

CASK STRENGTH

FROM IMPERIAL DISTILLERY 1997 62.7%

As the name suggests, this is a range of high strength single malt whiskies from distilleries across Scotland. Bottled at natural cask strength and colour directly from oak casks without chill filtering, the highly individual label on each bottle indicates the cask number and the bottling date, along with the distillation year and strength.

Built by Thomas MacKenzie, it coincided with Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee which was no doubt an influencing factor when naming the distillery. With a shaky start and history, Imperial Distillery started production in the summer of 1898 only to close a year later for over 20 years. Production did recommence in 1919 but, again, for only six years. The construction of Imperial differs from other Speyside distilleries as it was built of red Aberdeen brick with an iron beam and pillar framework to make it fire resistant.

Imperial closed during the 1980's. It was purchased in 1989 by Allied Distillers who, reopened the distillery in 1991. It was mothballed in 1998.

INFORMATION

Region: Speyside.
Carron.
Founded: 1897.
Water Source: Ballintomb Burn.
Owner: Chivas Brothers.
Status: Mothballed.



TASTING NOTE

Colour: Pale gold.

WITHOUT WATER:

Nose: Fresh and delicate. A pronounced toasted malt nose develops and some fresh ginger lingers.

Palate: Mouth warming with a rounded sweetness. A subtle mulled fruits influence develops. Very smooth and creamy.

WITH WATER:

Nose: Fresh and fragrant with hints of fresh orange peel and citrus fruits. A gooseberry note comes to the fore.

Palate: An initial hit of aniseed. A delicate peppery edge develops and a sweetness is also present.

Body: Medium.

Finish: Long and warming.

Cask Type(s): First fill Sherry butts.

Whisky Style: Complex and warming cask strength dram.



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