



BRENNEREI AM FEUERGRABEN Achern. Working.

❖ **Salamansar Germanica Single Malt 8 Years Old** double wood vintage Port finish, db **(91,5) n22.5** attractive chocolate fruitcake... with no shortage of burnt raisins; **t23** there appeared to a hidden phenolic note on the nose, and there appears to be a faux one here, also. But the brain is guided principally to the industrial scale salivating properties of the malt itself, aided and abetted by intense cake-like spices; **f23** a little golden syrup with the malt, chocolate and spice...; **b23** on its day, this distillery is capable of excellence. Pretty much on its day here... 45,5 %

❖ **Salamansar Orion Single Malt 6 Years Old** port finish, db **(93) n23.5** incredibly intense fruit: salted gooseberries with a little custard on the side...; **t23.5** the salt on the nose prewarns of sharpness to come. And this malt tells no lies: this is a clean delivery. There is a brief puff of barley which perfectly matches the clean, precision bombing of the taste buds; **f23** a lovely salty, fruity, spicy fade...; **b23** the saltiness on this at times suggests it was finished in a port, rather than Port finished. A very bright, complex and satisfying whisky. 42 %

❖ **Salamansar Single Malt 5 Years Old** 2 years new barrel, 18-month PX barrel, 18 months oloroso barrel, sherry finish, db **(89) n21.5** for five year old malt which has spent a couple of years in virgin oak, this is surprisingly flat; **t22** the sugary incantation of the silky grape has PX stamped all over it. The spicier, lighter raisins, suggests oloroso; **f23** at last the tannins battle through the grapey shield. Much more layering and structure here: an entertaining finale...; **b22.5** can't help getting the feeling that although the PX cask has given this both length and sweetness – and a very yielding body – it has possibly taken away the very best and most complex contribution by the new oak, also. Pleasant, but over graped. 40 %

Score chart

Within the parentheses () is the overall score out of 100.

- 0–50.5** Nothing short of absolutely diabolical.
- 51–64.5** Nasty and well worth avoiding.
- 65–69.5** Very unimpressive indeed.
- 70–74.5** Usually drinkable but don't expect the earth to move.
- 75–79.5** Average, and usually pleasant though sometimes flawed.
- 80–84.5** Good whisky worth trying.
- 85–89.5** Very good to excellent whiskies, definitely worth buying.
- 90–93.5** Brilliant.
- 94–97.5** Superstar whiskies that give us all a reason to live.
- 98–100** Better than anything I've ever tasted!

Key to Abbreviations and Symbols

- ❖ New entry for 2022.
- 🏆 2022 Category Winner.
- v Variant.
- dist Date of distillation or spirit first put into cask.
- bott Date of bottling.
- db Distillery bottling. In other words, an expression brought out by the owners of the distillery.
- n Nose.
- t Taste.
- f Finish.
- b Overall balance and complexity.
- % Strength of whisky measured as alcohol by volume.
- nc Non-coloured.
- ncf Non-chill-filtered.
- sc Single cask.
- ⊙ Retasted, no change.
- ⊙⊙ Retasted and re-evaluated.
- nbc No bottling code.