



WHISKY CAPITALS



The Ultimate Guide

A Discerning Journey Through the World of Whisky : Exclusive Destinations for the Connoisseur

Embark on an unparalleled adventure through the world's most prestigious whisky regions where tradition, craftsmanship and innovation come together to create the finest spirits. From the rolling hills of Scotland's Highlands to the emerging whisky landscapes of Japan and the USA, this exclusive guide offers discerning travelers the chance to explore iconic distilleries, discover hidden gems and indulge in private tastings of rare and exceptional whiskies. Tailored for those with a deep appreciation for luxury, heritage and the art of distillation, each destination provides immersive experiences that celebrate the rich history and culture behind the world's most distinguished whiskies. Prepare to elevate your palate and enjoy a truly unforgettable journey.

1. Speyside, Scotland



- **Top Whisky Varieties:** Single malt Scotch whisky, known for its smooth, sweet, and elegant character.
- **Notable Whisky Types:** The Glenlivet, Macallan, Glenfiddich.
- **Notable Distilleries:** Macallan Distillery, Glenfiddich Distillery, The Glenlivet Distillery.
- **Associations & Organizations:** The Scotch Whisky Association.

- **Tourism & Whisky Experiences:** Speyside Whisky Trail, private distillery tours with tastings, exclusive luxury stays at historic estates. Enjoy gourmet whisky-paired dinners and private masterclasses.
- **Where to stay**



The Dowans Hotel – Speyside, United Kingdom

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2. Islay, Scotland



- **Top Whisky Varieties:** Peaty, smoky single malt Scotch whisky.
- **Notable Whisky Types:** Laphroaig, Lagavulin, Ardbeg.
- **Notable Distilleries:** Ardbeg, Lagavulin, Bowmore, Bruichladdich.
- **Associations & Organizations:** Islay Whisky Festival (Feis Ile), Scotch Whisky Experience.
- **Tourism & Whisky Experiences:** Guided distillery tours, private tastings of rare releases, luxury stays, VIP access to the Islay Whisky Festival and helicopter tours between distilleries.
- **Where to stay**



Port Charlotte Hotel - Isle of Islay, United Kingdom

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3. Kentucky, USA (Bourbon Trail)



- **Top Whisky Varieties:** Bourbon.
- **Notable Whisky Types:** Maker's Mark, Woodford Reserve, Buffalo Trace.

- **Notable Distilleries:** Maker's Mark Distillery, Woodford Reserve Distillery, Jim Beam Distillery.
- **Associations & Organizations:** Kentucky Distillers' Association.
- **Tourism & Whisky Experiences:** VIP access to the Kentucky Bourbon Trail, private barrel tastings, luxury stays at bourbon-themed hotels and culinary experiences pairing bourbon with Southern cuisine.
- **Where to stay**



21c Museum Hotel - Louisville, United States

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4. Highlands, Scotland



- **Top Whisky Varieties:** Complex single malt Scotch whisky, often characterized by a mix of fruity and peaty notes.
- **Notable Whisky Types:** Glenmorangie, Dalmore, GlenDronach.
- **Notable Distilleries:** Glenmorangie, Dalmore, GlenDronach Distillery.
- **Associations & Organizations:** Scotch Whisky Association.
- **Tourism & Whisky Experiences:** Private helicopter tours over the Highlands, personalized whisky tastings, and exclusive stays at luxury lodges. Explore Scotland's rugged landscapes while enjoying private distillery tours and pairing whisky with fine local cuisine.
- **Where to stay**



Newhall Mains – Resolis, Highlands, United Kingdom

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5. Islands, Scotland (Skye, Orkney, Jura)



- **Top Whisky Varieties:** Island Scotch whisky, often combining maritime influences with peat and smoke.
- **Notable Whisky Types:** Talisker, Highland Park, Jura.
- **Notable Distilleries:** Talisker Distillery, Highland Park, Jura Distillery.
- **Associations & Organizations:** The Scotch Whisky Experience.
- **Tourism & Whisky Experiences:** Exclusive whisky tastings with master distillers, staying at luxury island resorts and private yacht tours between the distilleries of Skye, Orkney and Jura. Experience the rugged beauty of the islands while sipping world-class whiskies.
- **Where to stay**



Monkstadt No 10 The Horse Walk – Isle of Skye, United Kingdom

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6. Tennessee, USA



- **Top Whisky Varieties:** Tennessee whiskey, distinct due to the Lincoln County Process, where the whisky is filtered through charcoal.
- **Notable Whisky Types:** Jack Daniel's, George Dickel.
- **Notable Distilleries:** Jack Daniel's Distillery, George Dickel Distillery.
- **Associations & Organizations:** Tennessee Distillers Guild.
- **Tourism & Whisky Experiences:** VIP distillery tours with behind-the-scenes access, private tastings of rare releases and luxury stays in Nashville at boutique hotels with curated whisky menus. Enjoy exclusive whisky events and explore the deep Southern culture alongside Tennessee whisky.
- **Where to stay**



The Hermitage Hotel - Nashville, Tennessee, United States

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7. Tokyo & Kyoto, Japan



- **Top Whisky Varieties:** Japanese whisky, known for its elegance, precision and unique flavor profiles, often compared to Scotch whisky.
- **Notable Whisky Types:** Hibiki, Yamazaki, Nikka.
- **Notable Distilleries:** Yamazaki Distillery, Hakushu Distillery, Nikka Whisky Distilling.
- **Associations & Organizations:** Japan Whisky Research Centre.
- **Tourism & Whisky Experiences:** Private tours of historic Japanese distilleries, whisky blending workshops and luxury stays. Travelers can also enjoy exclusive whisky-paired kaiseki dinners and masterclasses with Japanese whisky experts.
- **Where to stay**



The Tokyo EDITION, Ginza – Tokyo, Japan

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Six Senses Kyoto - Higashiyama Ward, Japan

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8. Cognac, France



- **Top Whisky Varieties:** While primarily known for Cognac, the region has begun experimenting with whisky production, blending French craftsmanship with whisky-making traditions.
- **Notable Whisky Types:** French single malts.
- **Notable Distilleries:** Brenne Whisky, Rozelieures Distillery.
- **Associations & Organizations:** French Whisky Federation.
- **Tourism & Whisky Experiences:** Private distillery tours combining Cognac and whisky production, luxury stays and helicopter tours over the Cognac vineyards. Enjoy tastings with cellar masters and learn about the intricate craftsmanship behind both Cognac and whisky.
- **Where to stay**



Hôtel Chais Monnet & Spa - Cognac, France

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9. Dublin, Ireland



- **Top Whisky Varieties:** Irish whiskey, known for its smoothness and triple-distillation process.
- **Notable Whisky Types:** Jameson, Redbreast, Green Spot.
- **Notable Distilleries:** Jameson Distillery, Teeling Distillery, Pearse Lyons Distillery.
- **Associations & Organizations:** Irish Whiskey Association.
- **Tourism & Whisky Experiences:** VIP tours of historic distilleries, private tastings of limited-edition releases, and stays at luxury hotels. Pair Irish whiskey tastings with gourmet experiences and exclusive whiskey-paired dinners.
- **Where to stay**



Carton House, A Fairmont Managed Hotel - Dublin, Ireland

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10. Cork, Ireland (Midleton)



- **Top Whisky Varieties:** Single pot still Irish whiskey.
- **Notable Whisky Types:** Redbreast, Green Spot, Powers.
- **Notable Distilleries:** Midleton Distillery.
- **Associations & Organizations:** Irish Distillers.
- **Tourism & Whisky Experiences:** Exclusive tours of the iconic Midleton Distillery, personalized tastings and luxury stays in nearby Cork. Enjoy whiskey-paired meals and explore the scenic Irish countryside while learning about Ireland's whisky heritage.
- **Where to stay**



Hayfield Manor - Cork, Ireland

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11. Tasmania, Australia



- **Top Whisky Varieties:** Tasmanian single malt whisky, gaining international recognition for its quality and craftsmanship.
- **Notable Whisky Types:** Sullivans Cove, Lark Distillery.
- **Notable Distilleries:** Sullivans Cove, Lark Distillery.
- **Associations & Organizations:** Tasmanian Whisky Producers Association.
- **Tourism & Whisky Experiences:** Private tours of Tasmania's premier distilleries, luxury accommodations in Hobart and guided tastings of limited-edition whiskies. Pair the experience with Tasmanian gourmet food and explore the stunning natural landscapes of the region.
- **Where to stay**



MACq 01 Hotel - Hobart, Australia

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