

26th May 2016

Speyburn Toasts the Future as Distillery Renovation Completed

Speyburn, one of Scotland's most picturesque and historic distilleries, is celebrating the completion of a £5 million investment programme which will support demand for its award-winning whiskies around the world and make it one of the greenest producers in the industry.

Situated in a small leafy glen on the edge of Rothes in Speyside, the Speyburn team has taken two years to carefully renovate and expand the Distillery site, combining sustainability and the very latest energy efficient technology with traditional techniques, stonework and craftsmanship.

Production capacity has been doubled from 1.8 million litres to over 4 million litres per year, making Speyburn the largest distillery in the Inver House Distillers group – and allowing the brand to lay down stock for its core markets, expand into new territories and build its portfolio of malt whiskies in the years ahead. The programme has included:

- Expansion only through the sensitive renovation of existing distillery buildings using a blueprint created by Distillery Manager Bobby Anderson, the Distillery team and local tradesmen.
- As well as retaining 4 of the original Douglas Fir washbacks, 15 new stainless steel washbacks have been installed, a 3rd still has been added now giving one large wash and 2 spirit stills
- A new eco-friendly Thermol Vapour Recovery system to regenerate steam and improve efficiency by 20 per cent. Distillery co-products are transferred to the nearby CORDe (formally the Combination of Rothes Distillers) plant to be burned and used to make electricity for the grid
- Use of local contractors including Rothes-based Forsyth's manufacturing all new production
- The investment comes as Speyburn reported significant growth in its core markets in 2015, with volumes rising by 44.5% and sales value by 28%

Speyburn is currently released in two core expressions - Bradan Orach and 10 Years Old – plus the limited edition US exclusive Arranta Casks. It is the only distillery to use the fresh water of the Granty Burn, a tributary of the River Spey famed for its exceptional purity, which runs close to the Distillery site and gives Speyburn whiskies their perfectly-balanced distinctive character and unique flavour.

SPEYBURN

SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY

Speyburn was founded in 1897 by entrepreneur John Hopkins with an ambition to build a distillery and make a single cask of whisky for the Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee that same year. Trusting his instincts that the small, hidden Rothes valley was perfect for the production of fine whisky, he achieved his goal and created one of Speyside's enduring whiskies.

Martin Leonard, Operations Director at Speyburn owner Inver House Distillers paid tribute to the Distillery team as they gathered to celebrate with a dinner and dram on Thursday 26th May. *'Over the past two years we have seen a remarkable transformation of Speyburn Distillery. Our beautiful, very traditional site has been enhanced and developed for the future, very much in the spirit of our founder John Hopkins who made the great use of the natural resources here in Rothes, most importantly the Granty Burn, the natural stone and the compact space. We want to thank Bobby Anderson and the full Distillery team for all their hard work in delivering this ambitious investment and putting so much of their personal vision and skill into the project. We now have a Distillery that will support our growth plans for Speyburn and our environmental objectives and we are proud of that achievement.'*

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