

## Balblair



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- BALBLAIR: Built in 1872, more readily available today than in recent years.



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- Background: sits high on the slope of a hill; now operated by Inver House Dist.; there is evidence that distilling has taken place in this area since the early 1700s; there has been formal fermenting on this site since 1749.



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- A. Location: quarter mile from the Dornach Firth; 6 miles from Tain on the A9, near village of Edderton. A nearby burn supplies the water.



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- B. History:
- A North Highland Distillery.
  1. Claims it is the 2nd oldest distillery in Scotland.
  2. There has been a distillery in this area since the early 1700s.
  3. Present buildings, which we toured, date to 1870 with much of the equipment dating to the turn of the 20th century.



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- 4. 3 stills; area is know for its local peat; old days was a smuggling haven and was known as the "Parish of the Peat", which is said to account for its distinctive "spicy" character



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### ▪ THE SCOTCH COLOR

- 16 year old
- Pale amber, with gold highlights
- 31 year old
- clear honey, some gold highlights



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### ▪ Nose:

- 16 YO full bodied, rich, malty, med.-sweet, hint of green peatiness, notes of Floral hedgerow(?!)
- 31 YO Barley, malt-sweetiness, hint of vanilla, sweetish



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### ▪ Palate:

- **16 YO** Smooth, a little "saltiness", hint of chocolate shortbread, firm, textured
- **31 YO** Dry, and fruity; slightly oakey, rich full, sweetish, some suggestions of sherry.



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### ▪ Finish:

- 16 YO Toffee, apples, certain dryness, med-long
- 31 YO — very long, smooth, some "woodiness", rich



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