

Lagavulin 12 year old (Diageo Special Releases 2011)

57.5%

Brought back as an annual limited edition to satisfy the cravings of those who like their peat full-on and never understood why Lagavulin moved to 16 years of age, this is the Kildalton coast single malt at its most boisterous. Aromatically, it blazes a seaweed-strewn, zigzag pathway between sea, shore, and land: bog myrtle and samphire, beach bonfire, sea spray, and melon before, with much-needed water, there's slow-burning Latakia pipe tobacco and Lapsang Souchong tea.

—Vol. 21, #1