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Distilleries around the globe

Including the subsections:

Europe

North America | Australia & New Zealand

Asia | Africa | South America

When we talk about the Big Five in a whisky context, we refer to the traditional five whisky producing countries; Scotland, Ireland, USA, Canada and, added in recent years, Japan. Together they represent an overwhelmingly large share of all whisky produced. Admittedly, India is the single biggest producer but since almost all the whisky from the country is made from molasses rather than any cereal, it doesn't meet the standard definition of whisky that we have in Europe or North America.

If we focus on malt whisky, Scotland is even more dominant but volumes aren't everything and with hundreds of new malt whisky distilleries from Iceland and Italy to Argentina and

Israel, the world of whisky has become increasingly more exciting. These distilleries are by no means a homogenous group. While some of them transcend the boundaries and challenge rules and regulations, others meticulously follow traditions that go back hundreds of years.

In what sense they will be able to change the whisky world as we see it, depends very much on the availability of their products. Volumes need to be significant and distribution is vital. Read more about these issues in Ian Buxton's article on pages 58-63. Meanwhile, let's just marvel at a whisky world that is growing every day.