

**WHISKEY #1** \_\_\_\_\_

1st Impression   Irish   Scotch   US

NOSE: \_\_\_\_\_

PALATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FINISH: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHISKEY #2** \_\_\_\_\_

1st Impression   Irish   Scotch   Rye

NOSE: \_\_\_\_\_

PALATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FINISH: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHISKEY #3** \_\_\_\_\_

1st Impression   Irish   Scotch   US

NOSE: \_\_\_\_\_

PALATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FINISH: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHISKEY #4** \_\_\_\_\_

1st Impression   Irish   Scotch   Rye

NOSE: \_\_\_\_\_

PALATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FINISH: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHISKEY #5** \_\_\_\_\_

1st Impression   Irish   Scotch   US

NOSE: \_\_\_\_\_

PALATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FINISH: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHISKEY #6** \_\_\_\_\_

1st Impression   Irish   Scotch   Rye

NOSE: \_\_\_\_\_

PALATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FINISH: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHISKEY #7** \_\_\_\_\_

1st Impression   Irish   Scotch   Rye

NOSE: \_\_\_\_\_

PALATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FINISH: \_\_\_\_\_

# Blind Whiskey Tasting

December 4th, 2018

An opportunity to build palate memory muscles by focusing on what we sense as taste, and not allowing our brain to override this sense of taste through prejudicial knowledge of style, origin, age or cost!

Using our experience of past tastings:-

**Brine** is usually Scottish

**Coconut** = American Oak

**Smoke** not usual in Irish

**Vanillin** = Bourbon/US Oak

**Pepper** = Sherry/Spanish Oak

**Age** mellows sharp flavors

**Wood** impact sometimes mistaken for smoke

**Peat** = acrid smoke=seaside

1st impression usually right

## UNCLE NEAREST - TN WHISKEY

**Nose:** A sniff initially brings in a rich, molasses-like sweetness through the nasal passages. That quickly gives way to an earthier bouquet of grass, charcoal, and nutmeg.

**Palate:** A rich and smooth character, this time with more of a caramelly flavor with distant notes of apple and hay. That sweetness lingers for a moment before again yielding to a spicier mixture of clove, nutmeg, charcoal, and oak.

**Finish:** Swallowing sends rush of those spices throughout the mouth, which quickly fades into a rich, creamy caramel that hangs in the mouth for another minute or so –

## BUSHMILLS 10Yr –IRISH MALT

A superb 10 year old Irish single malt and winner of Best Irish Single Malt Whiskey at the 2007 World Whiskies Awards.

**Nose:** Banana skins.

**Palate:** Medium, very fruity, chocolate pudding.

**Finish:** Floral, tannic.

**Overall:** Add a drop of water and it tastes just like nectarine chunks in low fat yoghurt!

## EZRA BROOKS—KY BOURBON

Seven year old, straight bourbon bottled at 50.5%

**Nose:** Caramel, orange blossom, crushed hazelnuts, a peppery flourish of oak.

**Palate:** Warming cedar spice continues on the palate, joined by robust vanilla and a touch of corn.

**Finish:** Quite long, with a fiery hint of cinnamon and red chilli right on the end.

## GLENMORANGIE MILSEAN

**Nose:** Seaside fudge, coconut ice, blueberries and candied peels. Develops more 'fresh fruit' than 'candied fruit' with a drop of water.

**Palate:** Cinnamon spice begins to develop, alongside yellow plum, melon and more coconut. Subtly oak-y, but the focus here is on the fruity sweetness, which hints more towards orange segments as it goes on.

**Finish:** An intriguing balance of sweetness and spice (think strawberry laces and ginger snaps)

## BASIL HAYDEN - DARK RYE

Kentucky Rye, providing spice, oak, dried fruit and subtle molasses undertones, Canadian Rye layered in and California Port casks bring complementary notes of ripe fruit.

**NOSE:** Oaky notes balanced with dark berries and molasses

**PALATE:** Complex blend of caramel, dried fruit, oak with back notes of spice and a rounded mouth feel

**FINISH:** Lingering dried fruit with a hint of sweetness and rye spice.

## HIGHLAND PARK 12 Yr

**Nose:** Fresh, clean and very aromatic. Floral notes abound the senses with a light grassiness. Notes of creamy Manuka honey and a touch of juicy citrus with cream and a well-balanced sweetness.

**Palate:** Rather full with a pleasant depth. Lurking somewhere in the substratum a grilled orange lies. Notes of granary toast and green tea with jasmine. A touch of sweetness.

**Finish:** Quite long with peppery spice and wood shavings.

## WESTLAND USA SINGLE MALT

Craft Producer of the Year ~ Icons of Whisky 2016

**Nose:** Cherries, coffee and chocolate. Vanilla custard and peppery wood.

**Palate:** Caramel, buttered bread, a touch of cigar box.

**Finish:** Peppery oak returns on the finish, with a touch of pear.

## BLIND TASTING

Key factors to remember before launching your search, first impressions matter, tasting is different than drinking, so add water, breathe and give your senses an opportunity to lock in on flavors.

Which glasses have strong characteristics?  
Smoke? Wood? Vanillins? Heat? Color, etc..

There are no trick expressions, so if you think it is...  
It probably is! Unless of course you're wrong