

Meeting Date 3/22/2025

## Laphroag Quarter Cask NAS. Islay. 48% ABV

Maturation has been speeded up by ageing in Quarter Casks. This shows soft sweetness and a velvety feel when first tasted, then the intense peatiness on the finish.

**Color:** Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze Deep Amber Mahogany

**Nose:** Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

**Palate:** Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced Chocolate Floral  
Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy Salt

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

**Body:** Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

**Finish:** Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

**Length of finish (minutes):** 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

**Score:** 80

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** Z Grady

- 95-100 – Exceptional: A truly outstanding whisky with near-perfect balance, depth, and complexity.
- 90-94 – Excellent: High-quality, well-crafted whisky with distinct character and superb drinkability.
- 85-89 – Very Good: A solid, well-made whisky with notable complexity and enjoyable flavors.
- 80-84 – Good: A decent whisky that is enjoyable but may lack depth or have minor flaws.
- 70-79 – Average: Drinkable but unremarkable, with noticeable shortcomings.
- 60-69 – Below Average: Flawed whisky with imbalance, off-notes, or lack of depth.
- 50-59 – Poor: Significant flaws, harshness, or unpleasant flavors.
- Below 50 – Undrinkable: Seriously flawed, possibly due to poor production or storage.

Meeting Date: 3/22/2025

**Aberlour A'bunadh. NAS**  
**Speyside. Cask Strength. 59.6% ABV**

Aged exclusively in Oloroso Sherry casks. Deep and concentrated aromas of nuts and raisins. The mouth begins spicy, turning to sweet dried figs and candied nuts.

Color: Pale Yellow   Yellow   Gold   Greeny-Gold   Bronze   Deep Amber   Mahogany  
Nose: Floral   Citrus   Grass   Honey   Coconut   Malty   Oak   Nutty   Molasses   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Pungent   Sea Air   Peat  
Palate: Woody   Zesty   Vanilla   Oily   Peppery   Raisins   Intense   Grassy   Caramel   Berries   Chocolate   Floral   Citrus  
Honey   Coconut   Nutty   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Malty   Peat   Rich/Earthy   Salty  
Alive   Balanced   Abrasive   Assertive   Delicate   Bland  
Body: Light   Medium   Full   Smooth   Rich   Creamy   Textured   Big   Crisp   Mouth-coating   Silky   Velvet  
Finish: Short   Medium   Long   Abrupt   Bitter   Intense   Tingling   Robust   Oaky   Crisp   Delicate  
Length of finish (minutes):   1   1.5   2   2.5   3   3.5   4   4.5   5

Score: 82

Notes: Better flavor with water

Name: Larry Bray

If you're rating a single malt Scotch that is well-regarded but not to your personal taste due to its peatiness, you might consider a **balanced** approach:

1. **Separate Personal Preference from Quality** – Acknowledge that the whisky is well-crafted, even if it's not your style. For example, you can mention, "*Not my preferred flavor profile due to heavy peat, but clearly well-made with depth and complexity.*"
2. **Evaluate Other Aspects** – Consider the whisky's balance, mouthfeel, complexity, and finish. Even if you dislike the peat, are there other qualities (smoothness, richness, sweetness) that you can appreciate?
3. **Contextualize Your Rating** – Instead of giving a low score solely because of peatiness, you could rate it higher but include a note: "*Peat-forward lovers will likely enjoy this more than I did.*"
4. **Compare Within Style** – If you've tried other peaty whiskies, how does this one compare? Even if you don't like peat, you might recognize differences in smoke intensity, depth, or smoothness.
5. **Be Fair and Informative** – A rating should guide others, not just reflect personal dislike. If the whisky is a good representation of its style but not to your taste, consider saying: "*Too smoky for me, but fans of Islay whiskies will likely love it.*"

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## Laphroag Quarter Cask NAS. Islay. 48% ABV

Maturation has been speeded up by ageing in Quarter Casks. This shows soft sweetness and a velvety feel when first tasted, then the intense peatiness on the finish.

**Color:** Pale Yellow    Yellow Gold    Greeny-Gold    Bronze    Deep Amber    Mahogany

**Nose:** Floral Citrus Grass    Honey    Coconut    Malty Oak    Nutty    Molasses    Sherry Sweet    Smoky    Pungent    Sea Air Peat

**Palate:** Woody    Zesty    Vanilla Oily    Peppery    Raisins    Intense    Grassy    Caramel    Berries    Balanced Chocolate    Floral  
Citrus    Honey    Coconut    Nutty    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Malty Peat    Rich/Earthy    Salt

Alive    Balanced    Abrasive    Assertive    Delicate    Bland

**Body:** Light. Medium    Full    Smooth    Rich    Creamy    Textured    Big    Crisp    Mouth-coating    Silky    Velvet

**Finish:** Short    Medium    Long    Abrupt    Bitter    Intense    Tingling    Robust    Oaky    Crisp    Delicate

**Length of finish (minutes):**    1    1.5    2    2.5    3    3.5    4    4.5    5

**Score:** 85

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** Jim

- 95-100 – Exceptional: A truly outstanding whisky with near-perfect balance, depth, and complexity.
- 90-94 – Excellent: High-quality, well-crafted whisky with distinct character and superb drinkability.
- 85-89 – Very Good: A solid, well-made whisky with notable complexity and enjoyable flavors.
- 80-84 – Good: A decent whisky that is enjoyable but may lack depth or have minor flaws.
- 70-79 – Average: Drinkable but unremarkable, with noticeable shortcomings.
- 60-69 – Below Average: Flawed whisky with imbalance, off-notes, or lack of depth.
- 50-59 – Poor: Significant flaws, harshness, or unpleasant flavors.
- Below 50 – Undrinkable: Seriously flawed, possibly due to poor production or storage.

Meeting Date: 3/22/2025

**Aberlour A'bunadh. NAS**  
**Speyside. Cask Strength. 59.6% ABV**

Aged exclusively in ~~Oloroso~~ Sherry casks. Deep and concentrated aromas of nuts and raisins. The mouth begins spicy, turning to sweet dried figs and candied nuts.

Color: Pale Yellow   Yellow   Gold   Greeny-Gold   Bronze   Deep Amber   Mahogany

Nose: Floral   Citrus   Grass   Honey   Coconut   Malty   Oak   Nutty   Molasses   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Pungent   Sea Air   Peat

Palate: Woody   Zesty   Vanilla   Oily   Peppery   Raisins   Intense   Grassy   Caramel   Berries   Chocolate   Floral   Citrus

Honey   Coconut   Nutty   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Malty   Peat   Rich/Earthy   Salty

Alive   Balanced   Abrasive   Assertive   Delicate   Bland

Body: Light   Medium   Full   Smooth   Rich   Creamy   Textured   Big   Crisp   Mouth-coating   Silky   Velvet

Finish: Short   Medium   Long   Abrupt   Bitter   Intense   Tingling   Robust   Oaky   Crisp   Delicate

Length of finish (minutes):   1   1.5   2   2.5   3   3.5   4   4.5   5

Score: 86

Notes: Nice legs

Name: Jim

If you're rating a single malt Scotch that is well-regarded but not to your personal taste due to its peatiness, you might consider a **balanced** approach:

1. **Separate Personal Preference from Quality** – Acknowledge that the whisky is well-crafted, even if it's not your style. For example, you can mention, *"Not my preferred flavor profile due to heavy peat, but clearly well-made with depth and complexity."*
2. **Evaluate Other Aspects** – Consider the whisky's balance, mouthfeel, complexity, and finish. Even if you dislike the peat, are there other qualities (smoothness, richness, sweetness) that you can appreciate?
3. **Contextualize Your Rating** – Instead of giving a low score solely because of peatiness, you could rate it higher but include a note: *"Peat-forward lovers will likely enjoy this more than I did."*
4. **Compare Within Style** – If you've tried other peaty whiskies, how does this one compare? Even if you don't like peat, you might recognize differences in smoke intensity, depth, or smoothness.
5. **Be Fair and Informative** – A rating should guide others, not just reflect personal dislike. If the whisky is a good representation of its style but not to your taste, consider saying: *"Too smoky for me, but fans of Islay whiskies will likely love it."*

Meeting Date: 3/22/2025

*La Drogue Quante Cask*  
~~Aberlour A'bunadh~~ **NAS**  
**Speyside. Cask Strength. 59.6% ABV**

Aged exclusively in Oloroso Sherry casks. Deep and concentrated aromas of nuts and raisins. The mouth begins spicy, turning to sweet dried figs and candied nuts.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze Deep Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Chocolate Floral Citrus

Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy Salty

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 80

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: D. or H.

If you're rating a single malt Scotch that is well-regarded but not to your personal taste due to its peatiness, you might consider a **balanced** approach:

1. **Separate Personal Preference from Quality** – Acknowledge that the whisky is well-crafted, even if it's not your style. For example, you can mention, *"Not my preferred flavor profile due to heavy peat, but clearly well-made with depth and complexity."*
2. **Evaluate Other Aspects** – Consider the whisky's balance, mouthfeel, complexity, and finish. Even if you dislike the peat, are there other qualities (smoothness, richness, sweetness) that you can appreciate?
3. **Contextualize Your Rating** – Instead of giving a low score solely because of peatiness, you could rate it higher but include a note: *"Peat-forward lovers will likely enjoy this more than I did."*
4. **Compare Within Style** – If you've tried other peaty whiskies, how does this one compare? Even if you don't like peat, you might recognize differences in smoke intensity, depth, or smoothness.
5. **Be Fair and Informative** – A rating should guide others, not just reflect personal dislike. If the whisky is a good representation of its style but not to your taste, consider saying: *"Too smoky for me, but fans of Islay whiskies will likely love it."*

Meeting Date 3/22/2025

*Aberlour A' Bheinn NAS*  
**Laphroag Quarter Cask**  
**NAS. Islay. 48% ABV**

Maturation has been speeded up by ageing in Quarter Casks. This shows soft sweetness and a velvety feel when first tasted, then the intense peatiness on the finish.

**Color:** Pale Yellow    Yellow Gold    Greeny-Gold    Bronze    Deep Amber    Mahogany

**Nose:** Floral Citrus    Grass    Honey    Coconut    Malty Oak    Nutty    Molasses    Sherry Sweet    Smoky    Pungent    Sea Air    Peat

**Palate:** Woody    Zesty    Vanilla    Oily    Peppery    Raisins    Intense    Grassy    Caramel    Berries    Balanced    Chocolate    Floral  
Citrus    Honey    Coconut    Nutty    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Malty    Peat    Rich/Earthy    Salt

Alive    Balanced    Abrasive    Assertive    Delicate    Bland

**Body:** Light    Medium    Full    Smooth    Rich    Creamy    Textured    Big    Crisp    Mouth-coating    Silky    Velvet

**Finish:** Short    Medium    Long    Abrupt    Bitter    Intense    Tingling    Robust    Oaky    Crisp    Delicate

**Length of finish (minutes):**    1    1.5    2    2.5    3    3.5    4    4.5    5

**Score:** 8.5

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** Don H.

- 95-100 – Exceptional: A truly outstanding whisky with near-perfect balance, depth, and complexity.
- 90-94 – Excellent: High-quality, well-crafted whisky with distinct character and superb drinkability.
- 85-89 – Very Good: A solid, well-made whisky with notable complexity and enjoyable flavors.
- 80-84 – Good: A decent whisky that is enjoyable but may lack depth or have minor flaws.
- 70-79 – Average: Drinkable but unremarkable, with noticeable shortcomings.
- 60-69 – Below Average: Flawed whisky with imbalance, off-notes, or lack of depth.
- 50-59 – Poor: Significant flaws, harshness, or unpleasant flavors.
- Below 50 – Undrinkable: Seriously flawed, possibly due to poor production or storage.

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## Laphroag Quarter Cask NAS. Islay. 48% ABV

Maturation has been speeded up by ageing in Quarter Casks. This shows soft sweetness and a velvety feel when first tasted, then the intense peatiness on the finish.

**Color:** Pale Yellow    Yellow <sup>Dark</sup> Gold    Greeny-Gold    Bronze    Deep Amber    Mahogany

**Nose:** Floral Citrus    Grass    Honey    Coconut    Malty Oak    Nutty    Molasses    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Pungent    Sea Air Peat

**Palate:** Woody    Zesty    Vanilla    Oily    Peppery    Raisins    Intense    Grassy    Caramel    Berries    Balanced    Chocolate    Floral  
Citrus    Honey    Coconut    Nutty    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Malty    Peat    Rich/Earthy    Salt

Alive    Balanced    Abrasive    Assertive    Delicate    Bland

**Body:** Light    Medium    Full    Smooth    Rich    Creamy    Textured    Big    Crisp    Mouth-coating    Silky    Velvet

**Finish:** Short    Medium    Long    Abrupt    Bitter    Intense    Tingling    Robust    Oaky    Crisp    Delicate

**Length of finish (minutes):**        1    1.5    2    2.5    3    3.5    4    4.5    5

**Score:** 82

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** Kobdich

- 95-100 – Exceptional: A truly outstanding whisky with near-perfect balance, depth, and complexity.
- 90-94 – Excellent: High-quality, well-crafted whisky with distinct character and superb drinkability.
- 85-89 – Very Good: A solid, well-made whisky with notable complexity and enjoyable flavors.
- 80-84 – Good: A decent whisky that is enjoyable but may lack depth or have minor flaws.
- 70-79 – Average: Drinkable but unremarkable, with noticeable shortcomings.
- 60-69 – Below Average: Flawed whisky with imbalance, off-notes, or lack of depth.
- 50-59 – Poor: Significant flaws, harshness, or unpleasant flavors.
- Below 50 – Undrinkable: Seriously flawed, possibly due to poor production or storage.

Meeting Date: 3/22/2025

**Aberlour A'bunadh. NAS**  
**Speyside. Cask Strength. 59.6% ABV**

Aged exclusively in Oloroso Sherry casks. Deep and concentrated aromas of nuts and raisins. The mouth begins spicy, turning to sweet dried figs and candied nuts.

Color: Pale Yellow   Yellow   Gold   Greeny-Gold   Bronze   Deep-Amber   Mahogany

Nose: Floral   Citrus   Grass   Honey   Coconut   Malty   Oak   Nutty   Molasses   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Pungent   Sea Air   Peat

Palate: Woody   Zesty   Vanilla   Oily   Peppery   Raisins   Intense   Grassy   Caramel   Berries   Chocolate   Floral   Citrus

Honey   Coconut   Nutty   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Malty   Peat   Rich/Earthy   Salty

Alive   Balanced   Abrasive   Assertive   Delicate   Bland

Body: Light   Medium   Full   Smooth   Rich   Creamy   Textured   Big   Crisp   Mouth-coating   Silky   Velvet

Finish: Short   Medium   Long   Abrupt   Bitter   Intense   Tingling   Robust   Oaky   Crisp   Delicate

Length of finish (minutes):   1   1.5   2   2.5   3   3.5   4   4.5   5

Score: 82

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Kobdick

If you're rating a single malt Scotch that is well-regarded but not to your personal taste due to its peatiness, you might consider a **balanced** approach:

1. **Separate Personal Preference from Quality** – Acknowledge that the whisky is well-crafted, even if it's not your style. For example, you can mention, *"Not my preferred flavor profile due to heavy peat, but clearly well-made with depth and complexity."*
2. **Evaluate Other Aspects** – Consider the whisky's balance, mouthfeel, complexity, and finish. Even if you dislike the peat, are there other qualities (smoothness, richness, sweetness) that you can appreciate?
3. **Contextualize Your Rating** – Instead of giving a low score solely because of peatiness, you could rate it higher but include a note: *"Peat-forward lovers will likely enjoy this more than I did."*
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5. **Be Fair and Informative** – A rating should guide others, not just reflect personal dislike. If the whisky is a good representation of its style but not to your taste, consider saying: *"Too smoky for me, but fans of Islay whiskies will likely love it."*



Meeting Date 3/22/2025

## Laphroag Quarter Cask NAS. Islay. 48% ABV

Maturation has been speeded up by ageing in Quarter Casks. This shows soft sweetness and a velvety feel when first tasted, then the intense peatiness on the finish.

**Color:** Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze Deep Amber Mahogany

**Nose:** Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

**Palate:** Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Balanced Chocolate Floral  
Citrus Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy Salt

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

**Body:** Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

**Finish:** Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

**Length of finish (minutes):** 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

**Score:** 26

**Notes:** nice

**Name:** Mark T. Moore

- 95-100 – Exceptional: A truly outstanding whisky with near-perfect balance, depth, and complexity.
- 90-94 – Excellent: High-quality, well-crafted whisky with distinct character and superb drinkability.
- 85-89 – Very Good: A solid, well-made whisky with notable complexity and enjoyable flavors.
- 80-84 – Good: A decent whisky that is enjoyable but may lack depth or have minor flaws.
- 70-79 – Average: Drinkable but unremarkable, with noticeable shortcomings.
- 60-69 – Below Average: Flawed whisky with imbalance, off-notes, or lack of depth.
- 50-59 – Poor: Significant flaws, harshness, or unpleasant flavors.
- Below 50 – Undrinkable: Seriously flawed, possibly due to poor production or storage.

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**Aberlour A'bunadh. NAS**  
**Speyside. Cask Strength. 59.6% ABV**

Aged exclusively in Oloroso Sherry casks. Deep and concentrated aromas of nuts and raisins. The mouth begins spicy, turning to sweet dried figs and candied nuts.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze Deep Amber Mahogany  
Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat  
Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Chocolate Floral Citrus  
Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy Salty  
Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland  
Body: Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet  
Finish: Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate  
Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 21

Notes: A Bit too Assertive for me.

Name: [Signature]

If you're rating a single malt Scotch that is well-regarded but not to your personal taste due to its peatiness, you might consider a **balanced** approach:

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4. **Compare Within Style** – If you've tried other peaty whiskies, how does this one compare? Even if you don't like peat, you might recognize differences in smoke intensity, depth, or smoothness.
5. **Be Fair and Informative** – A rating should guide others, not just reflect personal dislike. If the whisky is a good representation of its style but not to your taste, consider saying: *"Too smoky for me, but fans of Islay whiskies will likely love it."*

Meeting Date 3/22/2025

## Laphroag Quarter Cask NAS. Islay. 48% ABV

Maturation has been speeded up by ageing in Quarter Casks. This shows soft sweetness and a velvety feel when first tasted, then the intense peatiness on the finish.

**Color:** Pale Yellow    Yellow    Gold    Greeny-Gold    Bronze    Deep Amber    Mahogany

**Nose:** Floral Citrus    Grass    Honey    Coconut    Malty Oak    Nutty    Molasses    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Pungent    Sea Air    Peat

**Palate:** Woody    Zesty    Vanilla    Oily    Peppery    Raisins    Intense    Grassy    Caramel    Berries    Balanced    Chocolate    Floral  
Citrus    Honey    Coconut    Nutty    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Malty    Peat    Rich/Earthy    Salt

Alive    Balanced    Abrasive    Assertive    Delicate    Bland

**Body:** Light    Medium    Full    Smooth    Rich    Creamy    Textured    Big    Crisp    Mouth-coating    Silky    Velvet

**Finish:** Short    Medium    Long    Abrupt    Bitter    Intense    Tingling    Robust    Oaky    Crisp    Delicate

**Length of finish (minutes):**    1    1.5    2    2.5    3    3.5    4    4.5    5

**Score:** 88    **Notes:** Finish evolved tingle to delicate

**Name:** Frank

- 95-100 – Exceptional: A truly outstanding whisky with near-perfect balance, depth, and complexity.
- 90-94 – Excellent: High-quality, well-crafted whisky with distinct character and superb drinkability.
- 85-89 – Very Good: A solid, well-made whisky with notable complexity and enjoyable flavors.
- 80-84 – Good: A decent whisky that is enjoyable but may lack depth or have minor flaws.
- 70-79 – Average: Drinkable but unremarkable, with noticeable shortcomings.
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- Below 50 – Undrinkable: Seriously flawed, possibly due to poor production or storage.

Meeting Date: 3/22/2025

**Aberlour A'bunadh. NAS**  
**Speyside. Cask Strength. 59.6% ABV 60.7**

\$104<sup>00</sup>

Aged exclusively in Oloroso Sherry casks. Deep and concentrated aromas of nuts and raisins. The mouth begins spicy, turning to sweet dried figs and candied nuts.

Color: Pale Yellow   Yellow   Gold   Greeny-Gold   Bronze   Deep Amber   Mahogany

Nose: Floral   Citrus   Grass   Honey   Coconut   Malty   Oak   Nutty   Molasses   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Pungent   Sea Air   Peat

Palate: Woody   Zesty   Vanilla   Oily   Peppery   Raisins   Intense   Grassy   Caramel   Berries   Chocolate   Floral   Citrus

Honey   Coconut   Nutty   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Malty   Peat   Rich/Earthy   Salty

Alive   Balanced   Abrasive   Assertive   Delicate   Bland

Body: Light   Medium   Full   Smooth   Rich   Creamy   Textured   Big   Crisp   Mouth-coating   Silky   Velvet

Finish: Short   Medium   Long   Abrupt   Bitter   Intense   Tingling   Robust   Oaky   Crisp   Delicate

Length of finish (minutes):   1   1.5   2   2.5   3   3.5   4   4.5   5

Score: 77

Notes:

This is a double water scotch.

Name:

Frank

If you're rating a single malt Scotch that is well-regarded but not to your personal taste due to its peatiness, you might consider a **balanced** approach:

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**Color:** Pale Yellow    Yellow    Gold    Greeny-Gold    Bronze    Deep Amber    Mahogany

**Nose:** Floral Citrus    Grass    Honey    Coconut    Malty Oak    Nutty    Molasses    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Pungent    Sea Air    Peat

**Palate:** Woody    Zesty    Vanilla    Oily    Peppery    Raisins    Intense    Grassy    Caramel    Berries    Balanced    Chocolate    Floral  
Citrus    Honey    Coconut    Nutty    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Malty    Peat    Rich/Earthy    Salt

Alive    Balanced    Abrasive    Assertive    Delicate    Bland

**Body:** Light    Medium    Full    Smooth    Rich    Creamy    Textured    Big    Crisp    Mouth-coating    Silky    ~~Vener~~

**Finish:** Short    Medium    Long    Abrupt    Bitter    Intense    Tingling    Robust    Oaky    Crisp    Delicate    Smoky/Smooth

**Length of finish (minutes):**    1    1.5    (2)    2.5    3    3.5    4    4.5    5

**Score:** 89

**Notes:** Very Balanced Drinkable Peated Scotch. Great Nose.  
I would love this as an after dinner drink.

**Name:** Richard Nhl

- 95-100 – Exceptional: A truly outstanding whisky with near-perfect balance, depth, and complexity.
- 90-94 – Excellent: High-quality, well-crafted whisky with distinct character and superb drinkability.
- 85-89 – Very Good: A solid, well-made whisky with notable complexity and enjoyable flavors.
- 80-84 – Good: A decent whisky that is enjoyable but may lack depth or have minor flaws.
- 70-79 – Average: Drinkable but unremarkable, with noticeable shortcomings.
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**Aberlour A'bunadh. NAS**  
**Speyside. Cask Strength. 59.6% ABV**

Aged exclusively in Oloroso Sherry casks. Deep and concentrated aromas of nuts and raisins. The mouth begins spicy, turning to sweet dried figs and candied nuts.

Color: Pale Yellow   Yellow   Gold   Greeny-Gold   Bronze   Deep Amber   Mahogany

Nose: Floral   Citrus   Grass   Honey   Coconut   Malty Oak   Nutty   Molasses   Sherry   Sweet   Raisins   Smoky   Pungent   Sea Air   Peat   ETC

Palate: Woody   Zesty   Vanilla   Oily   Peppery   Raisins   Intense   Grassy   Caramel   Berries   Chocolate   Floral   Citrus

Honey   Coconut   Nutty   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Malty   Peat   Rich/Earthy   Salty

Alive   Balanced   Abrasive   Assertive   Delicate   Bland

Body: Light   Medium   Full   Smooth   Rich   Creamy   Textured   Big   Crisp   Mouth-coating   Silky   Velvet

Finish: Short   Medium   Long   Abrupt   Bitter   Intense   Tingling   Robust   Oaky   Crisp   Delicate

Length of finish (minutes):   1   1.5   2   2.5   3   3.5   4   4.5   5

Score: 82   Notes: a little too "robust" for my taste. Smoother with a little water. Not a good Midday/Evening Sipper.   Name: Richard Nail

If you're rating a single malt Scotch that is well-regarded but not to your personal taste due to its peatiness, you might consider a **balanced** approach:

1. **Separate Personal Preference from Quality** – Acknowledge that the whisky is well-crafted, even if it's not your style. For example, you can mention, "Not my preferred flavor profile due to heavy peat, but clearly well-made with depth and complexity."
2. **Evaluate Other Aspects** – Consider the whisky's balance, mouthfeel, complexity, and finish. Even if you dislike the peat, are there other qualities (smoothness, richness, sweetness) that you can appreciate?
3. **Contextualize Your Rating** – Instead of giving a low score solely because of peatiness, you could rate it higher but include a note: "Peat-forward lovers will likely enjoy this more than I did."
4. **Compare Within Style** – If you've tried other peaty whiskies, how does this one compare? Even if you don't like peat, you might recognize differences in smoke intensity, depth, or smoothness.
5. **Be Fair and Informative** – A rating should guide others, not just reflect personal dislike. If the whisky is a good representation of its style but not to your taste, consider saying: "Too smoky for me, but fans of Islay whiskies will likely love it."

Meeting Date 3/22/2025

## Laphroag Quarter Cask NAS. Islay. 48% ABV

Maturation has been speeded up by ageing in Quarter Casks. This shows soft sweetness and a velvety feel when first tasted, then the intense peatiness on the finish.

**Color:** Pale Yellow    Yellow    Gold    Greeny-Gold    Bronze    Deep Amber    Mahogany

**Nose:** Floral Citrus    Grass    Honey    Coconut    Malty Oak    Nutty    Molasses    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Pungent    Sea Air    Peat

**Palate:** Woody    Zesty    Vanilla    Oily    Peppery    Raisins    Intense    Grassy    Caramel    Berries    Balanced    Chocolate    Floral  
Citrus    Honey    Coconut    Nutty    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Malty    Peat    Rich/Earthy    Salt

Alive    Balanced    Abrasive    Assertive    Delicate    Bland

**Body:** Light    Medium    Full    Smooth    Rich    Creamy    Textured    Big    Crisp    Mouth-coating    Silky    Velvet

**Finish:** Short    Medium    Long    Abrupt    Bitter    Intense    Tingling    Robust    Oaky    Crisp    Delicate

**Length of finish (minutes):**    1    1.5    2    2.5    3    3.5    4    4.5    5

**Score:** 80

**Notes:** No peat, smooth

**Name:** Mike

- 95-100 – Exceptional: A truly outstanding whisky with near-perfect balance, depth, and complexity.
- 90-94 – Excellent: High-quality, well-crafted whisky with distinct character and superb drinkability.
- 85-89 – Very Good: A solid, well-made whisky with notable complexity and enjoyable flavors.
- 80-84 – Good: A decent whisky that is enjoyable but may lack depth or have minor flaws.
- 70-79 – Average: Drinkable but unremarkable, with noticeable shortcomings.
- 60-69 – Below Average: Flawed whisky with imbalance, off-notes, or lack of depth.
- 50-59 – Poor: Significant flaws, harshness, or unpleasant flavors.
- Below 50 – Undrinkable: Seriously flawed, possibly due to poor production or storage.

Meeting Date: 3/22/2025

**Aberlour A'bunadh. NAS**  
**Speyside. Cask Strength. 59.6% ABV**

Aged exclusively in Oloroso Sherry casks. Deep and concentrated aromas of nuts and raisins. The mouth begins spicy, turning to sweet dried figs and candied nuts.

Color: Pale Yellow   Yellow   Gold   Greeny-Gold   Bronze   Deep Amber   Mahogany

Nose: Floral   Citrus   Grass   Honey   Coconut   Malty   Oak   Nutty   Molasses   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Pungent   Sea Air   Peat

Palate: Woody   Zesty   Vanilla   Oily   Peppery   Raisins   Intense   Grassy   Caramel   Berries   Chocolate   Floral   Citrus

Honey   Coconut   Nutty   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Malty   Peat   Rich/Earthy   Salty

Alive   Balanced   Abrasive   Assertive   Delicate   Bland

Body: Light   Medium   Full   Smooth   Rich   Creamy   Textured   Big   Crisp   Mouth-coating   Silky   Velvet

Finish: Short   Medium   Long   Abrupt   Bitter   Intense   Tingling   Robust   Oaky   Crisp   Delicate

Length of finish (minutes):   1   1.5   2   2.5   3   3.5   4   4.5   5

Score: 91   Notes: Very intense   Name: Mike

If you're rating a single malt Scotch that is well-regarded but not to your personal taste due to its peatiness, you might consider a **balanced** approach:

1. **Separate Personal Preference from Quality** – Acknowledge that the whisky is well-crafted, even if it's not your style. For example, you can mention, *"Not my preferred flavor profile due to heavy peat, but clearly well-made with depth and complexity."*
2. **Evaluate Other Aspects** – Consider the whisky's balance, mouthfeel, complexity, and finish. Even if you dislike the peat, are there other qualities (smoothness, richness, sweetness) that you can appreciate?
3. **Contextualize Your Rating** – Instead of giving a low score solely because of peatiness, you could rate it higher but include a note: *"Peat-forward lovers will likely enjoy this more than I did."*
4. **Compare Within Style** – If you've tried other peaty whiskies, how does this one compare? Even if you don't like peat, you might recognize differences in smoke intensity, depth, or smoothness.
5. **Be Fair and Informative** – A rating should guide others, not just reflect personal dislike. If the whisky is a good representation of its style but not to your taste, consider saying: *"Too smoky for me, but fans of Islay whiskies will likely love it."*



Meeting Date 3/22/2025

## Laphroag Quarter Cask

NAS. Islay. 48% ABV 60.1%  
60.1%

Maturation has been speeded up by ageing in Quarter Casks. This shows soft sweetness and a velvety feel when first tasted, then the intense peatiness on the finish.

**Color:** Pale Yellow    Yellow    Gold    Greeny-Gold    Bronze    Deep Amber    Mahogany

**Nose:** Floral Citrus    Grass    Honey    Coconut    Malty    Oak    Nutty    Molasses    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Pungent    Sea Air    Peat

**Palate:** Woody    Zesty    Vanilla    Oily    Peppery    Raisins    Intense    Grassy    Caramel    Berries    Balanced    Chocolate    Floral  
Citrus    Honey    Coconut    Nutty    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Malty    Peat    Rich/Earthy    Salt

Alive    Balanced    Abrasive    Assertive    Delicate    Bland

**Body:** Light    Medium    Full    Smooth    Rich    Creamy    Textured    Big    Crisp    Mouth-coating    Silky    Velvet

**Finish:** Short    Medium    Long    Abrupt    Bitter    Intense    Tingling    Robust    Oaky    Crisp    Delicate

**Length of finish (minutes):**    1    1.5    2    2.5    3    3.5    4    4.5    5

**Score:** 80

**Notes:** Too peaty for me but fans of Islay will love it

**Name:** Bon Ward

- 95-100 – Exceptional: A truly outstanding whisky with near-perfect balance, depth, and complexity.
- 90-94 – Excellent: High-quality, well-crafted whisky with distinct character and superb drinkability.
- 85-89 – Very Good: A solid, well-made whisky with notable complexity and enjoyable flavors.
- 80-84 – Good: A decent whisky that is enjoyable but may lack depth or have minor flaws.
- 70-79 – Average: Drinkable but unremarkable, with noticeable shortcomings.
- 60-69 – Below Average: Flawed whisky with imbalance, off-notes, or lack of depth.
- 50-59 – Poor: Significant flaws, harshness, or unpleasant flavors.
- Below 50 – Undrinkable: Seriously flawed, possibly due to poor production or storage.

*Will it replace one on your shelf?*

Meeting Date: 3/22/2025

Aberlour A'bunadh. NAS  
Speyside. Cask Strength. ~~59.6%~~ ABV

\$104<sup>99</sup>

Aged exclusively in Oloroso Sherry casks. Deep and concentrated aromas of nuts and raisins. The mouth begins spicy, turning to sweet dried figs and candied nuts.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze Deep Amber Mahogany  
Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat  
Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Chocolate Floral Citrus  
Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy Salty  
Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland  
Body: Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet  
Finish: Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate  
Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5

Score: 45

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Don Ward

If you're rating a single malt Scotch that is well-regarded but not to your personal taste due to its peatiness, you might consider a **balanced** approach:

1. **Separate Personal Preference from Quality** – Acknowledge that the whisky is well-crafted, even if it's not your style. For example, you can mention, *"Not my preferred flavor profile due to heavy peat, but clearly well-made with depth and complexity."*
2. **Evaluate Other Aspects** – Consider the whisky's balance, mouthfeel, complexity, and finish. Even if you dislike the peat, are there other qualities (smoothness, richness, sweetness) that you can appreciate?
3. **Contextualize Your Rating** – Instead of giving a low score solely because of peatiness, you could rate it higher but include a note: *"Peat-forward lovers will likely enjoy this more than I did."*
4. **Compare Within Style** – If you've tried other peaty whiskies, how does this one compare? Even if you don't like peat, you might recognize differences in smoke intensity, depth, or smoothness.
5. **Be Fair and Informative** – A rating should guide others, not just reflect personal dislike. If the whisky is a good representation of its style but not to your taste, consider saying: *"Too smoky for me, but fans of Islay whiskies will likely love it."*

Meeting Date 3/22/2025

## Laphroag Quarter Cask NAS. Islay. 48% ABV

Maturation has been speeded up by ageing in Quarter Casks. This shows soft sweetness and a velvety feel when first tasted, then the intense peatiness on the finish.

**Color:** Pale Yellow    Yellow    Gold    Greeny-Gold    Bronze    Deep Amber    Mahogany

**Nose:** Floral Citrus    Grass    Honey    Coconut    Malty Oak    Nutty    Molasses    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Pungent    Sea Air Peat

**Palate:** Woody    Zesty    Vanilla    Oily    Peppery    Raisins    Intense    Grassy    Caramel    Berries    Balanced    Chocolate    Floral  
Citrus    Honey    Coconut    Nutty    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Malty    Peat    Rich/Earthy    Salt

Alive    Balanced    Abrasive    Assertive    Delicate    Bland

**Body:** Light    Medium    Full    Smooth    Rich    Creamy    Textured    Big    Crisp    Mouth-coating    Silky    Velvet

**Finish:** Short    Medium    Long    Abrupt    Bitter    Intense    Tingling    Robust    Oaky    Crisp    Delicate

**Length of finish (minutes):**        1    1.5    2    2.5    3    3.5    4    4.5    5

**Score:** 89

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** James A. ...

- 95-100 – Exceptional: A truly outstanding whisky with near-perfect balance, depth, and complexity.
- 90-94 – Excellent: High-quality, well-crafted whisky with distinct character and superb drinkability.
- 85-89 – Very Good: A solid, well-made whisky with notable complexity and enjoyable flavors.
- 80-84 – Good: A decent whisky that is enjoyable but may lack depth or have minor flaws.
- 70-79 – Average: Drinkable but unremarkable, with noticeable shortcomings.
- 60-69 – Below Average: Flawed whisky with imbalance, off-notes, or lack of depth.
- 50-59 – Poor: Significant flaws, harshness, or unpleasant flavors.
- Below 50 – Undrinkable: Seriously flawed, possibly due to poor production or storage.

Meeting Date: 3/22/2025

**Aberlour A'bunadh. NAS**  
**Speyside. Cask Strength. 59.6% ABV**

Aged exclusively in Oloroso Sherry casks. Deep and concentrated aromas of nuts and raisins. The mouth begins spicy, turning to sweet dried figs and candied nuts.

Color: Pale Yellow   Yellow   Gold   Greeny-Gold   Bronze   Deep Amber   Mahogany

Nose: Floral   Citrus   Grass   Honey   Coconut   Malty Oak   Nutty   Molasses   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Pungent   Sea Air   Peat

Palate: Woody   Zesty   Vanilla   Oily   Peppery   Raisins   Intense   Grassy   Caramel   Berries   Chocolate   Floral   Citrus

Honey   Coconut   Nutty   Sherry   Sweet   Smoky   Malty Peat   Rich/Earthy   Salty

Alive   Balanced   Abrasive   Assertive   Delicate   Bland

Body: Light   Medium   Full   Smooth   Rich   Creamy   Textured   Big   Crisp   Mouth-coating   Silky   Velvet

Finish: Short   Medium   Long   Abrupt   Bitter   Intense   Tingling   Robust   Oaky   Crisp   Delicate

Length of finish (minutes):   1   1.5   2   2.5   3   3.5   4   4.5   5

Score: 88

Notes: Good with water

Name: Tamara

If you're rating a **single malt** Scotch that is well-regarded but not to your personal taste due to its peatiness, you might consider a **balanced** approach:

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2. **Evaluate Other Aspects** – Consider the whisky's balance, mouthfeel, complexity, and finish. Even if you dislike the peat, are there other qualities (smoothness, richness, sweetness) that you can appreciate?
3. **Contextualize Your Rating** – Instead of giving a low score solely because of peatiness, you could rate it higher but include a note: *"Peat-forward lovers will likely enjoy this more than I did."*
4. **Compare Within Style** – If you've tried other peaty whiskies, how does this one compare? Even if you don't like peat, you might recognize differences in smoke intensity, depth, or smoothness.
5. **Be Fair and Informative** – A rating should guide others, not just reflect personal dislike. If the whisky is a good representation of its style but not to your taste, consider saying: *"Too smoky for me, but fans of Islay whiskies will likely love it."*

Meeting Date 3/22/2025

## Laphroag Quarter Cask NAS. Islay. 48% ABV

Maturation has ~~been speeded~~ up by ageing in Quarter Casks. This shows soft sweetness and a velvety feel when first tasted, then the intense peatiness on the finish.

**Color:** Pale Yellow    Yellow    Gold    Greeny-Gold    Bronze    Deep Amber    Mahogany

**Nose:** Floral Citrus    Grass    Honey    Coconut    Malty Oak    Nutty    Molasses    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Pungent    Sea Air Peat

**Palate:** Woody    Zesty    Vanilla    Oily    Peppery    Raisins    Intense    Grassy    Caramel    Berries    Balanced    Chocolate    Floral  
Citrus    Honey    Coconut    Nutty    Sherry    Sweet    Smoky    Malty    Peat    Rich/Earthy    Salt

Alive    Balanced    Abrasive    Assertive    Delicate    Bland

**Body:** Light    Medium    Full    Smooth    Rich    Creamy    Textured    Big    Crisp    Mouth-coating    Silky    Velvet

**Finish:** Short    Medium    Long    Abrupt    Bitter    Intense    Tingling    Robust    Oaky    Crisp    Delicate

**Length of finish (minutes):**    1    1.5    2    2.5    3    3.5    4    4.5    5

**Score:** 88

**Notes:** LAPHROAG LITE w/ A PUNCH

**Name:** ERIC WESTERHIM

- 95-100 – Exceptional: A truly outstanding whisky with near-perfect balance, depth, and complexity.
- 90-94 – Excellent: High-quality, well-crafted whisky with distinct character and superb drinkability.
- 85-89 – Very Good: A solid, well-made whisky with notable complexity and enjoyable flavors.
- 80-84 – Good: A decent whisky that is enjoyable but may lack depth or have minor flaws.
- 70-79 – Average: Drinkable but unremarkable, with noticeable shortcomings.
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Meeting Date: 3/22/2025

**Aberlour A'bunadh. NAS**  
**Speyside. Cask Strength. 59.6% ABV**

Aged exclusively in Oloroso Sherry casks. Deep and concentrated aromas of nuts and raisins. The mouth begins ~~spicy~~, turning to sweet dried figs and candied nuts.

Color: Pale Yellow Yellow Gold Greeny-Gold Bronze Deep Amber Mahogany

Nose: Floral Citrus Grass Honey Coconut Malty Oak Nutty Molasses Sherry Sweet Smoky Pungent Sea Air Peat

Palate: Woody Zesty Vanilla Oily Peppery Raisins Intense Grassy Caramel Berries Chocolate Floral Citrus

Honey Coconut Nutty Sherry Sweet Smoky Malty Peat Rich/Earthy Salty

Alive Balanced Abrasive Assertive Delicate Bland

Body: Light Medium Full Smooth Rich Creamy Textured Big Crisp Mouth-coating Silky Velvet

Finish: Short Medium Long Abrupt Bitter Intense Tingling Robust Oaky Crisp Delicate

Length of finish (minutes): 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5 3.5 3.5 4 1.89 min

AFTER WATER FINISH 3.1 min

Score: 85

Notes:

SWEET LONG FINISH TAMED W/WATER

Name:

Eric Westerheim  
ERIC WESTERHEIM

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