



Contact: Amy Preske
Public Relations & Events Manager
Buffalo Trace Distillery
apreske@buffalotrace.com
502-696-5957
www.singleoakproject.com

For Immediate Release

Buffalo Trace Distillery Releases Sixteenth (and Last) Round of Single Oak Project Bourbon

Four year Holy Grail project is nearly ready to reveal “the perfect bourbon”

FRANKFORT, FRANKLIN COUNTY, KY (Feb 3, 2015) – Buffalo Trace Distillery will release the last set of [Single Oak Project Bourbon](#) bottles, as the four year research project into finding the “Holy Grail” of bourbon comes to a close.

The project consisted of bottles from 192 barrels released every three months in increments of twelve 375ml bottles over the past four years. Seven different variables were studied over the course of the study: recipe (wheat or rye); entry proof (105 proof or 125 proof); stave seasoning (six months or 12 months); grain size (tight, average, or coarse grains); warehouse (concrete floor or wooden rick floor); char number (number three or number four char); and tree cut (top or bottom half of the tree).

This final of the 16 releases offers a variety of all of the above variables, which should prove to be a treat for those following along over the years, or even those who’ve just begun to taste and rate these unique bourbons.

“This last release has quite the variety of bourbons. We’ve got some wheat and rye recipe, both the 105 and 125 entry proofs, all three grain sizes represented both types of warehouse floors, and oak from both the top and the bottom of the tree. The only consistencies in this release are the stave seasoning at six months and the number four char,” said Kris Comstock, bourbon marketing director. “The diversity provides a good

starting point for those who aim to learn how these different nuances affect the taste, or for those current participants who want to taste test what they have learned so far.”

Comstock is referring to the website www.singleoakproject.com, in which participants can join and review Single Oak Bourbons they have tasted. After each review, members are availed the provenance of the bourbon in which they just appraised. This allows tasters to gain insights into how each variable imparts different taste characteristics and determine which type of bourbon they prefer.

So far, more than 4,600 reviews have been given, and barrel #82 remains the overall favorite, with barrels #109 and #111 not far behind.

“There is a very thin margin between the top rated bourbons so far, and it’s also possible that a bourbon from this last batch could come in and upset all the rankings. We’re still far from determining a winner,” added Comstock.

The winning bourbon will be announced this summer, to give plenty of time for bottles of this last release to be reviewed. If the results are too close to call, a panel of bourbon industry experts will help evaluate the finalists. After the winning bourbon is announced, Buffalo Trace plans to replicate the winning bourbon under the Single Oak Bourbon name.

The Single Oak Project is part of an intensive research project Buffalo Trace Distillery started conducting in 1999 by hand picking 96 trees with different wood grains and then dividing them into a top and bottom piece, yielding 192 unique sections.

For eight years the Distillery continued with its tracking process, creating intricate databases and coming up with a potential of 1,396 tasting combinations from these 192 barrels!

The Single Oak Project Bourbon is being released in a series every three months from 2011 through 2015 until all of the 192 barrels have been released. The first release hit select stores in 2011. This final release will reach stores late February. Like all the other releases, the quantities are very limited. Every case will contain 12 bottles, each bottle from a different barrel. The sixteenth release is made up of barrel numbers 7, 20, 39, 52, 71, 84, 103, 116, 135, 148, 168, and 180. All releases are packaged in a 375ml bottles. Suggested retail pricing per bottle is \$46.35.

About Buffalo Trace Distillery

Buffalo Trace Distillery is an American family-owned company based in Frankfort, Franklin County, Kentucky. The Distillery's rich tradition dates back to 1773 and includes such legends as E.H. Taylor, Jr., George T. Stagg, Albert B. Blanton, Orville Schupp, and Elmer T. Lee. Buffalo Trace Distillery is a fully operational Distillery producing bourbon, rye and vodka on site and is a National Historic Landmark as well as is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Distillery has won 17 distillery titles since 2000 from such notable publications as *Whisky Magazine*, *Whisky Advocate Magazine* and *Wine Enthusiast Magazine*. It was named “Brand Innovator of the Year” by *Whisky Magazine* at its Icons of Whisky America Awards 2015. Buffalo Trace Distillery has also garnered more than 300 awards for its wide range of premium whiskies. To learn more about Buffalo Trace Distillery visit www.buffalotracedistillery.com. To download images from Buffalo Trace Distillery visit www.buffalotracediakit.com

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