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TICKETS GO ON SALE FOR THE 2018 WORLD WHISKY FORUM

The Cotswolds Distillery in England will host the second World Whisky Forum in June, following the Forum's highly successful first year at Box Distillery in Sweden.

Created by Jan Groth of Box Distillery in conjunction with Ingvar Ronde of the *Malt Whisky Yearbook* and acclaimed whisky writer Dave Broom, the aim is to bring together key figures in the whisky world to foster cooperation and knowledge exchange across the industry. By bringing together small producers and much bigger players, from the established whisky-producing nations and the new ones, ideas can be shared and progress made - both in terms of the industry and the product itself.

Founder and CEO of the Cotswolds Distillery, Dan Szor, attended the first conference and was struck by the spirit of cooperation and curiosity that fuelled the Forum.

Szor said: "The 2017 Forum was an eye-opening experience that demonstrated that, unlike many industries today, the whisky world is one filled with passionate individuals keen to share ideas and cooperate, irrespective of national borders or corporate allegiances. With the World Whisky movement in full flight, we are thrilled that we'll be able to host some of our friends and heroes, and show them our own perspective on bringing something new to the whisky world. Our Cotswolds Single Malt has only just been released, so this recognition of our place in the World Whisky community makes us incredibly proud."

The theme for this year's Forum is 'Whisky 2020', with guest speakers addressing innovation in whisky and the future direction of the industry. The 12 speakers this year include Jota Tanaka of Fuji Gotemba distillery in Japan, Tristan Stephenson of Fluid Movement/Black Rock, Miika Lipiäinen of Kyrö Distillery in Finland and the Cotswolds Distillery's own head distiller, Nick Franchino. Returning as moderator is Dave Broom, editor of ScotchWhisky.com and author of *The Way of Whisky: A Journey around Japanese Whisky*.

There are a limited number of spaces available to attend the Forum, and these are open to anyone working in the whisky industry. For more information on how to book and the full speakers schedule, please visit www.worldwhiskyforum.org

NOTES TO EDITORS:

The WORLD WHISKY FORUM was founded in 2017 by Jan Groth of Box Distillery in Sweden. It is a stage for the new wave of distillers and whisky stakeholders around the world who put innovation, rethinking and, of course, craftsmanship first. It is a recurring event that takes place every eighteen months.

The COTSWOLDS DISTILLERY was founded in 2014 and is the first full-scale distillery in the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It was recently named Craft Producer of the Year in the Rest of World category of the Icons of Whisky Awards, and in the UK category of the Icons of Gin Awards.

For more information, please visit www.worldwhiskyforum.org and www.cotswoldsdistillery.org, or contact Jan Groth, Head of the World Whisky Forum +46 (0)70-494 18 01 jan.groth@worldwhiskyform.org or Zoe Rutherford, Communications Manager at the Cotswolds Distillery zrutherford@cotswoldsdistillery.com +44 1608 238 533.