

WHISKY:EDITION

Whisky reviews. Since 2022.



Blair Athol 11 Years (2009/2021) - The Old Friends

Scotch Universe is a German independent bottler based in Dülmen. In collaboration with their office in Glasgow, they offer special releases under various brands. The "The Old Friends" series showcases single cask bottlings at cask strength - unfiltered and with no added coloring. The marketing approach revolves around presenting these exceptional malts as gifts for old friends. Today, we have a Blair Athol in the glass, matured for 11 years in a red wine barrique cask.

TYPE	COUNTRY	REGION	DISTILLERY
Single Malt	Scotland	Highlands	Blair Athol
BOTTLER	AGE	ABV	PRICE/LITER
Scotch Universe	11 Years	54% Vol.	107.00 €/l

TASTING NOTES

NOSE

Right from the start, this malt reveals itself as exceptionally robust. Intense notes of red fruits like plums and dark grapes take the center stage. Light walnut aromas and subtly charred notes accompany them. Fresh roasted malt, complemented by a discreet leather note and a touch of pepper, round out the flavor profile.

PALATE

The mouthfeel is immediately extremely oily, caressing the palate intensely. As expected, the taste is powerful but less sweet than the nose might suggest. Dried red fruits, a distinctive leather-tobacco note, and pronounced wine aromas characterize this malt. The whole experience is enveloped by intense tannins.

FINISH

The finish is medium to long, displaying pronounced oaky spiciness. Reminiscent of mixed peppers, a slight bitterness from the tannins continues to shine.

THOUGHTS

MARCEL

This Blair Athol 11 Year matured in a Bordeaux cask is like a warming friend on cold days – powerful, robust, and full of character. A dram that's a joy to drink, truly convincing with its intense fruit notes and smoky leather, even if it occasionally leans a bit too heavily on the tannins.

SASCHA

A well-structured single cask with a clear balance between intense fruit aromas and spicy oak notes. The 54% cask strength supports the oily texture, yet the pronounced tannins and slight bitterness in the finish demand attention and might be polarizing for some palates.

RATINGS

MARCEL
79/100
Very good

SASCHA
80/100
Excellent

VALUE FOR MONEY
4/5
Good

