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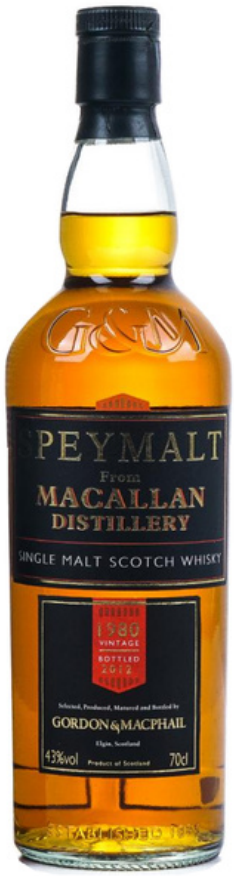
FINE GOODS



MACALLAN 1980 | 32 YEARS OLD

Speymalt | Single Malt Speyside Whisky

Macallan 1980 Speymalt is the long-aged Gordon & MacPhail expression of Macallan distillate, 32 years from a 1980 distillation to a 2012 bottling under the Speymalt range, 43% volume. Three decades under G&M's Elgin stewardship, among the longer Speymalt maturations released in the modern era. THE BOTTLER: Gordon & MacPhail, founded in Elgin in 1895, has held a privileged relationship with Macallan across generations. This Speymalt was matured at G&M's warehouses on a cask programme distinct from the official Macallan range, closer to the 1980s Macallan profile that collectors associate with the distillery's classical era. SERVING: a tulip glass at room temperature, neat. The bottle is a contemplation pour, the integration is the point, water adds nothing. At the table it pairs with bittersweet dark chocolate, fig and walnut bread, aged Stilton, or a long-aged Dominican corojo cigar where the patinated wood and the rancio find common ground.

Tasting notes

Color

Old mahogany, deep amber highlights.

Aroma

Aged sherry, dark dried fruit, patinated oak, leather, light tobacco, gentle rancio after three decades.

Taste

Deep, integrated, fig, raisin, walnut cake, dark honey, pipe tobacco; remarkable richness for a 43% bottling.

Finish

Long, sherry-soaked oak, dried fruit, soft tobacco fade.

THE MACALLAN DISTILLERY Founded in 1824 at Easter Elchies on the banks of the Spey, The Macallan built its reputation on the cask rather than just the spirit. Macallan carefully choses Spanish and American oak, coopered to it's own specification, then ships to bodegas in Jerez to season with oloroso (or PX, or Palo Cortado) for two to three years before being sent to Speyside for whisky maturation. The 'curiously small' stills produce a richer, more textured spirit and is what defines the modern Macallan profile.