



# CANTO CASK

*Scotch Malt Whisky, Limited Release Bottlings, Single Cask, Cask Strength*

The Canto Cask Range is a first for Compass Box: a range of 16 single cask, cask-strength Scotch malt whiskies. Each cask held the same malt whisky, but for the last 18 months the whiskies were aged on a range of different new oaks, both French and American, in a variety of different toasts.

## *The Origins of the Canto Cask Project*

Canto Cask is a one-off range of single cask, cask strength malt whiskies. The whiskies are very special because they have all aged the last 18 months (of their 13 years) on new French and American oak of varying degrees of toast. Perhaps the best way to explain what the Canto Cask range is about is to share with you part of a letter I sent to our Compass Box importers around the world in May of 2007.

*“When I started work almost two years ago on what became OAK CROSS, I began laying down many casks of malt whisky into different types of casks, all with different types of new oak. These were casks with new oak heads installed on refill American oak bodies. In all, I created six different types of these hybrid casks, five in French oak of different toast levels, and one of American oak. I chose one of these cask types to use for OAK CROSS, and the others have been aging away, waiting for a role.*

*Now I’ve figured out what I’m going to do with them. I’m going to offer them to you, our global importers, for distribution in your markets—one or two casks per market.*

*This summer we will bottle them as single casks, (at cask strength), as part of a Compass Box series called CANTO. The word canto comes from a Latin word and is the principal form of division of a long poem. I like the idea of each of these single casks being a different element of an overall idea, just as a canto within a poem.*

*The French oak used here is Sessile oak. It is all fine grain and two years air-seasoned (air dried outdoors). This is the highest quality/grade and most expensive French oak you can buy for cooperage purposes.*

*(continued...)*

### Flavour Descriptors

The Canto Cask whiskies are big, very rich, 100% Scotch malt whiskies. They each have a tremendous amount of flavour owing to the combination of malt distillery characters interwoven by the flavours of the new oak.

### Recommendations

We recommend diluting these cask strength whiskies with slightly chilled water, to taste.

### Distillery Sourcing

Malt whiskies from the Highland villages of Brora, Alness and Carron.

### Wood

Primary maturation in a mix of first-fill and refill American oak. Secondary maturation for 18 months on new American or French oak of different toast levels. In all, five different oak-toast combinations are featured in this range.

### Bottling Details

Bottled at natural cask strength (52-55%). Each cask yielded between 200 and 250 bottles. Natural colour. Not chill filtered.



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*(...continued)*

*The French oak heads have been given one of four custom toast levels, each specified to bring out specific flavours, which you will taste in the whisky. The American oak is likewise of the same quality and grade, and is also custom-toasted for us. These whiskies have been aging in these special casks for at least 18 months.*

*As you may be aware, it is rare to use new oak for Scotch whisky. Among those few who do, no one we know of uses oak of the quality grade we use. And certainly no one we know has developed custom toasting like we have. These are special whiskies.*

*Nothing like this series has ever been done before in Scotch whisky. I hope you enjoy taking part!*

John Glaser, Whiskymaker

Canto Cask Range	Country Available	New Oak Type & Toast Level	For Information
Cask 6	UK	French, toast 7	info@compassboxwhisky.com
Cask 10	Denmark	French, toast 4	dhl@qualityworld.dk
Cask 15	Spain	French, toast 8	alexilla@infonegocio.com
Cask 17	Japan, Greece	French, toast 7	info@compassboxwhisky.com
Cask 20	Germany	American, toast 5	gs@prineus.com
Cask 27	South Africa	French, toast 4	eden27@mweb.co.za
Cask 35	Italy	American, toast 5	info@compassboxwhisky.com
Cask 36	Holland	American, toast 5	b.t.wijn@worldonline.nl
Cask 37	New Zealand	French, toast 9	info@compassboxwhisky.com
Cask 46	USA	French, toast 7	info@parkaveliquor.com
Cask 47	France	French, toast 7	www.whisky.fr
Cask 48	Germany	French, toast 8	gs@prineus.com
Cask 50	Denmark	French, toast 6	dhl@qualityworld.dk
Cask 123	France (Fauchon)	French, toast 4	www.fauchon.com
Cask 124	France	American, toast 5	www.whisky.fr
Cask 125	South Africa	French, toast 8	eden27@mweb.co.za