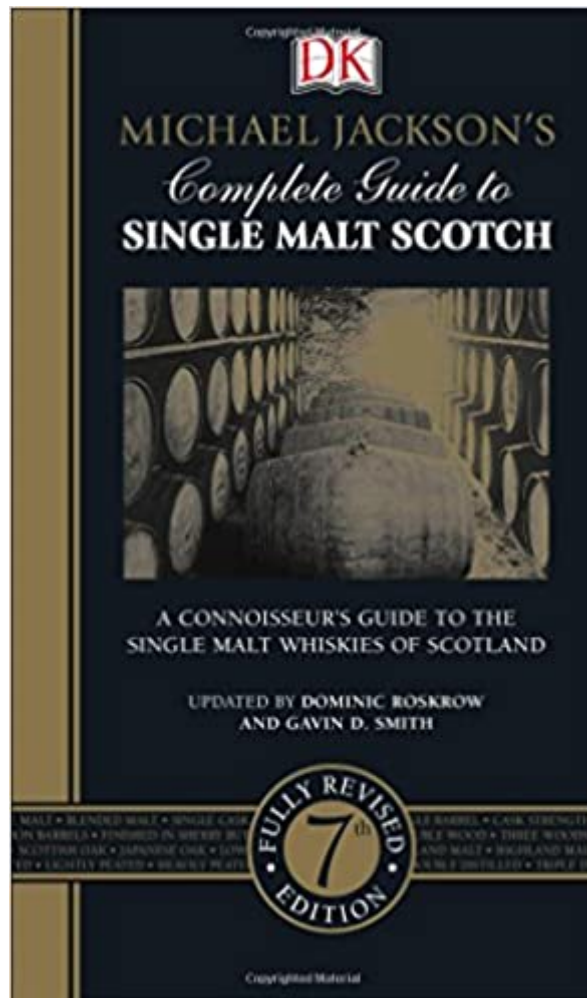


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Michael Jackson's Complete Guide To Single Malt Scotch, 7th Edition



Synopsis

The world's best-selling book on malt whisky, now updated to include all the latest significant bottlings. This seventh edition of Michael Jackson's Complete Guide to Single Malt Scotch continues to provide whisky enthusiasts with all the information, advice, and guidance they need to improve their knowledge and appreciation of single malt whisky. Fully updated with all the latest significant bottlings, Michael Jackson's Complete Guide to Single Malt Scotch includes an unrivaled A-Z of single malts with background information on the distilleries and tasting notes for more than 1,000 bottlings. It even provides each whisky with an overall score. Michael Jackson, regarded as the world's foremost authority on whisky until his death in 2007, originally authored this title. His legacy lives on in the 2015 edition edited by world-leading whisky consultants Dominic Roskrow and Gavin D. Smith. By giving practical advice on buying and collecting malts and interpreting whisky labels, and providing hundreds of color images, Michael Jackson's Complete Guide to Single Malt Scotch can turn any whisky novice into an informed veteran.

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Customer Reviews

Michael Jackson was widely recognized as the world's leading authority on whiskey. He is the author of DK's James Beard award-winning Whiskey, and his books have sold over three million copies worldwide. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"...informative, wide ranging, illustrated and entertaining- it deserves a toast." --Newsday --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I received the book today. It's the first version I've bought since the MJ penned 4th and sadly the last. No tasting notes of the Clynelish 14yo distillery bottling and inexplicably the Lagavulin 16yo distillery bottling (rated 95 in the 4th edition and described as "this classic Islay malt"). I realize the 16yo expression has not changed in many years but pretty much every Laphroaig distillery bottling is reviewed. I too rubbed the pages together thinking several had stuck together but the page numbering at the bottom told all. With the large increase in the number of distillery bottlings it seems the independent bottlings have been squeezed out of the book. There is no mention in the introduction, that I could see, of what constitutes an "independent bottling" and for most distilleries just one independent bottling is reviewed. The compact "other bottlings of ..." notes of earlier editions has been dropped entirely. The introduction section has ballooned from 30 pages in the 4th edition to 70 pages but it's lost its defining conciseness, of course there is space dedicated to buying for investment, bleh. Proof reading seems minimal as I've found numerous typos already :-("Due attention has been paid to malt whiskies exclusive to the burgeoning travel retail sector" from the MJ legacy page pretty much expresses the above review in a single sentence.

A friend of mine had this book and when he and I started enjoying scotch and cigars together we began trying different scotchs and making note of the differences in taste, smell, packaging, history, etc. Then he remembered this book and suddenly the experience exploded with the history of scotch, of the individual distilleries and the talents and proclivities of the makers. This is an excellent book if you really want to know your scotches and enjoy the breadth of options. The only reason I did not give this book 5 stars is because it assumes the buyer knows the vocabulary and the meaning of some of the simple and basic terms. For example, I would like to know the difference between Scotch and Scotch Whiskey. What is a Rye and why is it in a book about Scotch? I can find the info elsewhere and it does not stop me from recommending this book very highly. To learn about the regions and the history and the personality of each bottle of scotch is one of life's simple joys. And the 2 page autobiography of the author (Michael Jackson) is a real heart warming story as well. Great book indeed.

This book is great for those looking to learn more about the art of scotch. Though this seems to be the bible amongst the scotch community, I would say it is less comprehensive than I would have expected. To be fair, I just started becoming a scotch aficionado recently, so this book was the right level of difficulty for me. But I will need to buy additional books if I truly want to learn everything

about scotch production (example, details of the distillation process, the distinguishing qualities of highlands and speysides, how cask acquisition works, etc). Also, in terms of detailing the qualities of specific scotch, I was left wanting for better descriptions. I understand that each person may taste slightly different flavors and scents, but I was still hoping for more than 3 or 4 suggestions. That all being said, I have not seen a scotch book yet that is better than this text. So I still recommend it strongly.

I received this book as a Christmas gift. I use it frequently when I happen to spot a potential purchase in the Scotch section of my local Total Wine. The book is excellent in the case of single malts and useful in the case of vatted and blended Scotch, but the section on independent bottlers is almost non-existent. This is a shame because there are some excellent independents out there and I would have liked to read Michael Jackson's views on their offerings.

I purchased an earlier version of this guide close to 20 years ago. Given that Michael Jackson has passed away, I wasn't sure what to expect with this revised edition updated by other people. I wasn't disappointed. This is the go to book about Single Malt Scotch! I use it to sort out what new (to me) single malt's I'll try next. I find it particularly useful for finding extremely high quality scotches that don't cost as much as a large screen TV! It's also very useful to understanding the differences between Isle, Highland and Lowland scotches. Definitely worth the money. I give it as gifts to fellow single malt scotch lovers.

I'm new to single malt scotch drinking. So this book has it all. Explanations about making scotch... descriptions of the regions... descriptions about the distilleries... how to drink single malt scotch... how to collect it... reviews of collectable bottles. I can't think of any other book you could possibly need whether you are new to scotch like me or whether you have enjoyed scotch your whole life.

My husband loves single malt Scotch and has referred to his older Michael Jackson's guide for many years, published in 1990. It was time for an update! I bought him this 2015 book and he likes it for two reasons - it is still laid out the same as his old book (listing Scotchs alphabetically by name and not by regions and showing photos of the labels) and this one includes a lot more background to single malts at the beginning of the book. All in all, it was a much-appreciated gift!

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