

Glenora Distillery

Novia Scotia, Canada



Glenora's story starts in the early 1800's, when Scottish immigrants flocked to Cape Breton Island off the northern tip of Nova Scotia, a place with a beauty so like the highlands and islands of Scotland that they decided to settle here and make it their permanent home. In fact, the name Nova Scotia literally translates to 'New Scotland.' Being a part of Nova Scotia's heritage means that Cape Breton Island is one of very few places on Earth where Gaelic culture and language thrive. As Scottish descendants, the people who live there passionately keep the dearest aspects of their ancestors' colourful culture alive, not the least of which is the tradition of whisky in the Scottish style.

In the late 1980's, the founder of Glenora Distillery, Bruce Jardine, launched his plan to build his single malt whisky distillery in Glenville. Determined to "get it right", he sought out the expertise of Bowmore Distillers in Scotland; they lent their hand with production training and the sourcing of authentic Scottish copper pot stills and a mash tun for the distillery. After the construction of the distillery in 1990, initial production yielded 20 barrels of the first single malt whisky produced in North America. In 1994, Glenora and its maturing whisky was acquired by its present owners who, like Bruce, are of Scottish ancestry with Cape Breton roots.

The whisky they produce is on par with the great single malts in Scotland. As with all great Scotch, water is an essential ingredient in the production process: Glenora's comes from MacLellan's Brook; the purest and cleanest source of water in Cape Breton. The brook tumbles out of the Mabou Highlands, runs through Glenora Distillery's grounds, and can be found in every whisky they produce. We are pleased to welcome them to our portfolio.

Glen Breton 10 Year ICE

One of their fans suggested they experiment with local winery Jost Vineyards, and request to use one of their oak barrels for aging; Jost Vineyards agreed, and supplied them with a barrel used to make their Ortega Ice Wine, which Glenora decided to use for finishing one of their cask strength whiskies. The spirit picked up trace hints of sweetness and fruit as it aged, and after 4 months they felt the sweetness was just right. A truly unique whisky.

Glen Breton 14 Year

Suggestions of almond, vanilla and oak, with a hint of lightly baked coconut on the nose; smooth and malty with just the slightest touch of sweetness and a dash of orange citrus, this is a light and flavorful dram.

Glen Breton 19 Year

Suggestions of orange, pine, honey, oil, brine, subtle smoke on the nose; notes of pepper, cedar, citrus and hazelnut on the palate. Finishes long and smooth.