### www.scot-talks.com

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# Object of the Newsletter

To promote the appreciation of fine Whisky, the area from which it comes, the people that inhabit the land and it's history. By the way, I do not profess to be an expert, I am merely expressing an opinion on the whiskies I am tasting.

Happy St. Patrick's day to one and all. I now look at the Jameson blended Irish whiskey, which I tasted at......hold on, where haven't I tasted it, this ubiquitous whiskey can be found wherever there are people drinking alcohol and telling tall tales.

Jameson whiskey is produced at the Midleton distillery, midleton county Cork and is owned by Pernod Ricard.

It is my generally held belief that the third distillation that is common in Irish whiskies, removes around 25% of the flavor from the finished product. So they are not (generally) as complex or deeply flavored as a Scotch whisky, they are however (in my opinion), very smooth and easy to drink.

That holds true for most Irish single malts and pretty much all of their blends, again, that is my opinion. I'm not saying that Irish whiskey is inferior or superior to Scotch or any other whisk(e)y from around the world, just a wee bit different.

Most importantly, would I buy it? Yes I would, in fact I have some in the house right now, but it is mainly used for Irish coffee, as I lean towards Single malts, both Irish and Scottish when drinking a "sippin" whisk(e)y.

You can buy the Jameson for around \$30.00 a bottle.

### **Tasting Notes**

Nose - Floral & spicy

Palate - Spicy, sweet apple & nuts

Finish - Smooth with honey

"Slainte Mhath" Paul Bissett



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### 9 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT JAMESON



When it comes to <u>Irish Whiskey</u>, Jameson is by far the biggest brand. It's a beloved brand that's been <u>growing like crazy over the past decade</u>, backed up by <u>a clever ad campaign</u>. Those ads — purposefully at times — stretch the truth, turning myths into facts. Whatever you may have heard, here are nine things you probably didn't know about Jameson.

#### JAMESON IS THE WORLD'S #1 IRISH WHISKEY

Jameson is the best selling Irish Whiskey in the world, ranking 41st among all liquors in 2014. In fact, it's the only Irish Whiskey in the top 100.

#### JOHN JAMESON WAS SCOTTISH

John Jameson, the distillery's namesake, was actually a Scottish lawyer. He was born in <u>Alloa</u> in 1740. His wife, Margaret Haig (whose brothers were in the Scottish Whiskey business), had family — the Steins — who owned the Bow Street Distillery in Dublin.

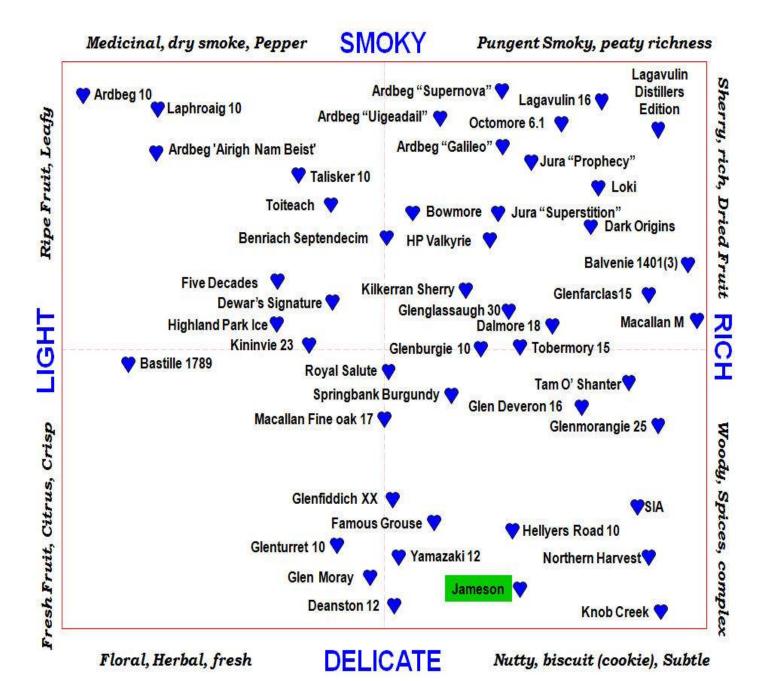
#### THE FAMILY MOTTO, "SINE METU" MEANS WITHOUT FEAR

The Jameson family coat of arms, seen on the brand's labels, included the motto "Sine Metu," which means "without fear." The family was granted the coat of arms in honor of their pursuit of pirates along the Scottish coast in the seventeen century.

#### JOHN JAMESON'S IN-LAWS' FAMILY FOUNDED "HIS" DISTILLERY

The 1780 seen on Jameson bottles refers to the year the Bow Street Distillery was originally founded, by John Stein. John Jameson was brought on as the General Manger of the distillery, though he didn't actually take full ownership until 1805.

Below is a simple guide to help you choose your Whisky, and the flavor notes you should expect from it. Being Scottish I recommend you find a likely candidate and try it in a bar before buying the whole bottle. This Issue; Jameson Irish whiskey. For more information go to; www.jamesonwhiskey.com





### 9 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT JAMESON CONT.

#### IN THE 1970S ONE COMPANY PRODUCED ALL THE WHISKEY IN IRELAND

Irish Distillers, formed by a merger of John Power & Son, John Jameson & Son and the Cork Distillery Company in 1966 — and later Bushmills — was for over a decade the sole producer of whiskey in all of Ireland.

#### JOHN JAMESON & SON DIDN'T SELL WHISKEY BY THE BOTTLE UNTIL 1968

The distillery did not sell Jameson in bottles until 1968. For nearly two centuries the whiskey had been sold exclusively by the cask to bonders.

#### JAMESON HASN'T BEEN DISTILLED IN DUBLIN SINCE THE 1970S

Since the 1970s, Jameson has been distilled in Cork, at a distillery built by Irish Distillers for all of their brands.

#### JAMESON IS OWNED BY A FRENCH LIQUOR COMPANY

Pernod Ricard, one of the largest liquor companies in the world, and based in France, acquired the Jameson brand when it purchased Irish Distillers in 1988.

#### 90% OF JAMESON'S PRODUCTION IS EXPORTED

When Pernod Ricard purchased Jameson, only half of its whiskey left the country, and about half a million cases were produced annually. Today 90% of the 4.7 million cases of Jameson produced are exported around the world.

https://vinepair.com/wine-blog/9-things-you-didnt-know-about-jameson

I don't know how much truth there is in the rumor, that the singer "Pink", and her husband like Jameson whisky so much they christened their son Jameson, after the whisky?



## **Irish Whiskey**

Though sharing a common Celtic heritage in the art of whiskey (note the Irish spelling) making, pronounced differences in taste and style distinguish Irish Whiskeys from their Scottish counterparts. We''ll never know who invented the "water of life" but what is known is that Ireland and Scotland each developed their own interpretations of the art of distilling long before the first Roman ever trod on British soil.

Irish whiskey differs from Scotch whisky from its very inception the malting stage. The barley used for Scotch whisky is dried over open peat fires (not always). The process allows the smoke to penetrate the barley malt and gives Scotch its distinctive smoky flavor.

The malt in Irish whiskey is dried in sealed ovens, keeping only the pure malt flavor. Irish whiskey is then distilled three times (as opposed to twice for Scottish whisky, generally speaking), which further adds to the smoothness of its taste.

To be called Irish, the whiskey has to be distilled from native grains in Ireland and stored in wooden casks for at least three years. Distillers avoid using new oak casks because they believe the wood imparts a rough taste to the whiskey. Instead, many distillers select used barrels that once held the contents of another type of liquor, such as bourbon or rum. This practice accounts for subtle differences in whiskies that may originate from the same distillery.

The rise of Irish whiskey occurred during the 16th century. Elizabeth I was said to be very fond of it, although she never took the opportunity to turn a profit on it. In fact it wasn't until Christmas Day 1661 that a tax was first levied on the brew and by 1815, this tithe had increased to a crippling six shillings per gallon of whiskey.

Ironically, this was also the zenith of Irish whiskey making with over 2000 stills believed to be in existence at the time. Many of these, however, produced "Poitien" or poteen as it was known; just as fiery as the Irish spirit itself, but illegal, since no tax was paid to the crown.

What led to the decline of Irish whiskey making? Like its true origins, this, too, is a mystery. The economic policies of the new independent republic, the unhappy history of civil unrest, and social complacency have resulted in the survival of only three active distilleries in Ireland with three others open only as museums. However, the industry is growing again with more distilleries projected to open soon.

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