



## Product Sheet

# Seven Stars No.4 Megrez



Organic Single Malt Whisky

Distilled, matured and bottled by: Spirit of Hven, Sweden



**Facts: Limited Edition, only 2940 bottles in total**

This whisky is the fourth in the “Seven Stars series” from Spirit of Hven. It is a lightly peated single malt whisky, made from grain to bottle in the small family owned distillery situated on the island of Hven in the strait between Denmark and Sweden.

It has got its name from the star *Megrez* in the asterism *Ursa Major* (the Plough).

The name derives from the Arabic, *al-maghriz*, **المغرز**, meaning “the base” referring to the stars position in the asterism, the base of the tail. It is a system of three stars, kept together by gravity. Despite being the weakest star in the asterism it has 14 times the intensity of our sun. *Megrez* has about 1½ times the mass and size of our sun.

Seven has always been a sacred number, the Ancient philosophers called the classical celestial bodies (besides earth, the ones visible without a telescope) as the seven stars. These also gave name to the weekdays. In the *Book of Revelation* the stars symbolize the seven churches, the reason we still have seven-branched candelabras.



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There are three constellations in the sky that we generally refer to as “the Seven Stars”. The first is the seven brightest stars in the asterism *Ursa Major* (*Great Bear*). If you draw an imaginary line from *Merak* through *Dubhe* and about 5 times the space, you will find the *North Star* (*Pole Star*) the last star of the second constellation, the asterism *Ursa Minor* (*Smaller She-Bear*). The third is the *Pleiades*.

The seven stars also plays a part in the symbolism of Odd Fellows, Free Masons etc..



The Base in *Megrez* is 5% Chocolate malt, 40% Peated malt and 55% Pilsner malt. The distillate has matured on 8,4% French Petraea, 33,4% French Robur and 58,2% American Muehlenbergii. The whisky has had a finish on Spanish Quercus Robur. These 500L marrying casks have previously held Pedro Ximénez Sherry, providing a light note of raisins in the background. The peaty, smoky notes are modest, 26ppm phenols, apparent but not overpowering. Like a campfire from a distance. During the first maturation Muehlenbergii oak have contributed with soft vanilla notes, Petraea with liquorice and pepperiness and Robur casks with earthy base notes. The finishing on Sherry casks has contributed both with sweetness and herbal notes from the wood as well as a charming scent of ripe grapes from the Pedro Ximénez wine.



This whisky is bottled at site of the distillery holding 45 vol%, no carbon- or chill filtering, no colour or other additives. It is organic certified and natural, as should be. Every bottle is individually numbered and controlled before being waxed by hand.

### Scent and Taste

**Undiluted**, without water the whisky gives away a scent of fresh leather with a hint of pepperiness in the back, surrounded by a soft vanilla scent spiced with figs and raisins. After the first impression has settled notes of dark chocolate and fresh roasted coffee appears. The taste is vibrant and well balanced mid tongue. It has a sweet character from the fresh oak and a lovely texture with hints of Pedro Ximénez. The aftertaste is medium long without bitter notes, a light acidity is balanced by the wood sugars.

**Diluted**, with water, sweet notes of chocolate and raisins appear. The light smoky, peaty notes come to surface and marry well with a symphony of liquorice, maltiness and fresh peeled orange. It has a complex scent without being confusing. The taste softens with water and the balance shifts a bit towards bitter on the back of the tongue. This emphasise a nuance of bitter almonds, the full body texture contributes with a soft impression. The aftertaste is medium long showing the quality of the wood.



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