

House of Suntory launches limited-edition Hibiki 21-Year-Old whisky

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The House of Suntory, Japanese whisky reveal the long-awaited centennial release of Hibiki 21-Year-Old and a limited-edition bottle design of Hibiki Japanese Harmony that honours the four seasons and is a nod to the past, present, and future. The two limited releases mark the latest centennial whisky offerings from the House of Suntory's anniversary celebration, honouring a century since founder Shinjiro Torii established Japan's very first malt whisky distillery in 1923.

The limited-edition Hibiki 21-Year-Old is a delicate marriage of malt and grain whiskies that are meticulously blended to create an orchestra of flavours and aromas. For this special centennial edition, rare Mizunara oak is placed at the forefront, profoundly influencing the blend while still maintaining Hibiki's character and essence.

"For the limited-edition Hibiki 21-Year-Old, our team took on the challenge of crafting a new blend to celebrate our centennial," says Shinji Fukuyo, Chief Blender of Suntory. "With meticulous precision, we managed to harness the challenging yet rewarding characteristics of Japanese Mizunara oak to accentuate the unique flavour profile for which our Hibiki whiskies are known. This special whisky showcases our continued dedication to craftsmanship at the House of Suntory."

The centennial anniversary label design on the Hibiki 21-Year-Old bottle artfully displays a gradual transition of colours that evoke the sunrise in Japan, a symbol of life, vitality and the ever-flowing passage of time. In Japanese culture, the sun holds deep meaning, as it nurtures the surrounding nature and provides essential energy. It stands as a reminder to appreciate life and embrace the changes that come with each passing moment.

Tender gold in colour, this extraordinary whisky embodies the spirit of *Wa*, or oneness, with enticing aromas. It offers refined and elegant notes of kumquat and jasmine with Japanese incense. The palate is subtly sweet and floral

combined with spiced sandalwood and agarwood. The result is a long and deep finish with undertones of spiced Mizunara wood. Hibiki 21-Year-Old is bottled at 43 percent ABV. It is available globally in select markets.

The House of Suntory's centennial Hibiki Japanese Harmony bottle design brings the art of *Monozukuri* craftsmanship to life—it's this same relentless pursuit for quality, ingenuity, and expressiveness that has inspired the design of each of the house's centennial limited editions. The Hibiki Japanese Harmony centennial edition packaging features motifs of snow, moon and flowers representing Japan's changing seasons. The 'Kakehashi' (bridge) depicted on the bottle links Japan and the world to the past, present and future. The water flowing underneath is pure and clear, symbolising the cleansing of hardships and calamity. The 'Kakehashi' symbolises the emotional connection of the Japanese people to their country's unique seasonality and its significance in everyday life, fostering an appreciation for time that deeply resonates and inspires Hibiki.

Amber in colour, this luminous and delicate whisky presents notes of rose, lychee, a hint of rosemary, mature woodiness and sandalwood on the nose. On the palate, it offers aromas of honey-like sweetness, candied orange peel and white chocolate. The finish is both subtle and tender with a hint of Mizunara. Hibiki Japanese Harmony is bottled at 43 percent ABV. It is available globally in select markets. Earlier this year, the House unveiled its centennial edition of Yamazaki 18-year-old Mizunara and Hakushu 18-year-old Peated Malt whiskies. Limited 100th anniversary labels of the flagship Yamazaki 12-Year-Old and Hakushu 12-Year-Old were also released for the centennial. All four are available in select markets around the world