## **PREPARATIONS:**

It's easy to prepare a tasting session with our printable Scotch Whisky Tasting Mat. The things to remember before you begin are:

THE FOL TASTING MAT: You can prepare a tasting session for just yourself by printing off one mat, or print off more than one for however many Friends will be joining you.

GLASSES: Ideally you should use a 'tulip' shaped glass for nosing as it helps to concentrate the aromas at the rim. If you can't get a hold of a 'tulip-glass' then a brandy or wine glass will do the job almost as well.

REFRESHMENTS; Always have plenty of water. Use it to cleanse your palate. It's a good idea to keep some plain dry biscuits on hand too. You don't want to confuse the palate.

MAXIMUM OF 6: Don't confuse your nose and palate by trying too many whiskies at one time. We have provided space should you wish to try up to 6 maximum. It is generally recognized that 6 whiskies is the maximum that any individual can accurately judge so as a rule you should never taste any more than this at one time. Note – do not swallow all the whisky you taste – it will 'cloud' your judgement!

TIME: Make sure you set aside enough time to sit through and enjoy your tasting. This is not something you want to do in a hurry! Plus, you will need to allow time between each nosing to help clear your nose and prepare for the next challenge.

# **INSTRUCTIONS:**

Now a few notes about things to remember during your tasting session:

COLOUR: Judging what colour is attractive is a very individual trait as single malts can range from pale thin colours (often younger whiskies or malts that use 'refill' barrels rather than 'first-fill') to rich golden colours, right through to dark browns (although this often indicates over-ageing).

NOSE: Add a little water to the whisky. This releases the full bouquet. You can cover the glass with your hand and swirl it around. Then put your nose into the glass and breath in deeply. Close your eyes and let your mind tell you the senses and memories it evokes. Remember, your nose is far more sensitive than your tongue, making it the most important sense in this tasting.

BODY: Swirl the whisky around the glass until it starts to 'cling' around the edge. Now, watch the droplets run down the sides, these are called 'legs' - the further apart these are, the more body your dram has.

PALATE: Really taste the whisky. Roll it around the mouth to impress your palate, let it sit on your tongue for a while. Take your time. Close your eyes, let your senses of smell and taste merge. Remember to write down comments of your thoughts and feelings at this time, as it is easy to forget as you move to the next whisky. With a top quality single malt like Laphroaig you are almost certain to evoke a complex range of tastes, memories and sensations.

FINISH: Finish is the length of time the flavour lingers after you have swallowed, and is rated as 'long', 'medium' or 'short'. Aftertaste, if there is any, should be pleasant and not at variance with the flavour of the whisky. A good single malt maintains its complexity. Often the different sensations alternate in intensity long after the whisky has left the palate.

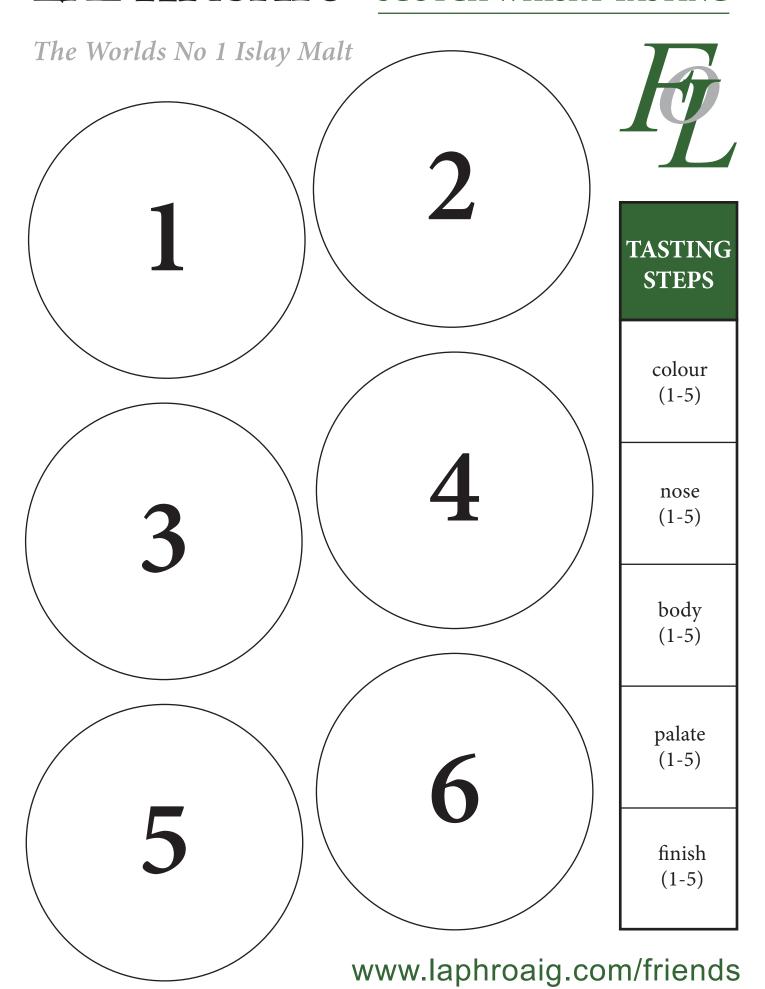
### SCORING:

We have provided space should you wish to keep score of how you rate your whiskies.

Each whisky will end up with a score out of 25, with 5 being the lowest score any one whisky can be awarded. As there are 5 tasting steps to follow, each one of these steps should be judged and given marks through from 1 to 5 (1 being the lowest and 5 the highest), and thus tallying up to your grand total somewhere between 5 and 25. May the best whiskies (Laphroaig of couse) win!

# LAPHROAIG - The Worlds No 1 Islay Malt

# LAPHROAIG® SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY TASTING





	WHISKIES	COMMENTS	SCORE
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

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