Aberlour 12 YO. 40% ABV
Speyside. Double matured oak and sherry casks. $45.57 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose (undiluted): Cinnamon, toffee, dried dark fruits, vanilla, oak, apple, it smells like Christmas.

Palate (undiluted): Very rich mouthfeel, sherry, buttery toffee, cinnamon, vanilla, raisins, nutmeg, brown sugar, cherry notes, very moreish

Finish: Medium length, sweet vanilla, toffee, a little spicy nutmeg with hints of chocolate cherries

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow (Gold) Greeny Gold Bronze Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry (Sweet) Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty (Sherry Sweet) Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full (Smooth) Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 86 **Notes:**_____ **Name:** CHRISTOPHER

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour a' Bunadh NAS 60% ABV Batch 60
Speyside. Aged in Oloroso Sherry Butt Cask. $83.72 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose: Deeply raisiny, with more rancio and balsamic than prior batches. STRONG nose tickle – need to keep nose out of the glass. Smells drier – less fresh/vibrant fruit and more oakiness and dried fruit. Deep in the glass – if you dare – there is a layer of unctuous gooey caramel and fudge brownie.
Palate: Syrupy body. Salted caramel, and... OH GOD IT BURNS. Ok... once that's out of the way, the seared remnants of my tongue pick up deep sugary oak (maple syrup but not maple), dusty dried prunes and raisins, faint fig jam, sawdust, and birch beer.
Finish: A layer of sooty charcoal that resolves into mouth-drying tannins, cocoa nibs, and an odd absence of fruit. Further sips confirm – lots of chocolate and oak, no fruit. Weird.
With Water: Several drops of water amps up the nose tickle, but also sweetens the aroma, adding fudgy frosting and a touch more fruit. It still burns like fire on the tongue, but the few fruit notes are brighter – more jelly than jam. The finish picks up a nice apple/cinnamon note and isn't quite as dry. This batch benefits immensely from water. At this ABV you could probably use splashes instead of drops, but taste as you go.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow (Gold) Greeny-Gold Bronze Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky (Pungent) Peat

Palate: Woody (Zesty) Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced
Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy
Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy (Textured Big) Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium (Long) Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 81 **Notes:**_____ **Name:** THEODORE

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour 12 YO. 40% ABV
Speyside. Double matured oak and sherry casks. $45.57 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose (undiluted): Cinnamon, toffee, dried dark fruits, vanilla, oak, apple, it smells like Christmas.

Palate (undiluted): Very rich mouthfeel, sherry, buttery toffee, cinnamon, vanilla, raisins, nutmeg, brown sugar, cherry notes, very moreish

Finish: Medium length, sweet vanilla, toffee, a little spicy nutmeg with hints of chocolate cherries

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny Gold Bronze Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 85 **Notes:** Competent, not remarkable **Name:** Curtis Cameron

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour a' Bunadh NAS 60% ABV Batch 60
Speyside. Aged in Oloroso Sherry Butt Cask. $83.72 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose: Deeply raisiny, with more rancio and balsamic than prior batches. STRONG nose tickle – need to keep nose out of the glass. Smells drier – less fresh/vibrant fruit and more oakiness and dried fruit. Deep in the glass – if you dare – there is a layer of unctuous gooey caramel and fudge brownie.
Palate: Syrupy body. Salted caramel, and... OH GOD IT BURNS. Ok... once that's out of the way, the seared remnants of my tongue pick up deep sugary oak (maple syrup but not maple), dusty dried prunes and raisins, faint fig jam, sawdust, and birch beer.
Finish: A layer of sooty charcoal that resolves into mouth-drying tannins, cocoa nibs, and an odd absence of fruit. Further sips confirm – lots of chocolate and oak, no fruit. Weird.
With Water: Several drops of water amps up the nose tickle, but also sweetens the aroma, adding fudgy frosting and a touch more fruit. It still burns like fire on the tongue, but the few fruit notes are brighter – more jelly than jam. The finish picks up a nice apple/cinnamon note and isn't quite as dry. This batch benefits immensely from water. At this ABV you could probably use splashes instead of drops, but taste as you go.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 92 **Notes:**_____ **Name:** Curtis Cameron

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour 12 YO. 40% ABV
Speyside. Double matured oak and sherry casks. $45.57 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose (undiluted): Cinnamon, toffee, dried dark fruits, vanilla, oak, apple, it smells like Christmas.

Palate (undiluted): Very rich mouthfeel, sherry, buttery toffee, cinnamon, vanilla, raisins, nutmeg, brown sugar, cherry notes, very moreish

Finish: Medium length, sweet vanilla, toffee, a little spicy nutmeg with hints of chocolate cherries

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow (Gold) Greeny Gold Bronze Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass (Honey) Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses (Sherry) (Sweet) Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty (Vanilla) Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel (Berries) Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty (Sherry) Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light (Medium) Full (Smooth) Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short (Medium) Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 (2) 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 90 **Notes:**_____ **Name:** Roger

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour a' Bunadh NAS 60% ABV Batch 60
Speyside. Aged in Oloroso Sherry Butt Cask. $83.72 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose: Deeply raisiny, with more rancio and balsamic than prior batches. STRONG nose tickle – need to keep nose out of the glass. Smells drier – less fresh/vibrant fruit and more oakiness and dried fruit. Deep in the glass – if you dare – there is a layer of unctuous gooey caramel and fudge brownie.
Palate: Syrupy body. Salted caramel, and... OH GOD IT BURNS. Ok... once that's out of the way, the seared remnants of my tongue pick up deep sugary oak (maple syrup but not maple), dusty dried prunes and raisins, faint fig jam, sawdust, and birch beer.
Finish: A layer of sooty charcoal that resolves into mouth-drying tannins, cocoa nibs, and an odd absence of fruit. Further sips confirm – lots of chocolate and oak, no fruit. Weird.
With Water: Several drops of water amps up the nose tickle, but also sweetens the aroma, adding fudgy frosting and a touch more fruit. It still burns like fire on the tongue, but the few fruit notes are brighter – more jelly than jam. The finish picks up a nice apple/cinnamon note and isn't quite as dry. This batch benefits immensely from water. At this ABV you could probably use splashes instead of drops, but taste as you go.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze (Amber) Mahogany

Nose: (Floral) Citrus Grass (Honey) Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses (Sherry) (Sweet) Smoky Pungent Peat

Palate: Woody (Zesty) (Vanilla) Oily Peppery (Raisins) (Intense) Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

(Chocolate) Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty (Sherry) (Sweet) Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium (Full) (Smooth) Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short (Medium) Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 (2) 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 92 **Notes:** Much enhanced with water. **Name:** Kayn

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour 12 YO. 40% ABV
Speyside. Double matured oak and sherry casks. $45.57 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose (undiluted): Cinnamon, toffee, dried dark fruits, vanilla, oak, apple, it smells like Christmas.

Palate (undiluted): Very rich mouthfeel, sherry, buttery toffee, cinnamon, vanilla, raisins, nutmeg, brown sugar, cherry notes, very moreish

Finish: Medium length, sweet vanilla, toffee, a little spicy nutmeg with hints of chocolate cherries

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny Gold (Bronze) Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses (Sherry) Sweet Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty (Sherry) Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full (Smooth) Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short (Medium) Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 79 **Notes:** FITZGERALD **Name:**_____

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour a' Bunadh NAS 60% ABV Batch 60
Speyside. Aged in Oloroso Sherry Butt Cask. $83.72 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose: Deeply raisiny, with more rancio and balsamic than prior batches. STRONG nose tickle – need to keep nose out of the glass. Smells drier – less fresh/vibrant fruit and more oakiness and dried fruit. Deep in the glass – if you dare – there is a layer of unctuous gooey caramel and fudge brownie.
Palate: Syrupy body. Salted caramel, and... OH GOD IT BURNS. Ok... once that's out of the way, the seared remnants of my tongue pick up deep sugary oak (maple syrup but not maple), dusty dried prunes and raisins, faint fig jam, sawdust, and birch beer.
Finish: A layer of sooty charcoal that resolves into mouth-drying tannins, cocoa nibs, and an odd absence of fruit. Further sips confirm – lots of chocolate and oak, no fruit. Weird.
With Water: Several drops of water amps up the nose tickle, but also sweetens the aroma, adding fudgy frosting and a touch more fruit. It still burns like fire on the tongue, but the few fruit notes are brighter – more jelly than jam. The finish picks up a nice apple/cinnamon note and isn't quite as dry. This batch benefits immensely from water. At this ABV you could probably use splashes instead of drops, but taste as you go.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze (Amber) Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses (Sherry) Sweet Smoky Pungent Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty (Sherry) Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium (Full Smooth) Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short (Medium) Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 82 **Notes:**_____ **Name:** FITZGERALD

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour 12 YO. 40% ABV
Speyside. Double matured oak and sherry casks. $45.57 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose (undiluted): Cinnamon, toffee, dried dark fruits, vanilla, oak, apple, it smells like Christmas.

Palate (undiluted): Very rich mouthfeel, sherry, buttery toffee, cinnamon, vanilla, raisins, nutmeg, brown sugar, cherry notes, very moreish

Finish: Medium length, sweet vanilla, toffee, a little spicy nutmeg with hints of chocolate cherries

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow (Gold) Greeny Gold Bronze Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass (Honey) Coconut Malty (Oak) Nutty Molasses Sherry (Sweet) Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty (Vanilla) Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full (Smooth) Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp (Delicate)

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 89 **Notes:** And this was all without water **Name:** L GRAY

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour a' Bunadh NAS 60% ABV Batch 60
Speyside. Aged in Oloroso Sherry Butt Cask. $83.72 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose: Deeply raisiny, with more rancio and balsamic than prior batches. STRONG nose tickle – need to keep nose out of the glass. Smells drier – less fresh/vibrant fruit and more oakiness and dried fruit. Deep in the glass – if you dare – there is a layer of unctuous gooey caramel and fudge brownie.
Palate: Syrupy body. Salted caramel, and... OH GOD IT BURNS. Ok... once that's out of the way, the seared remnants of my tongue pick up deep sugary oak (maple syrup but not maple), dusty dried prunes and raisins, faint fig jam, sawdust, and birch beer.
Finish: A layer of sooty charcoal that resolves into mouth-drying tannins, cocoa nibs, and an odd absence of fruit. Further sips confirm – lots of chocolate and oak, no fruit. Weird.
With Water: Several drops of water amps up the nose tickle, but also sweetens the aroma, adding fudgy frosting and a touch more fruit. It still burns like fire on the tongue, but the few fruit notes are brighter – more jelly than jam. The finish picks up a nice apple/cinnamon note and isn't quite as dry. This batch benefits immensely from water. At this ABV you could probably use splashes instead of drops, but taste as you go.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow (Gold) Greeny-Gold Bronze Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral (Citrus) Grass (Honey) Coconut Malty (Oak) Nutty Molasses (Sherry) Sweet Smoky Pungent Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty (Vanilla) Oily Peppery (Raisins) Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full Smooth (Rich Creamy) Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short (Medium) Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 (2) 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 92 **Notes:** with water **Name:** L GRAY

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour 12 YO. 40% ABV
Speyside. Double matured oak and sherry casks. $45.57 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose (undiluted): Cinnamon, toffee, dried dark fruits, vanilla, oak, apple, it smells like Christmas.

Palate (undiluted): Very rich mouthfeel, sherry, buttery toffee, cinnamon, vanilla, raisins, nutmeg, brown sugar, cherry notes, very moreish

Finish: Medium length, sweet vanilla, toffee, a little spicy nutmeg with hints of chocolate cherries

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny Gold Bronze (Amber) Mahogany

Nose: Floral (Citrus) Grass (Honey) Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry (Sweet) Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty (Vanilla) Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy (Caramel) Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus (Honey) Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light (Medium) Full Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short (Medium) Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): (1–) 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 84 **Notes:**_____ **Name:** Jim

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour a' Bunadh NAS 60% ABV Batch 60
Speyside. Aged in Oloroso Sherry Butt Cask. $83.72 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose: Deeply raisiny, with more rancio and balsamic than prior batches. STRONG nose tickle – need to keep nose out of the glass. Smells drier – less fresh/vibrant fruit and more oakiness and dried fruit. Deep in the glass – if you dare – there is a layer of unctuous gooey caramel and fudge brownie.
Palate: Syrupy body. Salted caramel, and... OH GOD IT BURNS. Ok... once that's out of the way, the seared remnants of my tongue pick up deep sugary oak (maple syrup but not maple), dusty dried prunes and raisins, faint fig jam, sawdust, and birch beer.
Finish: A layer of sooty charcoal that resolves into mouth-drying tannins, cocoa nibs, and an odd absence of fruit. Further sips confirm – lots of chocolate and oak, no fruit. Weird.
With Water: Several drops of water amps up the nose tickle, but also sweetens the aroma, adding fudgy frosting and a touch more fruit. It still burns like fire on the tongue, but the few fruit notes are brighter – more jelly than jam. The finish picks up a nice apple/cinnamon note and isn't quite as dry. This batch benefits immensely from water. At this ABV you could probably use splashes instead of drops, but taste as you go.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow (Gold) Greeny-Gold Bronze Amber Mahogany

Nose: (Floral) Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak (Nutty) Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins (Intense) Grassy (Caramel) Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus (Honey) Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium (Full) Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short (Medium) Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 (2) 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 82 **Notes:**_____ **Name:** Jim

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour 12 YO. 40% ABV
Speyside. Double matured oak and sherry casks. $45.57 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose (undiluted): Cinnamon, toffee, dried dark fruits, vanilla, oak, apple, it smells like Christmas.

Palate (undiluted): Very rich mouthfeel, sherry, buttery toffee, cinnamon, vanilla, raisins, nutmeg, brown sugar, cherry notes, very moreish

Finish: Medium length, sweet vanilla, toffee, a little spicy nutmeg with hints of chocolate cherries

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny Gold (Bronze) Amber Mahogany

Nose: (Floral) Citrus Grass (Honey) Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses (Sherry) (Sweet) Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate (Floral) (Citrus) Honey Coconut Nutty (Sherry) (Sweet) Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full (Smooth) Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: (Short) Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp (Delicate)

Length of finish (minutes): 1 (1.5) 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 87 **Notes:**_____ **Name:** NORM

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour a' Bunadh NAS 60% ABV Batch 60
Speyside. Aged in Oloroso Sherry Butt Cask. $83.72 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose: Deeply raisiny, with more rancio and balsamic than prior batches. STRONG nose tickle – need to keep nose out of the glass. Smells drier – less fresh/vibrant fruit and more oakiness and dried fruit. Deep in the glass – if you dare – there is a layer of unctuous gooey caramel and fudge brownie.
Palate: Syrupy body. Salted caramel, and... OH GOD IT BURNS. Ok... once that's out of the way, the seared remnants of my tongue pick up deep sugary oak (maple syrup but not maple), dusty dried prunes and raisins, faint fig jam, sawdust, and birch beer.
Finish: A layer of sooty charcoal that resolves into mouth-drying tannins, cocoa nibs, and an odd absence of fruit. Further sips confirm – lots of chocolate and oak, no fruit. Weird.
With Water: Several drops of water amps up the nose tickle, but also sweetens the aroma, adding fudgy frosting and a touch more fruit. It still burns like fire on the tongue, but the few fruit notes are brighter – more jelly than jam. The finish picks up a nice apple/cinnamon note and isn't quite as dry. This batch benefits immensely from water. At this ABV you could probably use splashes instead of drops, but taste as you go.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze (Amber) Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak (Nutty) Molasses (Sherry) (Sweet) Smoky Pungent Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus (Honey) Coconut Nutty Sherry (Sweet) Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced (Abrasive) (Assertive) Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy (Textured) Big (Crisp) Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium (Long) Abrupt Bitter (Intense) Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 (3.5) 4 4.5 5

Score: 84 **Notes:**_____ **Name:** NORM

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour 12 YO. 40% ABV
Speyside. Double matured oak and sherry casks. $45.57 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose (undiluted): Cinnamon, toffee, dried dark fruits, vanilla, oak, apple, it smells like Christmas.

Palate (undiluted): Very rich mouthfeel, sherry, buttery toffee, cinnamon, vanilla, raisins, nutmeg, brown sugar, cherry notes, very moreish

Finish: Medium length, sweet vanilla, toffee, a little spicy nutmeg with hints of chocolate cherries

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny Gold Bronze Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: _____ **Notes:**_____ **Name:**_____

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour a' Bunadh NAS 60% ABV Batch 60
Speyside. Aged in Oloroso Sherry Butt Cask. $83.72 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose: Deeply raisiny, with more rancio and balsamic than prior batches. STRONG nose tickle – need to keep nose out of the glass. Smells drier – less fresh/vibrant fruit and more oakiness and dried fruit. Deep in the glass – if you dare – there is a layer of unctuous gooey caramel and fudge brownie.
Palate: Syrupy body. Salted caramel, and... OH GOD IT BURNS. Ok... once that's out of the way, the seared remnants of my tongue pick up deep sugary oak (maple syrup but not maple), dusty dried prunes and raisins, faint fig jam, sawdust, and birch beer.
Finish: A layer of sooty charcoal that resolves into mouth-drying tannins, cocoa nibs, and an odd absence of fruit. Further sips confirm – lots of chocolate and oak, no fruit. Weird.
With Water: Several drops of water amps up the nose tickle, but also sweetens the aroma, adding fudgy frosting and a touch more fruit. It still burns like fire on the tongue, but the few fruit notes are brighter – more jelly than jam. The finish picks up a nice apple/cinnamon note and isn't quite as dry. This batch benefits immensely from water. At this ABV you could probably use splashes instead of drops, but taste as you go.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: _____ **Notes:**_____ **Name:**_____

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour 12 YO. 40% ABV
Speyside. Double matured oak and sherry casks. $45.57 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose (undiluted): Cinnamon, toffee, dried dark fruits, vanilla, oak, apple, it smells like Christmas.

Palate (undiluted): Very rich mouthfeel, sherry, buttery toffee, cinnamon, vanilla, raisins, nutmeg, brown sugar, cherry notes, very moreish

Finish: Medium length, sweet vanilla, toffee, a little spicy nutmeg with hints of chocolate cherries

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny Gold Bronze (Amber) Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass (Honey) Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty (Vanilla) Oily Peppery (Raisins) Intense Grassy (Caramel) Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty (Sherry) Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light (Medium) Full (Smooth) Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp (Mouth-coating) Silky Velvet

Finish: (Short) Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): (1) 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 85 **Notes:**_____ **Name:** Mike

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour a' Bunadh NAS 60% ABV Batch 60
Speyside. Aged in Oloroso Sherry Butt Cask. $83.72 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose: Deeply raisiny, with more rancio and balsamic than prior batches. STRONG nose tickle – need to keep nose out of the glass. Smells drier – less fresh/vibrant fruit and more oakiness and dried fruit. Deep in the glass – if you dare – there is a layer of unctuous gooey caramel and fudge brownie.
Palate: Syrupy body. Salted caramel, and... OH GOD IT BURNS. Ok... once that's out of the way, the seared remnants of my tongue pick up deep sugary oak (maple syrup but not maple), dusty dried prunes and raisins, faint fig jam, sawdust, and birch beer.
Finish: A layer of sooty charcoal that resolves into mouth-drying tannins, cocoa nibs, and an odd absence of fruit. Further sips confirm – lots of chocolate and oak, no fruit. Weird.
With Water: Several drops of water amps up the nose tickle, but also sweetens the aroma, adding fudgy frosting and a touch more fruit. It still burns like fire on the tongue, but the few fruit notes are brighter – more jelly than jam. The finish picks up a nice apple/cinnamon note and isn't quite as dry. This batch benefits immensely from water. At this ABV you could probably use splashes instead of drops, but taste as you go.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze (Amber) Mahogany

Nose: (Floral) Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty (Oak) Nutty Molasses (Sherry) (Sweet) Smoky Pungent Peat — Perfume

Palate: Woody Zesty (Vanilla) Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy (Caramel) Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light (Medium) Full Smooth Rich (Creamy) Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short (Medium) Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 89 **Notes:** Nose is perfume **Name:** Mike

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour 12 YO. 40% ABV
Speyside. Double matured oak and sherry casks. $45.57 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose (undiluted): Cinnamon, toffee, dried dark fruits, vanilla, oak, apple, it smells like Christmas.

Palate (undiluted): Very rich mouthfeel, sherry, buttery toffee, cinnamon, vanilla, raisins, nutmeg, brown sugar, cherry notes, very moreish

Finish: Medium length, sweet vanilla, toffee, a little spicy nutmeg with hints of chocolate cherries

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny Gold Bronze Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

VANILLA

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 91 **Notes:**_____ **Name:** David

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour a' Bunadh NAS 60% ABV Batch 60
Speyside. Aged in Oloroso Sherry Butt Cask. $83.72 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose: Deeply raisiny, with more rancio and balsamic than prior batches. STRONG nose tickle – need to keep nose out of the glass. Smells drier – less fresh/vibrant fruit and more oakiness and dried fruit. Deep in the glass – if you dare – there is a layer of unctuous gooey caramel and fudge brownie.
Palate: Syrupy body. Salted caramel, and... OH GOD IT BURNS. Ok... once that's out of the way, the seared remnants of my tongue pick up deep sugary oak (maple syrup but not maple), dusty dried prunes and raisins, faint fig jam, sawdust, and birch beer.
Finish: A layer of sooty charcoal that resolves into mouth-drying tannins, cocoa nibs, and an odd absence of fruit. Further sips confirm – lots of chocolate and oak, no fruit. Weird.
With Water: Several drops of water amps up the nose tickle, but also sweetens the aroma, adding fudgy frosting and a touch more fruit. It still burns like fire on the tongue, but the few fruit notes are brighter – more jelly than jam. The finish picks up a nice apple/cinnamon note and isn't quite as dry. This batch benefits immensely from water. At this ABV you could probably use splashes instead of drops, but taste as you go.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze Amber (Mahogany)

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet (Smoky) Pungent Peat
(Vanilla)

Palate: Woody Zesty (Vanilla) Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut (Nutty) Sherry Sweet (Smoky) Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium (Full) Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium (Long) Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 (2.5) 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 87 **Notes:**_____ **Name:** Dan Wade

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour 12 YO. 40% ABV
Speyside. Double matured oak and sherry casks. $45.57 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose (undiluted): Cinnamon, toffee, dried dark fruits, vanilla, oak, apple, it smells like Christmas.

Palate (undiluted): Very rich mouthfeel, sherry, buttery toffee, cinnamon, vanilla, raisins, nutmeg, brown sugar, cherry notes, very moreish

Finish: Medium length, sweet vanilla, toffee, a little spicy nutmeg with hints of chocolate cherries

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow (Gold) Greeny Gold Bronze Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass (Honey) Coconut Malty Oak (Nutty) Molasses Sherry (Sweet) Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty (Vanilla) Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry (Sweet) Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full (Smooth) Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium (Long) Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 (2) 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 89 **Notes:** Good Value For Taste **Name:** Ian Wilson

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.

Aberlour a' Bunadh NAS 60% ABV Batch 60
Speyside. Aged in Oloroso Sherry Butt Cask. $83.72 + tax
May 19, 2018

Nose: Deeply raisiny, with more rancio and balsamic than prior batches. STRONG nose tickle – need to keep nose out of the glass. Smells drier – less fresh/vibrant fruit and more oakiness and dried fruit. Deep in the glass – if you dare – there is a layer of unctuous gooey caramel and fudge brownie.
Palate: Syrupy body. Salted caramel, and... OH GOD IT BURNS. Ok... once that's out of the way, the seared remnants of my tongue pick up deep sugary oak (maple syrup but not maple), dusty dried prunes and raisins, faint fig jam, sawdust, and birch beer.
Finish: A layer of sooty charcoal that resolves into mouth-drying tannins, cocoa nibs, and an odd absence of fruit. Further sips confirm – lots of chocolate and oak, no fruit. Weird.
With Water: Several drops of water amps up the nose tickle, but also sweetens the aroma, adding fudgy frosting and a touch more fruit. It still burns like fire on the tongue, but the few fruit notes are brighter – more jelly than jam. The finish picks up a nice apple/cinnamon note and isn't quite as dry. This batch benefits immensely from water. At this ABV you could probably use splashes instead of drops, but taste as you go.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold (Bronze) Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty (Oak) Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet (Smoky) Pungent Peat

Palate: (Woody) Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced

Chocolate Floral Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy

(Alive) Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy (Textured) Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling (Robust) Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 (1.5) 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 90 **Notes:** GREAT FLAVOR WHEN ADDING WATER **Name:** Tony Winson

Rating Scheme
95-100
A classic! All components are balanced appropriately, with the complexity and character expected in a classic.
90-94
Outstanding! One of the best for its style. Distinctive.
80-89
Good to very good. Plenty of character and no identifiable flaws. Worth seeking out.
70-79
Average. No unique qualities. Flaws possible.