

WHISKY:EDITION

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Invergordon 35 Years (1987/2023) - Murray McDavid

Yet another 1987 vintage on the blog – Marcel's vintage seems to attract such bottles like magic. This Invergordon 35 Years from the Mission Gold series by Murray McDavid relies on a PX finish and presents itself as a Single Grain from the Highlands with a clear cask signature. The result is a mellow dram in which mature grain and aged sweetness are not allowed on stage alone.

TYPE	COUNTRY	REGION	DISTILLERY
Single Grain	Scotland	Highlands	Invergordon
BOTTLER	AGE	ABV	PRICE/LITER
Murray McDavid	35 Years	48.1% Vol.	231.27 €/l

TASTING NOTES

NOSE

On the nose, lots of ripe grain and lots of cask influence meet each other, surprisingly balanced and without much jostling. Added to that are wood spice, a bit of dark chocolate, and that slightly wine gum-like aroma of the grain, which gives the whole thing a charmingly quirky twist. Unfortunately, a hint of wine acidity also slips in, which is not entirely disturbing, but does make its presence noticeably felt.

PALATE

On the palate, it starts dry with cake, dried fruits, dates, leather, a bit of bitterness, and plenty of wood. The mix of intense cask character and the typical grain notes in the background remains intact, although cask and wine acidity are clearly more dominant here. Thanks to clean PX sweetness, 35 years of maturation, and pleasing 48.1 percent, the whisky nevertheless remains easy to drink and quite enjoyable. Added to that are warehouse wood, a hint of licorice, and a complex, slightly sweet reprise on the second sip.

FINISH

The finish is somewhat dry, with little pepper and a softer rather than forceful profile. Fruitcake, wood, and a certain impression reminiscent of Irish whiskey shape the picture. It is medium-long, not particularly complex, and somewhat flat in mouthfeel, but overall pleasant.

THOUGHTS

MARCEL

For me, a 1987 is of course never evaluated entirely neutrally – the vintage bonus is cheekily sitting there in the glass as well. Still, the impression remains clear: the sherry cask has taken over a bit too much here, so that not all that much of the classic grain notes remains. It is pleasant enough, but more cask show than grain celebration.

SASCHA

The cask is quite clearly in the foreground, and not just politely at the edge, but right in the spotlight. In some places, this tips into overly dominant, slightly bitter notes, which throws the dram somewhat out of balance. All in all, though, it remains a solid grain that is still fun despite its rough edges.

RATINGS

MARCEL
79/100
Very good

SASCHA
77/100
Very good

VALUE FOR MONEY
3/5
Fair

