

WHISKY:EDITION

Whisky reviews. Since 2022.



GORFH Whiskey Oat (2025)

Oat whiskey? Yes, you read that correctly. GORFH from Merdingen is venturing into unconventional territory and proving that German distillers no longer have to stand in the shadow of Scottish or American producers. With 7 years of maturation and an impressive 48% alcohol content, this limited release presents a fascinating alternative to classic barley distillates.

TYPE	COUNTRY	DISTILLERY	AGE
Oat Whiskey	Germany	GORFH Merdingen	7 Years
ABV	PRICE/LITER		
48% Vol.	318.00 €/l		

TASTING NOTES

NOSE

Upon first nosing, GORFH Oat immediately reveals its sweet soul. The nose is dominated by a striking note of vanilla sugar, almost reminiscent of dessert whiskies. But don't worry – it remains exciting. Beneath this opulent sweetness lies a fascinating hayloft character that does not deny the rural origins of the oats and lends the whole a down-to-earth authenticity. Honey joins in, accompanied by a slightly dusty note that is surprisingly charming. A hint of molasses and baking cocoa round off the bouquet and give a hint of what is to come: this is a whisky that is closer to the American bourbon style than the classic single malt.

PALATE

The mouthfeel is exceptionally creamy and mild, which is by no means a given at 48%. The first impressions are intensely grainy – oats take centre stage here and make no secret of their identity. Sweet grassy notes meet brown sugar and develop a pleasant complexity. Then comes the surprising twist: a slightly earthy component that you wouldn't expect in this form. It gives the whisky depth and prevents the sweetness from seeming one-dimensional. A cooling effect sets in, accompanied by caramel and, once again, that distinctive vanilla sugar note. Yes, there is a certain "mealy" quality – but this is not only to be expected in an oat whisky, it also fits perfectly into the overall picture. It grounds the whisky and reminds us that this is not an industrially smooth mass product, but a handcrafted distillate with character.

FINISH

The finish is rather short, which is a minor criticism. However, it remains exciting: unexpectedly few wood notes for a 7-years distillate, but a warming component that is pleasant on the throat. Nutmeg lingers and leaves a spicy aftertaste.

THOUGHTS

MARCEL

This oat whiskey brings a fresh breeze to the German whisky scene and is simply a joy to drink. The sweet vanilla notes paired with the earthy oat base invite you to linger and savor – a characterful dram that convinces without any rough edges. Sure, the finish could be longer, but hey, that's what keeps it charmingly light and intriguing.

SASCHA

The GORFH Hafer 2025 impresses with a well-balanced harmony between sweet bourbon-typical notes and an earthy oat structure that adds depth and complexity. The seven years of maturation reveal themselves in a gentle creaminess and a controlled interplay of alcohol, even though the finish is somewhat short. Overall, a technically solid distillate with an interesting sensory signature that stands apart from classic barley whiskies.

RATINGS

MARCEL
80/100
Excellent

SASCHA
82/100
Excellent

VALUE FOR MONEY
0/5
No rating

