

The Private Collection Range

From their vast stocks of rare and fine malt scotch whiskies, the Private Collection range is individually selected by the Directors for their unique character and quality.

CAOL ILA VINTAGE RUM FINISH 1990 45%

Region: Islay.

Port Askaig.

Founded: 1846.

Water Source: Loch nam Ban.

Owner: Diageo.

Status: Operational.

Notes: One of the most popular malts in the Connoisseur's Choice range is Caol Ila, enjoyed for its Islay character, distinctive spiciness and surprising drinkability. It is a lively whisky, peaty and full in flavour, without being as intense as its more famous counterparts.

Its availability is limited, and with a name that is difficult to pronounce, Caol Ila has remained an almost secret Islay malt. The name - pronounced 'cull-eela' is gaelic for 'Sound of Islay'. The distillery is appropriately hidden in a cove near Port Askaig, overlooking the Sound of Islay, across which the ferry chugs to the nearby island of Jura.

TASTING NOTE

Colour: Pale yellow.

Undiluted

Nose: Rum notes to the fore with burnt toffee, vanilla and hints of new rubber. Followed by the Caol Ila character - kippers and cigar ash.

Palate: Sweet, phenolic with birchwood and tar-like flavours. A surge of salty, briny flavours.

With Water

Nose: The rum character remains with sweet, oily notes. Hints of TCP.

Palate: Phenolic - medicinal with salty - driftwood flavours. Slightly ashy.

Body: Soft for an Islay whisky.

Finish: Ashy.

Cask Type: Refill Sherry Casks followed by 6 years in a Vintage Rum Butt.

Whisky Style: Rum elements on the nose with the Caol Ila dominating the palate.

