792 12 Year Old (92.8 pts)

3rd Place: 1792 Bottled-in-Bond (92.0 pts)

Best Bourbon Whiskey

1st Place: Eagle Rare 10 Year Old (93.0 pts)

2nd Place: 1792 12 Year Old (92.8 pts)

3rd Place: 1792 Bottled-in-Bond (92.0 pts)

Best Cask Strength Bourbon Whiskey (Full Proof)

1st Place: 1792 Full Proof (91.2 pts)

2nd Place: Old Hamer Straight Bourbon Cask Strength (90.9 pts)

3rd Place: Weller Full Proof (89.9 pts)

Best Single Barrel Bourbon Whiskey

1st Place: 1792 Single Barrel (90.3 pts)

2nd Place: Elmer T. Lee Single Barrel (89.7 pts)

3rd Place: Colonel E.H. Taylor, Jr. Single Barrel (89.5 pts)



Best American Rye Whiskey

- 1st Place: Old Elk Straight Rye (87.0 pts)
- 2nd Place: Old Hamer Straight Rye Cask Strength
- 3rd Place: Old Hamer Straight Rye 90 Proof

Best American Single Malt

- 1st Place: Old 55 Single Barrel American Single Malt (87.4 pts)
- 2nd Place: Uprising Bottled-in-Bond

Best Moonshine

- 1st Place: The Mob Museum Moonshine (85.67 pts)

Best Flavored Whiskey

- 1st Place: Bowen Grapesky (89.9 pts)
- 2nd Place: Old Elk PB & Whiskey
- 3rd Place: Feisty Maple + Cinnamon Whiskey

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

Best Colorado Whiskey

- 1st Place: Old Elk Blended Straight Bourbon (90.1 pts)
- 2nd Place: Old Elk Straight Rye (87.0 pts)
- 3rd Place: Old Elk Wheated Straight Bourbon (85.9 pts)

Best Indiana Whiskey

- 1st Place: Old Hamer Straight Bourbon Cask Strength (90.9 pts)
- 2nd Place: Remus Repeal Reserve Series III (90.1 pts)
- 3rd Place: Old 55 Single Barrel Bourbon Bottled-in-Bond (87.7 pts)

Best Kentucky Whiskey

- 1st Place: Eagle Rare 10 Year Old (93.0 pts)
- 2nd Place: 1792 12 Year Old (92.8 pts)
- 3rd Place: 1792 Bottled-in-Bond (92.0 pts)

2020 IWC Winners by Category



Best Tennessee Whiskey

1st Place: Uncle Nearest 1856 Premium (90.9 pts)

2nd Place: Uncle Nearest 1884 Small Batch – V. Eady Butler Batch (89.4 pts)

3rd Place: Uncle Nearest 1820 Single Barrel US-28

Best Virginia Whiskey

1st Place: Bowman Brothers Small Batch (88.8 pts)

2nd Place: Isaac Bowman Port Finished (88.3 pts)

3rd Place: John J. Bowman Single Barrel



Best Irish Whiskey

1st Place: Matt D’Arcy & Co. Ltd. 17 Year Old Rum Finished Single Malt (89.1 pts)

2nd Place: Paddy

3rd Place: Kinahan’s Single Malt Irish

Best Single Malt Irish Whiskey

1st Place: Matt D’Arcy & Co. Ltd. 17 Year Old Rum Finished Single Malt (89.1 pts)

2nd Place: Kinahan’s Single Malt Irish

Best Blended Irish Whiskey

1st Place: Paddy

2nd Place: Matt D’Arcy & Co. Ltd. 10 Year Old Port Finished Blended



Best Japanese Whisky

1st Place: Pure Malt Whisky The Kurayoshi 12 Year Old (91.3 pts)

2nd Place: Kaiyō Whisky The Sheri (90.5 pts)

3rd Place: Kaiyō Whisky The Peated (90.4 pts)

Best Japanese Whisky NAS (No Age Statement)

1st Place: Kaiyō Whisky The Sheri (90.5 pts)

2nd Place: Kaiyō Whisky The Peated (90.4 pts)

3rd Place: Single Malt Whisky The Matsui Mizunara Cask (90.2 pts)

Best Blended Japanese Whisky

1st Place: Blended Whisky The Matsui Tottori (90.1 pts)

2nd Place: Blended Whisky The San-in Bourbon (88.5 pts)

3rd Place: Blended Whisky The San-in (86.5 pts)

Best Pure Malt Japanese Whisky

1st Place: Pure Malt Whisky The Kurayoshi 12 Year Old (91.3 pts)

2nd Place: Kaiyō Whisky The Peated (90.4 pts)

3rd Place: Pure Malt Whisky The Kurayoshi 18 Year Old (90.3 pts)

Best Japanese Whisky 12 Year Old

1st Place: Pure Malt Whisky The Kurayoshi 12 Year Old (91.3 pts)

Best Japanese Whisky 18 Year Old

1st Place: Pure Malt Whisky The Kurayoshi 18 Year Old (90.3 pts)

CANADA



Best Canadian Whisky

1st Place: Royal Canadian Small Batch (85.7 pts)

2nd Place: High River

3rd Place: Caribou Crossing Single Barrel

ENGLAND



Best English Whisky

1st Place: Cotswolds Peated Cask Single Malt (91.1 pts)

2nd Place: Cotswolds Founder's Choice Single Malt (87.2 pts)

3rd Place: Cotswolds Single Malt (87.1 pts)

WORLD



Best World Whisky

1st Place: Cotswolds Peated Cask Single Malt (91.1 pts)

2nd Place: Cotswolds Founder's Choice Single Malt (87.2 pts)

3rd Place: Cotswolds Single Malt (87.1 pts)

7 countries were represented in this category.

2020 IWC Winners by Category

Distillery of the Year

Ardbeg Distillery

For a third year in a row, Ardbeg submitted an impressive range of whisky expressions, eight of which scored over 90 Points, demonstrating their exceptional craftsmanship, passion, and mastery in the art of assembling phenomenal whisky.



Master Distiller of the Year

Dr. Bill Lumsden

For the fourth time in the past five years, Dr. Bill Lumsden becomes Master Distiller of the Year with the highest scoring single malt whisky of the International Whisky Competition®. The brilliant Ardbeg Corryvreckan, which scored 96.1 Points in blind tastings, and second overall in the competition, truly highlights Dr. Lumsden's vast experience, consistency, and mastery in the art of distilling remarkable whisky.



2020 Whiskies Scoring Over 90 Points

1. Dewar's Double Double 32 Year Old (96.4 pts)
2. Ardbeg Corryvreckan (96.1 pts)
3. Ardbeg Blaaack Committee Edition (94.2 pts)
4. Ardbeg Blaaack (94.2 pts)
5. Ardbeg Supernova (93.5 pts)
6. Ardbeg Uigeadail (93.1 pts)
7. Eagle Rare 10 Year Old (93.0 pts)
8. Dewar's Double Double 27 Year Old (92.9 pts)
9. 1792 12 Year Old (92.9 pts)
10. Dewar's 25 The Signature (92.8 pts)
11. Kilchoman Machir Bay (92.7 pts)
12. Ardbeg Wee Beastie (92.6 pts)
13. The Glenlivet 18 Year Old (92.6 pts)
14. Glenmorangie Grand Vintage Malt 1996 (92.4 pts)
15. Glenmorangie Quinta Ruban 14 Year Old (92.2 pts)
16. Kilchoman Sanaig (92.1 pts)
17. 1792 Bottled in Bond (92.0 pts)
18. Ardbeg An Oa (92.0 pts)
19. [Requested Not to Be Disclosed] (92.0 pts)
20. Dewar's Double Double 21 Year Old (91.9 pts)
21. Glenmorangie Lasanta 12 Year Old (91.8 pts)
22. Kilchoman Loch Gorm (91.8 pts)
23. Glenmorangie 18 Year Old (91.7 pts)
24. Colonel E.H. Taylor, Jr. Small Batch (91.6 pts)
25. Glenmorangie Grand Vintage Malt 1995 (91.4 pts)
26. Ardbeg Traigh Bhan 19 Year Old (91.4 pts)
27. The Kurayoshi 12 Year Old (91.3 pts)
28. Glenmorangie 19 Year Old (91.2 pts)
29. 1792 Full Proof (91.2 pts)
30. Weller 12 Year Old (91.1)
31. Cotswolds Peated Cask Single Malt Whisky (91.1 pts)
32. Weller Antique (91.0 pts)
33. [Requested Not to Be Disclosed] (91.0 pts)
34. Uncle Nearest 1856 Premium (90.9 pts)
35. Old Hamer Straight Bourbon Cask Strength (90.9 pts)
36. [Requested Not to Be Disclosed] (90.6 pts)
37. Kaiyō Whisky The Sheri (90.5 pts)
38. Weller C.Y.P.B. (90.5 pts)
39. Kaiyō Whisky The Peated (90.4 pts)
40. Dewar's 12 The Ancestor (90.4 pts)
41. Glenmorangie The Accord (90.4 pts)
42. 1792 Single Barrel (90.3 pts)
43. The Kurayoshi 18 Year Old (90.3 pts)
44. The Glenlivet Caribbean Reserve (90.2 pts)
45. The Matsui Mizunara Cask (90.2 pts)
46. The Matsui Tottori (90.1 pts)
47. The Kurayoshi Sherry Cask (90.1 pts)
48. Aberlour A'Bunadh (90.1 pts)
49. Remus Repeal Reserve Series III (90.1 pts)
50. Old Elk Blended Straight Bourbon (90.1 pts)
51. The Kurayoshi 8 Year Old (90.0 pts)
52. Edradour 10 Year Old (90.0 pts)
53. Kilchoman Single Farm Single Malt (90.0 pts)



Acknowledgments

The International Whisky Competition Committee would like to thank again its judges for their professionalism and hard work as well as our official sponsor Le Nez du Whisky – USA (Wine Aromas Inc) for its contribution.

Special thanks to Fall River Village & Skyview event center for hosting the competition in Estes Park, CO during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

We would also like to thank all staff members and independent consultants for the hard work they put into it making it possible under these complicated circumstances.

The International Whisky Committee

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