

Wilson & Morgan 587 Caol Ila 18YO, Bourbon Matured, 58,3% ABV, 2007-2025, Single Cask, Cask 311592, Cask Strength

This whisky spent the last five years of its maturation in the first fill bourbon hogshead, while the ageing began in a refill hogshead.

A solidly built aroma – no alcohol, but there is a feeling of a compressed spring, some kind of internal energy to open up. Unlike the younger release, here the peat tones prevail from the very beginning, and only behind this smoke screen you can define some oak tones and hints of vanilla.

The body of whisky is of medium density, but in taste, oddly enough if to compare with the aroma, peat is no longer dominant, though it is visibly present with its smoky and tar tones. For some reason, there is a feeling of ageing in a white wine barrique – some minerality and acidity are there. While tasting, you would recall that this is cask strength whisky bottled at 58 degrees – you just do not feel the strength. Another surprise is that the addition of water does not bring anything special, although there were strong expectations, especially based on the aroma profile.

The aftertaste is spicy and warm, decently long, with an absolute predominance of confectionery sweetness, literally the sweetness of sugar. There are also mineral notes. If to make conclusions, I expected a little more in terms of complexity from the 18 years of maturation, but the whisky itself is interesting, with some unexpected "twists" away from the familiar Caol Ila flavor profile. It is also surprising how you can enjoy it at 58%. 86 (21,5+21,5+21,5+21,5)