

MACALLAN 73 YEARS OLD | 2024

Red Collection | Single Malt Speyside

Macallan 73 Years Old Red Collection 2024 is part of the house's ultra-aged line, a Speyside single malt distilled in 1950 and bottled in 2024 at 44.9% volume from a single hand-selected European oak cask seasoned with sherry. Among the longest-aged Macallans the distillery has commercially released. THE CASK PROGRAMME: seven decades in a single European oak cask seasoned with sherry. The volume after seventy-three years is the natural cask strength, not a watered-down bottling, a measure of the slow concentration that occurs as the angel's share takes its part across decades. The Palo Cortado-profil on the palate (treacle, minerality) signals cask evolution past the standard oloroso profile. SERVING: a tulip glass at room temperature, neat, meditation pour, museum bottle. Water and ice are both unnecessary and counterproductive. The table pairing is restraint, quiet conversation and a long-aged Dominican corojo cigar where the spice and the patinated wood find a worthy match.

Tasting notes

Color

Copper topaz, 100% natural colour.

Aroma

Effervescent, intricate, antique oak, apricot jam, fine liquorice, treacle tart, baked apple, nutmeg, discreet tropical notes.

Taste

Soft, enveloping, dates and sweet woodsmoke at the core, lifted by bittersweet treacle toffee, aromatic leafiness.

Finish

Soft tannins, subtle spice, treacle, sustained minerality. Seven decades expressed without effort.

THE MACALLAN DISTILLERY Founded in 1824 at Easter Elchies on the banks of the Spey, The Macallan is the Speyside distillery that built its reputation on the cask rather than just the spirit. The house famously runs its own oak-selection programme: wood is harvested from carefully chosen Spanish and American oak forests, coopered to Macallan's specification, then shipped to bodegas in Jerez to season with oloroso (or Pedro Ximénez, 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 than larger Speyside stills typically deliver, and the cask programme, sustained at this scale, is what defines the modern Macallan profile.