

Ardbeg Uigeadail, Distillery Bottled

£66.99

Vintage:

Bottle Size: 70cl

Alcohol %: 54.2%

Country: Scotland

Description: Multifaceted, notes of peat and little flourishes of dark sugar, freshly ground espresso beans, cereal notes and a most sophisticated tar. Lead by sweet, ripe fruit and black forest honey. A good helping of malt. The throne then usurped by a powerful peat and smoked barley. Very long, caramel and malt weave their way through peat smoke and dark sugar and just a hint of fresh espresso coffee before it finally peters out.

Cepages:

Group: Scotch Whisky

Sub group: Islay

Colour: Single Malt Whisky

Closure: Cork

Producer:

Website:

Organic/Bio Status:

Food / cocktail match:

Food / cocktail recipe:

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Other Info: Uigeadail derives from the Scotch Gaelic for 'Dark and Mysterious Place' and is named for the Loch from whence Ardbeg draws its waters. Ardbeg lies solitary in a small cove off the south coast of Islay. It was once a stage for illegal distillation when smugglers took advantage of the remote location and exceptional conditions for whisky production.



Eventually, excise men seized the original, illegitimate buildings from the smugglers and destroyed them. It was not until 1815 that a legal distillery was established and founded by John McDougall. Sitting nearby leviathan distilleries; Laphroaig and Lagavulin, Ardbeg has always produced a very sought-after single malt, despite its production scale being less than half that of its neighbours. After running into some financial difficulties the distillery closed in 1981 and it was not until 1989 that distillation resumed, although on a very small scale. After closing again in 1996 then owners, Allied Domecq, put the distillery up for sale. It was bought in 1997 by Glenmorangie Co and was, at last, restored to its former grandeur. Its chief watersource, Loch Uigeadail, or dark and mysterious place in Gaelic, became the inspiration for a bottling launched in 2003 under the same name. Ardbeg Uigeadail was later Jim Murray's 2009 World Whisky of the Year, a title held previously by Ardbeg's ten year-old. Ardbeg has become known for its rich, peated whiskies, very easily identifiable by their fullness of body and perfect harmony of flavour.

The official date that Ardbeg was established was in 1815 by the MacDougall family, however it is believed illicit distilling took place on the premises some 20 years before. The Distillery fell silent in 1981 due to a global whisky downturn as well as poor management. However, production resumed in 1989, only to fall silent again until the distillery was bought by Glenmorangie plc in 1997. Since then, Ardbeg has become world renowned for its unique style. Today the distillery has an excellent tour, restaurant as well as a global following collecting anything this magnificent Distillery produces. Initially, only a 17 year old was released from old stock with the new packaging. After the huge success of this release, many new bottelings followed with equal success. At the heart of the range, the 10 year old, with its fruity and peaty style. However, due to popularity some of the earlier releases have been dubbed classics, commanding prices far exceeding their initial list price. Those most noteworthy are the bottleings prior to 1977, when the distillery still did its own floor malting. www.thewhiskyexchange.com