

»..... DRINKS MENU .....«  
♦ VOL. 1 ♦



## Welcome,



“By definition, you have to live until you die. Better to make that life as complete and enjoyable an experience as possible, in case death is shite, which I suspect it will be.”

**Irvine Welsh**

The story of Nauticus began with Kyle and Iain, chatting over drinks about creating a bar to champion Scottish produce wherever possible. They dug deep - spending many days researching and thinking about every element. It soon became apparent that this had not been done before - this was brand new territory! Our priority here is produce made in Scotland or owned by a Scottish company; where this wasn't feasible, Scottish heritage somewhere down the line was paramount. 18 months later, the dream is a reality and we're proud to say that 90% of our products are Scottish, or have Scottish links.

Our name Nauticus is latin for Nautical. We decided on this name due to Leith's historical ties with shipping and Global trade. Leith has an extremely rich and interesting history; we hope that you enjoy reading through the menu, and that you find it as fascinating as we did when researching it.

Each of our chapters relate to a period of time in and around Leith; from tea and spice routes, the gin craze, sherry trade and the key role that Leith played in the whisky boom.

**Thanks for visiting.**

**Kyle & Iain.**



1128

David I was gifted what's now known as North Leith. South Leith was granted to a Norman Knight.

1182

The first mention of Leith trading overseas.

1295

The 'Auld Alliance' was formed between Scotland and France.

1380

Robert II granted a 'Prime Gilt' duty tax. This benefitted the sick, poor & widows of mariners, as well as retired mariners.

1398

Sir Robert Logan who owned the Shore, sold his feudal rights to Edinburgh.

1434

The King's Wark was built on the orders of James I.



Mary Sr was in charge of Scotland and mother to Mary Queen of Scots AKA Mary Jr who was married to the French heir to the throne. A bit of a row erupted between Scottish Catholics and Protestants so the French came to support Mary and her Catholics, whilst the English joined forces with the Scottish Protestants. The English besieged Leith for 12 whole years. In 1560, Mary fell ill and passed away at Edinburgh Castle. At this point the French gave up and headed home - basically ending the 'Auld Alliance'.



1560 was a sad year for Mary Jr, she lost both her husband of only 2 years, as well as her mum. By 1561 she had returned onto the shores of Leith from her long holiday in France. She stayed in Lamb's house which was pretty much an Airbnb of its time. She proceeded to marry for a second time in 1565 to Lord Darnley, they were married for two years before he passed away in mysterious circumstances. Finally she married for a 3rd time to the Earl of Bothwell; they both spent most of their marriage in separate prisons. That's love for you.

1600

The Musselburgh races were held in Leith until 1816

1620s

Leith had become the main industrial port of Scotland.

1680

Anchor Soapworks was established on Water Street.

1686

Robert Mylne constructed a new harbour and windmill by The Shore.

1690

Fire destroyed The King's Wark. The present building was erected and given the same name.

1698

The first four ships of the fated Darien Expedition sailed from Leith.

## Chapter 1 ~ Spice Routes



Things like sugar, dried fruits and spices were seen as gold back in these days. We were really good pals with a lot of Europeans, especially the Dutch. They loved herbs even back then, and so did we by all historical accounts. Trade boomed, and Scotland was doing pretty well as an independent nation. Our economy's luck would soon change with the ill fated Darien expedition.

This was a disastrous attempt by Scotland to create its first colony.

### Seabird

Escubac, Hendrick's gin, Lucky Liquor Kummel, sugar snap and pineapple cordial, lemon & prosecco.

£8

### High Tea

Blackwood's vodka, cardamom, tropical Rooibos tea soda & bitter aperitif.

£8

### Wolf of Duke Street

Seawolf rum, Amarosa, Twelve Triangles pastry orgeat, lemon, bitters & egg white.

£8.5



Please inform staff of any allergens before ordering as we can modify drinks to personal preference.

1744

The first ever “Rules of Golf” were established in Leith.

\*see page 13

1776

Thomas Latta resided in Leith and later created the saline drip which was a huge breakthrough in medicine.

1792

Leith Banking Company was set up. By 1806 Leith had their own bank notes.

1812

Custom House was built on Commercial Street to deal with the booming import and export trade.

1817

Trinity house was built for the master of mariners. It is now the Maritime museum.

1818

Junction Bridge was constructed to link the docks to Ferry Road and Leith Walk.

## Chapter 2 ~ The Gin Era



### House Gimlet

Pickering’s gin & Nauticus lime cordial.

£8

### Port of Call

Porter’s Tropical Old Tom gin, sea buckthorn, ginger, blackberry tea cordial & soda.

£8.5

### Marmalade on Toast

Lind & Lime gin, Nauticus marmalade, Discarded vermouth, toasted sourdough syrup & lemon juice.

£8.5



Leith and Edinburgh’s lengthy love affair with gin began; they went mental for the stuff. Leith was the perfect place to produce gin due to the vast amount of exotic botanicals and spices coming onto the shore everyday from all corners of the Globe. By 1777, there were eight licensed distilleries in Edinburgh, but nearly 400 unlicensed stills. This just shows that no one has ever enjoyed paying tax.

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1820

Permission was granted for the Leith Pier to be built, designed by Captain Samuel Brown.

1826

Leith becomes an independent burgh with its own Town Council.

1827

The Town Hall in Charlotte Street is built.

1837

The Sirius was built by Robert Menzies & Sons in Leith. It became the first steamship to cross the Atlantic.

1863

William Sanderson & Son Limited was famous for it's Vat 69 whisky and Sanderson's Mountain Dew Scotch Blends.

1868

Rose's lime cordial was founded by Lachlan Rose on Commercial st in Leith.

## Chapter 3 ~ Wine Tradings



### Sideways

Leith sherry, rejuvenated red wine, Glenfiddich 12 whisky & violet mist.

£8

### In the Weeds

Great British Vermouth, Pilot Hush Hush ale, pineappleweed cordial & Bon Accord grapefruit soda.

£8

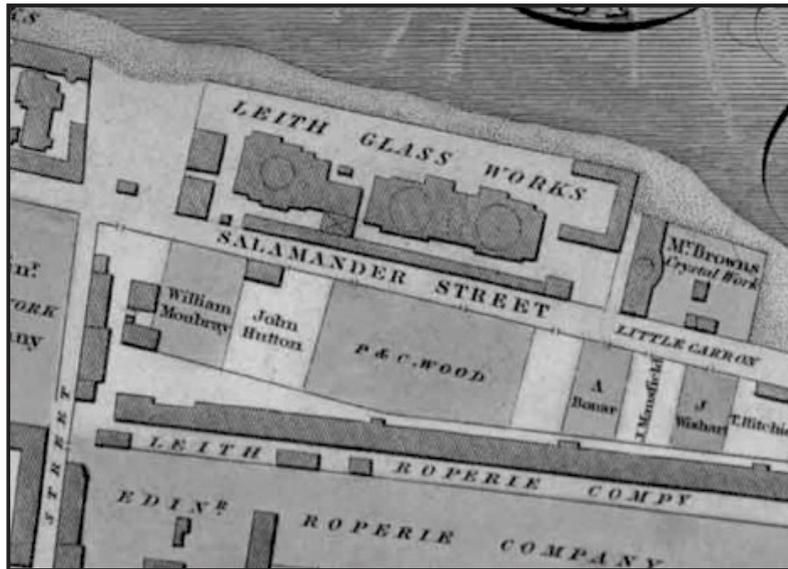
### Pickled Martini

Botanist gin, Great British Vermouth, Nauticus pickle brine.

£8.5



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Leith specialised in wine bottle manufacturing, largely exporting to France and Spain. A staggering one million bottles per week were produced. Wine storage in Leith dates to at least the early 16th century.

In the late 1880s grape phylloxera devastated vineyards all across Europe so whisky got its big break. The wine bottle manufacturers quickly became whisky bottle manufacturers, to cope with the global demand in Scotland's finest product.

1870

Horse buses become the first form of public transport in Leith.

1903

Central Station was opened at the foot of Leith Walk.

1905

The electric tram system opened in Leith. Passengers changed at Pilrig as Edinburgh only had a cable system.

1908

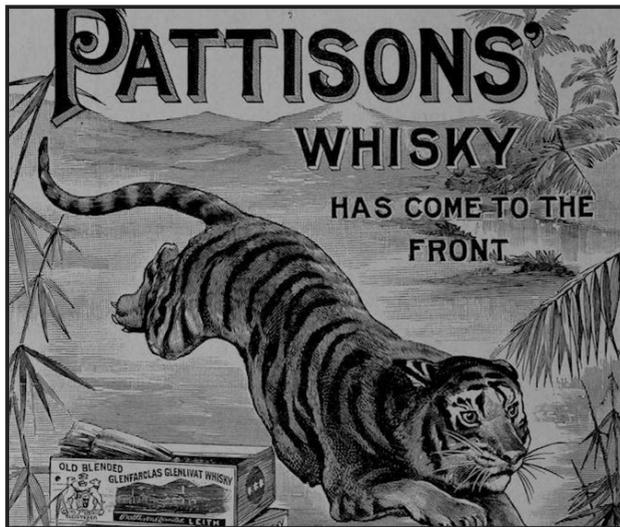
The largest whaling fleet in the world was operated by Christian Salvesen & Co of Leith.

1920

Leith was (reluctantly) amalgamated with Edinburgh.  
\* see page 15

1940

John Crabbie acquired a former brewery located between Yardheads and Great Junction Street.



From humble dairy wholesalers to owners of major whisky distilleries, these brothers were well known around Leith. They were pioneers of marketing - one campaign was to distribute 500 parrots around the UK who had been trained to say “Buy Pattison’s Whisky.” However, ideas were above their station (literally in some cases - using trains as personal taxis) as they were done for fraud due to embezzling insane amounts of dosh out of their businesses. This nearly bankrupted the whole whisky industry, because of this, no new distilleries were built in Scotland for 50 years.

## Chapter 4 ~ The Whisky Boom



### House Whisky Mac

Glen Moray Classic whisky & Nauticus ginger wine.  
£8.5

### Porridge Colada

Coconut washed Shackleton whisky, local honey, oatmilk & pineapple.  
£8.5

### Aelder and Wiser

Makers Mark bourbon, Aelder elderberry elixir, Solerno blood orange liqueur, lemon, egg white & walnut bitters.  
£9



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◆  
**1960s**

Around 85 bonded warehouses stood in Leith in the 1960s. These matured around 90% of all Scotch whisky.

◆  
**1980s**

Leith went through one of it's darkest periods, which Irvine Welsh's novel Trainspotting touched on.

◆  
**2000s**

Change of the property market created the catalyst for Leith becoming the creative centre it is today.

◆  
**2015**

The Biscuit Factory, just off Bonnington Road reopens as an arts & fashion hub.

◆  
**2017**

Leith Theatre was used for the first time in 25 years.

◆  
**2018**

Planning permission for two distilleries in Leith were submitted.



**\*Rules of Golf**

The first documented mention of 'golf' is in Edinburgh on 6th March 1457. King James II banned 'ye golf' in an attempt to encourage archery because he was good at it, and wasn't good at golf! Fast forward 200 years, golf had become a famous sport played by the finest of gentleman including famous Scottish surgeon John Rattray. A gathering of John and his pals in April 1744 resulted in the first recorded golf competition - held on Leith Links. The honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers aka The Golf Council insisted on a set of rules for this game; this turned out to be 'the first set rules of golf' ... Mental.

## Suggested Serves



### **Skinny Dipper**

Edinburgh Seaside gin, pineapple weed & Bon Accord salted pink grapefruit soda.  
**£5.5**

### **Loose Cannon**

Sweetdrum Smoked Spiced Rum, Nauticus lime cordial, Bon Accord ginger beer & bitters.  
**£5.5**

### **Pear Drop Highball**

Kingsbarns Dream to Dram whisky, pear drop shrub & soda.  
**£5.5**

### **Thymes are a Changin'**

Blackwood's vodka, charred lemon & thyme cordial, bitters & tonic.  
**£5.5**



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### \*Leith Merger

The capital and Leith split at Pilrig Street. One famous story was that the pub at the border was cut down the middle due to the fact that Leith had an extra half hour's drinking time on Edinburgh. Once the Edinburgh side of the pub closed, all you had to do was stumble over to the Leith side, and you could grab a couple more pints before heading home. Genius.

Leith was (reluctantly) amalgamated with Edinburgh in 1920, ending 87 years of independent existence. The merger didn't favour all, with Leithers voting 5 to 1 against joining with their city neighbours.

August 2018,  
the opening of...

# NAUTICUS

».....**White Wine** ..... 175ml Carafe Bottle

<b>Airen, Sauvignon Blanc &amp; Macabeo</b> El Blanco de Lela del Mar Murcia · Spain	£4.7	£13	£19
<b>Viognier</b> Mont Rocher Languedoc & South West · France	£4.9	£14	£21
<b>Catarratto</b> Blanco Fabrizio Vella Sicily · Italy	£5.4	£16	£23
<b>Loureiro &amp; Arinto</b> Casa Do Homem Branco Vinho Verde · Portugal	£6.1	£19	£26
<b>Sauvignon Blanc</b> Kukupu Marlborough · New Zealand	£6.8	£21	£29

».....**Orange Wine** ..... 175ml Carafe Bottle

<b>Field Blend</b> Solara Viile Timisului · Romania	£6.3	£20	£27
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».....**Rose Wine** ..... 175ml Carafe Bottle

<b>Pinot Grigio Rosé</b> Calusari Viile Timisului · Romania	£4.7	£13	£19
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».....**Red Wine** ..... 175ml Carafe Bottle

<b>Monsastrell &amp; Tempranillo</b> El Tinto de Lela del Mar Murcia · Spain	£4.7	£13	£19
<b>Pinot Noir,</b> Calusari Ville Timisulu · Romania	£4.9	£14	£21
<b>Merlot</b> Tricolore Languedoc & South West · France	£5.4	£16	£23
<b>Malbec</b> Man Meets Mountain Mendoza · Argentina	£6.1	£16	£26
<b>Corvina &amp; Cabernet Sauvignon</b> Mabis Mavum Veneto · Italy	£6.8	£21	£29

».....**Fizz** ..... 125ml Bottle

<b>Prosecco Spumante</b> Casa Defra Veneto · Italy	£5	£29
<b>Crémant de Loire Blanc</b> Carte Turquoise Domaine des Baumard · Loire · France	£6.5	£39
<b>Grande Réserve Premier Cru</b> Pierre Mignon Champagne · France		£50

# Snacks



**Olives.**

**£2**

**Crisps or nuts.**

**£1**

**Local pork or veggie pie.**

**£6**

**I.J. Mellis cheese board, Scottish oats,  
house pickles & local chutney.**

**£11**

**Charcuterie by East Coast Cured, 12 Triangles  
sourdough, house pickles & local chutney.**

**£12**

**Naughty Board**

**Local pie, half charcuterie, half cheese.**

**£17**



**Ask your server for the cheese and meat on offer today.**

Please inform staff of any allergens before ordering as  
we can modify dishes to personal preference.