



TASTING BRIEF

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

LAPHROAIG[®]

ISLAY SINGLE MALT
SCOTCH WHISKY

The Distillery

Donald and Alexander Johnston originally leased 1000 acres from the laird to rear cattle. But to raise cattle you must grow barley as feed for winter. And, what do you do with excess barley once winter's over? Well, if you're a Scot there's only one thing to do - make whisky. By the end of 1815 the whisky was more profitable than farming and Laphroaig was officially born. It was a particularly good dram thanks to the soft, peaty water source - the prized Kilbride Stream.

Unlike most distilleries, Laphroaig infuses the barley with peat smoke before drying it. For 17 hours the smoke (or 'peat reek') rises through a perforated drying floor into the kiln. The vapourised oils - the peat's phenolic compounds and other wood-based smoky flavours - are then absorbed by the damp barley.

WATER

The Kilbride Stream. Not only does it act as a coolant during the whisky-making process, but this precious, murky waterway also contributes to Laphroaig's distinctive flavour. When it travels from the overflow of the Kilbride dam to the distillery, it passes over peat bogs. Unique to our land, these peat bogs mainly consist of decayed seaweed and heather, which might ring a bell in your tastebuds if you've ever had a dram of our whisky.

AIR

Huddled in the Atlantic, the isle of Islay gets its fair share of intense moods from the ocean. The Atlantic breeze helps control the temperature of the barley. To keep it at around 18°C, Laphroaig uses an ancient method of heat regulation called – wait for it – 'opening and closing windows'. The saline air that whips in during this process gives Laphroaig® its welcome salty notes.

As for the climate, volatile, unpredictable weather is a small price to pay for a climate that produces peat so happy and rich in sphagnum moss. (The more moss in there, the more intense that 'medicinal' flavour gets).

EARTH

Every peat bog has a unique composition. That of Laphroaig is a heady mix of the heather, lichen, seaweed, moss and woodland that decayed over the centuries. The peat is burnt at unusually low temperatures, creating a cold smoke to flavour our barley. It's this process that blesses Laphroaig with a peaty punch, setting it apart from other whiskies.



LAPHROAIG®

LIMITED EDITION 2003 16 YEAR OLD

Region Islay

ABV 48%

Price \$124.57

Cask ex-Bourbon

Laphroaig 16 year old Whisky is a mellower expression of the famous Islay Scotch, slowly aged in ex-Bourbon barrels. The additional years spent resting in American oak lends notes of leather and vanilla, which compliment the signature rich and smoky flavours that Laphroaig Whisky is famous for.

Distillery Tasting Notes

Nose Sweet leather and vanilla, along with oaky spices.

Taste Sweet with treacle and caramel, Manuka honey and thyme but also intense wood smoke, creosote, lots of floral notes of heather and bergamot, and a chili mouthfeel.

Finish A long lasting finish; smoky, sweet and salted seaweed, medicinal in character.



LAPHROAIG®

SHERRY OAK FINISH 10 YEAR OLD

Region Islay

ABV 48%

Price \$74.37

Cask ex-Bourbon, sherry

Aged for ten years and finished in sherry casks, this unique Laphroaig expression combines the unforgettable flavour of the classic Laphroaig ten year old Whisky with the sweetness and complexity of Oloroso. Notes of Manuka honey, grilled bacon and maple syrup meet the classic peat smoke and seaweed that Laphroaig is famous for.

Distillery Tasting Notes

Nose 'Medicinal' notes of peat smoke and Manuka honey with strong cloves, leather, iodine and smoky bacon.

Taste Sweet and aromatic with rich waxy notes. Followed by toffee, maple syrup, dark chocolate, pine needle and cedar.

Finish Lingering sweetness and smoldering peat smoke with nuttiness and a hint of brine.



LAPHROAIG®

LORE

Region Islay

ABV 48%

Price \$90.50

Cask *ex-Bourbon,
European Oak and
Oloroso sherry barrels
along with quarter casks*

Laphroaig Lore is heralded as one of the most richly flavoured whiskies the distillery has ever produced!. Bottled at 48% abv and matured in a combination of ex-Bourbon, ex- Sherry, and quarter casks, this whisky is sourced from casks of different ages including some rare 21 Year old stocks.

"It's our richest expression that draws from an archive of the rarest whiskies found in our Atlantic storehouse."

Distillery Tasting Notes

Nose Pungent peat smoke and seaside minerals with a hint of ash and chocolate.

Taste Lively with hints of bitter chocolate, ash and a spicy chilli bite.

Finish Short, dry finish with a lingering sweet aftertaste.



LAPHROAIG®

CÀIRDEAS

Region Islay

ABV 52.3%

Price \$110

Cask Madeira casks and the final quarter aged in White Port casks

Our Càirdeas expression for 2023 brings together the best of much loved Càirdeas releases over recent years. The limited-edition single malt is a combination of Madeira and White Port casks. Three quarters of the whisky is matured in second-fill Madeira casks, releasing smoky, spicy, and sweet fruit flavours. The final quarter has been finished in first-fill Port casks; the majority of these are white port, adding a hint of crisp fruit and deep woodiness to the flavour.

Distillery Tasting Notes

Nose Cinnamon, freshly ground ginger, crisp green apple with notes of toasted peaches, charred orange peel, and caramelized sugar with a whisper of bonfire embers.

Taste Honey sweetness paired with juicy citrus characters and delicate notes of hazelnut, tannic oak, dark chocolate and slightly bitter caramel leading to earthy iodine-rich smoke.

Finish Sweet and smooth with a lingering earthy peat and creosote phenolic character. A slight sea-salt sensation to finish.



LAPHROAIG®

CASK STRENGTH BATCH 012 10 YEAR OLD

Region Islay

ABV 60.1%

Price \$211.82

Cask ex-Bourbon

Batch 12 is emphatic, full bodied and utterly unforgettable! Matured in ex-Bourbon barrels, this Laphroaig has immense power, aromatic intensity, concentration, and depth of flavour.

This year's release has been bottled at a natural cask strength of 60.1%, 1.5% higher than the 2019 release! This is the authentic way to experience the rugged character and unforgettable taste of Laphroaig. With rich aromas of peat smoke, citrus fruit and vanilla sweetness coupled with strong hints of the sea, this is the true taste of Islay

Distillery Tasting Notes

Nose Sweet cereals with biscuit notes, fresh oak, smoked cedar and Manuka honey. Amsterdam pipe tobacco, shoe polish and old leather combined with a touch of waxy church candle, vanilla cream, nutmeg and oak extracts.

Taste Sweet and spicy, with burnt oak staves, barbecued marshmallows, toffee and sea salt, vanilla and Belgium caramel waffles. Roasted coffee fudge cream on sticky toffee pudding, with a hint of white pepper and crushed cinnamon.

Finish Floral with spicy oak tannins, iodine and sea salt.

