

Macallan Gold



Ah, the whisky of choice of James Bond. Need we say more? Well, yes, otherwise this would be a very short post.

When driving through Speyside one year we realized that we'd be near Macallan and definitely had to stop in for a visit. Don't listen to your GPS as it'll get you close but that's about it. When we finally found it we were blown away by the beauty of the estate. By the car park is a pasture with adorable Highland Coos (cows), which I love. They just seem to embody the highlands with their shaggy coats and rugged appearance.

As we were walking to the visitor centre, we happened to notice the approach of a coach tour. With some trepidation we entered and spent a few minutes meandering about before the doors opened and a deluge of tourists enveloped us. Okay, I know, we're tourists too but we enjoy a quieter experience. One of the Macallan staff was sharing samples with everyone and asked how we were enjoying our visit to Macallan. We tactfully indicated our arrival was poorly timed. She smiled and said "Why don't you go visit our coos for a while and then come back? There's baby coos!". So we did! Upon the coach's departure we returned and were kindly rewarded for our patience with some of their higher end drams. They have a lovely gift shop that expands beyond glassware and whisky.

Currently in the cabinet is a bottle of Macallan Gold. This is a new way of marketing the whisky which I don't really understand so won't try to explain. This bottle was a gift at our 'meet the house' party in 2014 and has been enjoyed immensely. The nose has citrus notes. It is very clean and refreshing on the palate with a spice note. Always enjoyable!

The Macallan Tasting Notes

Nose: Lemon citrus, then orange peel and an interlacing sweetness that softens but doesn't eliminate the zest. A quiet note of vanilla is followed by dark chocolate with lingering floral and light oak notes.

Palate: Citrus and boiled sweets rule the palate, along with hints of ginger and cinnamon, while soft oak tones reveal toasted apples.

Finish: Medium sweet, malty and slightly dry.