

WHISKY:EDITION

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Talisker 24 Years (1953) - Gordon & MacPhail

Distilled in 1953 at the old, coal-fired Talisker distillery – seven years before a devastating fire destroyed it in 1960. Back then, they still used their own floor maltings, which weren't retired until 1972. Gordon & MacPhail bottled this 24-year-old from a sherry cask as part of their Connoisseurs Choice range, and what lands in the glass is more than a whisky. It's a window into a bygone era of Scottish whisky production.

TYPE	COUNTRY	REGION	DISTILLERY
Single Malt	Scotland	Isle of Skye	Talisker
BOTTLER	AGE	ABV	PRICE/LITER
Gordon & MacPhail	24 Years	43% Vol.	4,825.00 €/l

TASTING NOTES

NOSE

Old sherry announces itself immediately. Ripe, purple fruit juice, wild overripe strawberries and dark raisins. Behind it, a wispy peat wind and a salty sea breeze reminiscent of the Isle of Skye. Old books, old leather and antique wooden furniture create a nostalgic atmosphere. Orange peel and chocolate orange bring a bittersweet citrus note, accompanied by soft ginger, minerals and sea salt. After the first sip, back in the nose: herbs, earth and moss, almost medicinal, like cold grass and a hint of stewed duck. An incredibly rich, multilayered bouquet where nothing fights for attention.

PALATE

The entry is oily and fuller than the modest 43% would suggest. What stands out immediately is how clean this whisky tastes, a legacy of old-world distillation. Stewed red dates, herbs and a gentle peat smoke form the foundation. Then come red berry jam and ripe grapes, dunnage notes and dusty floor. Brown cake and raw cane sugar dominate the sweetness. No cream, no heaviness. Oyster shell and a subtle salinity add maritime accents. After chewing, the smoke builds slowly, lending a spicy depth to the whole experience.

FINISH

This is where the old Talisker shows its true greatness. The smoke builds gradually, the flavours grow and grow. Gunsmoke and old leather, herbs and peat. Waxed wild strawberry and raspberry appear, impossibly complex. Old grease gun, salinity, black pepper and sea salt. The retronasal smokiness is impressive. A finish that refuses to end, telling stories from another time.

THOUGHTS

MARCEL

A whisky like a time machine. Distilled in 1953, coal-fired, with their own floor maltings – you can taste all of it. The low 43% don't hurt at all; quite the opposite: the complexity that emerges at drinking strength is remarkable. If you ever get the chance to try something like this, take it. These are moments you don't forget.

SASCHA

Historically fascinating, no question. The nose is glorious: old, complex and incredibly multilayered. On the palate, the only weakness: the 43% make it a touch thin and watery, but the sherry carries it confidently. And then the finish, that's where the old Talisker truly comes alive. The retronasal smoke is the highlight and shows exactly why this distillery is legendary. A piece of history in a glass that deserves to be experienced.

RATINGS

MARCEL
91/100
World class

SASCHA
89/100
Excellent

VALUE FOR MONEY
0/5
No rating

