

CHRISTIE'S

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RAREST GLENFIDDICH EVER RELEASED ON OFFER AT CHRISTIE'S LONDON IN JUNE

- The world's oldest single malt whisky at the time of release, aged sixty-four years
- Only sixty-one bottles of spirit remained in the cask when it was bottled in 2001
 - It is unknown how many bottles remain in existence



Glenfiddich Rare Collection 1937 (lot 229)
Bottle no'42 of 61. Distilled 17th July 1937. Bottled 24th October 2001
In original wooden case with key
Estimate: £50,000-70,000

London – Christie's is pleased to announce the extraordinary opportunity to purchase a bottle of the rarest Glenfiddich ever released. Bottle no'42 of 61 from the Glenfiddich Rare Collection, distilled in 1937 and bottled in 2001 is offered from the collection of an Anonymous Private Collector (estimate: £50,000-70,000). The bottle leads Christie's auction of *Fine and Rare Wines Including Rare Spirits*, which will be held in London on 7 June 2012 at 10.30am.

Chris Munro, Head of Wine, Christie's London commented, "We are very excited to be able to offer our clients the opportunity to bid for such a rare whisky in our June auction. The already global collecting base within the whisky market continues to grow, with a great deal of crossover from our established wine buyers, and I've no doubt this bottle will invite a flurry of interest from collectors both old and new."

Glenfiddich Rare Collection 1937

In 1937, cask 843 was filled with spirit from the stills at The Glenfiddich distillery in Dufftown and laid down in a dark, damp dunnage warehouse to mature and develop. It was discovered to be an unusually slow-maturing whisky and over its life ten consecutive warehouse masters patiently watched over cask 843 and frequently nosed and tasted the whisky, noting its development. After 64 years, the longest time a single malt whisky had remained in cask at that time, in October 2001, Glenfiddich's Malt Master David Stewart declared that cask 843 was finally ready to be bottled. Just sixty-one bottles were left in the cask, of which the present example is bottle forty-two. *The world record price for a bottle of whisky sold at auction was achieved when a bottle of Glenfiddich Janet Sheed Roberts Reserve was sold at a charity sale in New York for 94,000 US dollars (£59,335). A unique Lalique crystal decanter, made to celebrate the anniversary of René Lalique's birth and filled with 64-year-old Macallan, holds the highest price for whisky sold at auction, fetching \$460,000 for charity in November 2010.

Producer's Tasting Notes by David Stewart, Malt Master	
Colour:	Rich walnut, dark amber, antique bronze.
Nose:	Huge and complex, robust oak, burnt heather. Poached pears in chocolate toffee, raisins, cinnamon & cloves. A touch of leather and then dark roast coffee.
Taste:	Initial cossetting smoothness, treacle, sweet. Then cedar, oak and drying bitter chocolate notes.
Finish:	Doesn't overstay. Heavy oak and sweet tobacco. Rich fruit cake. Smoky and very warming.

Further Whisky Highlights



The Bowmore Trilogy, 1964
(lot 271)



Glenfiddich Private Reserve, 1955
(lot 248)



The Macallan Select Reserve,
52 year old (lot 240)

Also on offer is *The Bowmore Trilogy*, 1964 (estimate: £12,000-15,000) which comprises a Black, White and Gold bottle, each aged in oak cask, in pristine condition and within a presentation gift box *illustrated above left*. In 1964, the Bowmore distillery began utilizing steampowered stills rather than the original coal-fired units, which enabled more precise temperature control, and resulted in much smoother and more consistent spirits. It is from those stills that this particular trilogy was born, with each of the three colours, Black Bowmore, White Bowmore, and now Gold Bowmore, coming from the same year. In 2007, just 827 bottles were produced of Black Bowmore which had been matured purely in Oloroso casks for an ebony colour that was matched by aromas of exotic fruits, ginger, and cinnamon. White Bowmore followed in 2008 with only 732 bottles produced, and was characterized by maturation in Bourbon casks, and scents of melon, mango, and papaya. In 2009, Gold Bowmore joined the group, with only 701 bottles available worldwide. Gold Bowmore was placed in three Bourbon casks and one Oloroso sherry cask before being meticulously blended together. This precious expression quietly matured below sea level for 44 years in the Number 1 vault, allowing the namesake rich, gold colour to develop, along with a balance of complex aromas and flavours including those of exotic fruits, creamy vanilla, and gentle peat smoke.

Further whisky highlights on offer within the auction include Glenfiddich Private Reserve 1955 (estimate: £8,000-12,000) and The Macallan Select Reserve 52 year old (estimate: £5,000-6,000), *illustrated above centre and right respectively*.

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High resolution images and further information available upon request
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Notes to Editors:

Auction: *Fine and Rare Wines Including Rare Spirits* – 7 June 2012 at 10.30am (sale 5329)

Ecatalogue: Please click [here](#) to view the full catalogue online now

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2011 that totaled £3.6 billion/\$5.7 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's has since conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 450 auctions annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$100 million. Christie's also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War and Contemporary, Impressionist and Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales totaled £502 million / \$808.6m in 2011, an increase of 44% on the previous year.

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