

## Best Scotch Whisky: Experts Share the Top 15 Bottles to Buy Now

Looking for an expert opinion on Scotch whisky? We spoke to bartenders, mixologists, and beverage directors to spotlight the cream of the crop.

### 12. Oban Little Bay



"Working in a cigar bar, I've been around a ton of single malts and gotten to try the gambit, but if there's one I tend to lean toward that doesn't break the bank, it's Oban Little Bay," says Jared Kelly, head bartender at [Merchants Cigar Bar](#) in New York, NY.

Oban Little Bay is anything but little in the flavor department. This no-age-statement single malt whisky is tirelessly matured in refill American oak barrels, European oak sherry butts, and refill oak casks. It's then blended together and added to small oak casks resulting in a highly nuanced, memorable expression.

"It's soft and buttery and even has some hints of fruit, but it still holds up with smoke and earth to balance the notes."

[\$115; [obanwhisky.com](#)]

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### 13. The Dalmore Sherry Cask Select



This award-winning single malt whisky is known for its mix of vanilla, dried fruits, and gentle spices thanks to maturation in oak barrels before finishing in European oak casks that were seasoned with oloroso and Pedro Ximenez sherries.

"The sherry casks used at Dalmore's distillery were not seasoned with sherry; instead, they had sherry in them for 30 or more years," says Amir Babayoff, bar director at [Ophelia](#) in New York, NY.

This is truly one for sherry fans: sweet, fruity, and highly memorable. "You get vanilla, almonds, and caramel notes on the palate, finishing with cinnamon and nutmeg."

[\$70; [thedalmore.com](https://thedalmore.com)]

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