

Glengrant – The Major’s Reserve



When I think of single malt whisky, my first thought tends to the highlands, and never to Mexico. But on a past vacation in Mexico, Joan and I were in a wine shop looking for a specific Mexican wine when I discovered a new single malt that I hadn't heard of previously. Glengrant, The Major's Reserve was distilled in Rothes, Speyside, Scotland. And the price point appealed to the Scot in me.

I didn't open the bottle while in Mexico but I did open the box. What struck me was the colour of the whisky. It was not the traditional golden caramel colour I'm used to seeing, but instead was a pale yellow. I thought to myself, this looks like a very thin whisky, but would reserve judgement until I had tried it first-hand.

When I got home, I poured a dram into my glen cairn. I held it up to my nose. The initial bouquet was smoky with a medicinal hint to it. It was not what I expected to smell, but I persevered.

I took my first sip, and it was subtle, a slight peaty taste, but the finish was truly amazing. The box describes the taste as "The superb Single Malt offers a fresh and vanilla palate with a slightly dry and hazelnut finish". It had a definite taste of vanilla, but the hazelnut was lost on me, which is ok, because I am not a fan of hazelnut.

Overall, the visual impact was less than I was expecting, the nose was interesting, but the finish was subtle and silky, and worth the wait.

I can honestly recommend this whisky, and sometimes it's fun to gamble on the unknown, particularly when it pays off.

Doug Doughty, Standard Bearer & Commissioner, Central Canada