

## Laphroaig Quarter Cask

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Did I mention I don't enjoy a heavy peat? Slight smoke, yes. Heavy smoke, not so much. The Laphroaig Quarter Cask was a gift from a dear friend at our meet-the-house party in 2014 and he happens to love this whisky so we wanted to include it. Let's face it, a lot of people love whisky from Islay and I have to admit that after a few sips, it kind of grows on you.

Included with the whisky is a super cool *Your Passport to Islay* and you can actually claim a numbered plot of Laphroaig's land when you purchase a bottle. When you visit the distillery as a friend of Laphroaig you can visit your plot and collect rent in the form of a free dram. *Awesome!* Well, I'm now a Friend and have a plot of land so we'll definitely have to visit. This is one of the coolest opportunities I've seen from a distiller. Well done Laphroaig!

And we loved that on the back of the *Passport* they included a saying from Islay, "*We don't make friends easily but the ones we do are for life.*" And since we now want to visit Islay we should probably provide the pronunciation of Islay; it's pronounced "eye-la".

Did I mention I'm not an olfactory genius? Because I don't smell toffee and caramel while nosing; I smell medicine. Yup, that's all, just medicine. But, after several nosings Doug did detect caramel. Laphroaig is definitely bold and there's the peat for which Islay is so famous. Interestingly enough, in spite of the heavy peatiness it does finish clean and sweet on the palate. For that reason, we do enjoy a dram on occasion. This is another cold-weather whisky for me.

And we'd be remiss if we didn't mention that Laphroaig is "By appointment to His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, Distiller and Supplier of Single Malt Scotch Whisky, D. Johnston & Co. (Laphroaig), Isle of Islay".

### Laphroaig website Tasting Notes

On the nose the sensation is toffee and caramel, caused by the vanillas and tannins of the American oak, plus a dryness from the wood oil. The finish is long and alternates between this sweetness and smoke.