



Object of the Newsletter

To promote the appreciation of fine Whisky, the area from which it comes, the people that inhabit the land and it's history. By the way, I am merely expressing my opinion on the whiskies I am tasting, as you know, everybody has one.

As this will be my 4th of July issue I'm looking at Blanton's "single Barrel" Bourbon.

Although I am not a huge Bourbon drinker, I do tend to drink a Bourbon during the warmer months, as I'm disinclined to add ice to my scotch, but I do like Bourbon over ice.

The Pappy Van Winkle "feeding frenzy" has probably come to your attention over the last couple of years, I couldn't believe the lines to taste it at WhiskyFest in San Francisco. Anyway, I have tasted both the Pappy 23-year-old and this Blanton's and am inclined to think that the Blanton's is as good, if not better.

The droves of Pappy zombies, have bought into way too much hype, it's a great Bourbon, but really.....

Would I buy the Blanton's single barrel, yes I have and would do so again. In my opinion, you get as good a quality product as the Pappy, at a third of the price. "Happy Independence day."

You can buy Blanton's bourbon for around \$60.00 a bottle.

Tasting Notes

Nose - Citrus & toffee

Palate - Citrus, floral notes & toffee

Finish - Citrus, floral, toffee & nuts



"Slainte Mhath"

Paul Bissett



A Timeline of Bourbon History

BY REID MITENBULER

Bourbon was born on the American frontier and came of age on Madison Avenue—and everything about its history reflects the nation that invented it. The story is cast with immigrants, industrialists, farmers, and hustlers, and set in fields, factories, boardrooms, and back rooms. Inextricably intertwined, *America shaped bourbon and bourbon shaped America*. And no matter how hard marketers try to embellish the history, they'll never top the real thing.

7000BC—A-maize-ing

Early Native Americans domesticate a weedy Mexican grass called teosinte, ultimately transforming it into the primary ingredient of bourbon and a grain that feeds and fuels the United States.

1622—Dying for a Drink

George Thorpe, a colonist who had been experimenting with making alcohol beverages from corn, is killed during the Powhatan Uprising in Virginia.

1776—Revoluting Developments

As the war with the British hinders the sugar trade, and therefore rum production, Americans resort to distilling from native grains like rye and corn to make spirits.

1792—15th State

As Kentucky joins the Union, more Americans move into the Ohio River Valley region where corn grows particularly well, paving the way for the Bluegrass State to eventually become the epicenter of bourbon.

1794—The Whiskey Rebellion

Frontier distillers in western Pennsylvania resist payment of the “whiskey tax,” the first tax on a domestic product from the new government. George Washington and his army suppress the insurgents, enforcing the federal government’s sovereignty.

1797—Distiller in Chief

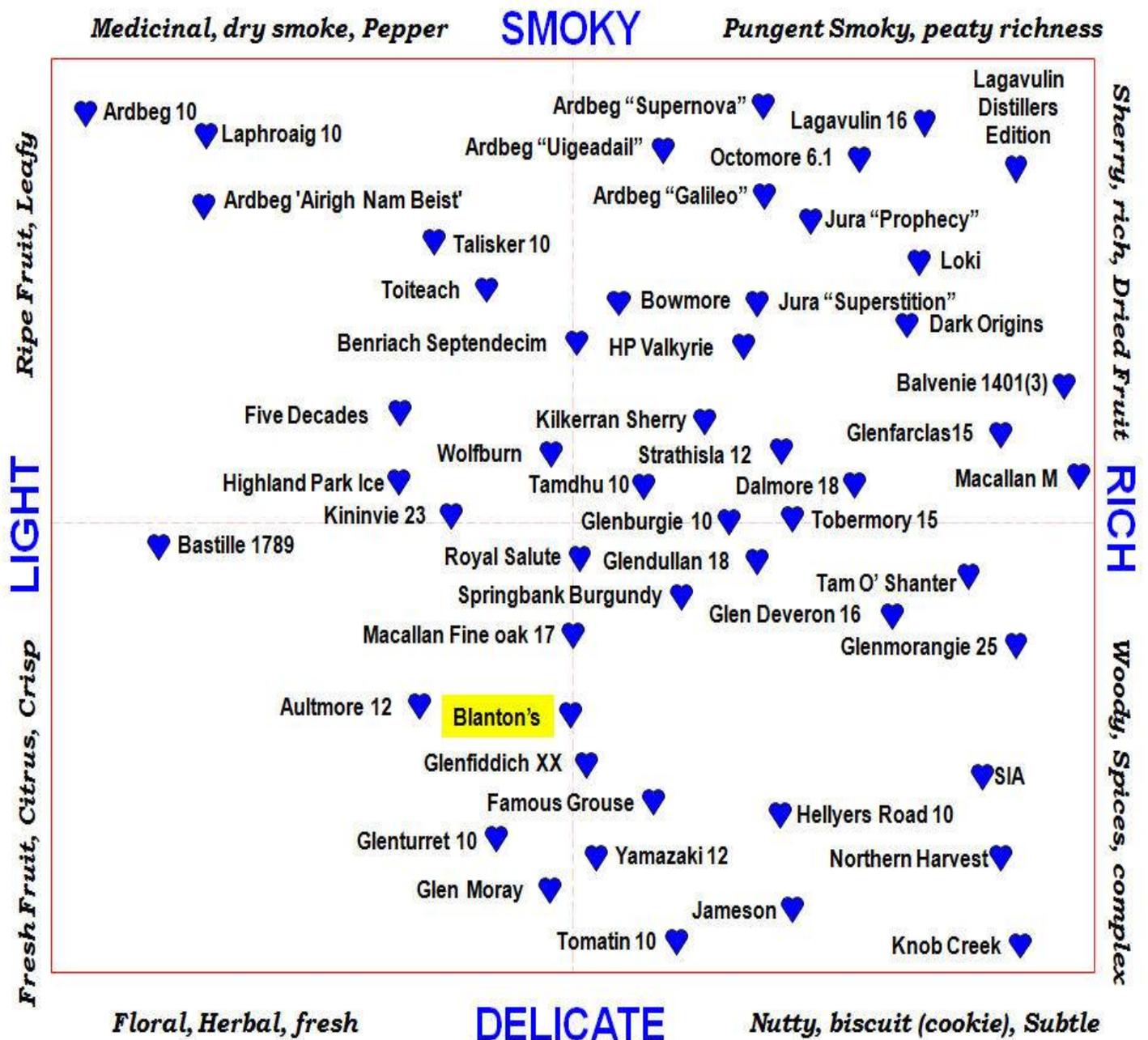
Working at Mount Vernon, George Washington becomes the nation’s largest distiller, specializing in rye whiskey, bourbon’s close cousin.

1802—Tax Break

Thomas Jefferson—who strongly dislikes whiskey, much preferring wine—eliminates the hated whiskey tax, thwarting an illicit moonshine market while promoting innovation and craft.



Below is a simple guide to help you choose your Whisky, and the flavor notes you should expect from it. Being Scottish I recommend you find a likely candidate and try it in a bar before buying the whole bottle. This Issue; [Blanton's bourbon](http://www.blantonsbourbon.com). For more information go to; www.blantonsbourbon.com





A Timeline of Bourbon History cont.

1807—Barrel Role

Middleman merchants like the Tarascon brothers, from south of Cognac, France, settle along the Mississippi River, bringing their tradition of aging spirits in charred barrels to whiskey for the long voyage to markets like New Orleans.

1821—Naming Rights

First known advertisement using the word “bourbon” to describe whiskey appears in Kentucky’s Western Citizen newspaper, when a firm known as Stout and Adams offers it for sale by the barrel.

1831—Coffey, Please

Irish inventor Aeneas Coffey patents a more efficient version of the continuous still, capable of producing spirits faster and cleaner than traditional pot distillation.

1830s—Burning Desires

Distilleries burn their names onto barrelheads, giving rise to the term “brand names,” and indicating that people are growing more interested in a whiskey’s source, quality, and style.

1835—A Sour Note

The “father of modern bourbon,” Dr. James Crow, begins experimenting at a distillery along Glens Creek in Kentucky’s Woodford County. In freely sharing his scientific discoveries, he helps to popularize the sour mash process.

1847—Ice, Ice, Baby

From his Walden Pond outpost, Henry David Thoreau rhapsodizes about America’s ability to improve ice harvesting, transportation, and storage. Now, Clinebell machines mimic the cold, dense ice once provided by nature.

1865—A Local Anesthetic

By the Civil War’s end, countless soldiers have been treated with whiskey. Some are given a pint a day, others “as much whiskey as [they] could take,” according to The Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion.



A Timeline of Bourbon History cont.

1875—Whiskeygate

A Republican scheme to bury political opponents using money skimmed from whiskey taxes is traced all the way to Orville Babcock, personal secretary to President Ulysses S. Grant, exposing whiskey as one of America's most corrupt industries.

1881—Whiskey for my Cattle

Whiskey baron Joseph Greenhut opens the world's largest distillery, Great Western Distillery in Peoria, Illinois. At its peak, the trust he forms is so enormous that the spent grain provides food for 28,000 cattle.

1886—Newly Old Fashioned

Bartenders have begun dressing up the basic Whiskey Cocktail with extra ingredients, causing purists to launch a back-to-basics movement dubbing the drink an "Old Fashioned," as it appears in the publication *Comment and Dramatic Times*.

1897—Bottled in Bond

Problems with mislabeling and adding dangerous adulterants spark the landmark Bottled in Bond Act, establishing standards of identity and making the U.S. Government the guarantor of a whiskey's authenticity.

1904—99 Bottles

Michael Owens patents an automated bottle-making system able to produce an incredible four bottles per second. Bottles emerge as the most accessible and versatile bourbon package.

1909—Taft Decision

On the heels of the 1906 Pure Food and Drug Act, President William Howard Taft announces rules for definition and composition of American whiskey. "Bourbon" and "rye" will be used to identify dominant grains used.

1919—The Volstead Act

National Prohibition legislation is informally nicknamed after Andrew Volstead, a Minnesota Congressman who promoted it. With quality bourbon severely limited, Americans turn to alternatives—sales of ginger ale, a popular mixer, will triple between 1920 and 1928.



A Timeline of Bourbon History cont.

1922—Boardwalk Empire

Bootlegger George Remus, who supposedly inspired the character of Jay Gatsby, goes to prison. He had built a \$40 million syndicate out of leftover booze from ten distilleries, but was eventually overshadowed by Al Capone.

1933—Repeal

President Franklin Roosevelt brings back the whiskey industry, albeit in a more consolidated and regulated form. The new “three-tier” system—governing production, distribution, and retail—maximizes tax revenue needed during Great Depression.

1937—Smooth Operators

W. Forbes Morgan, a nephew of J.P. Morgan, leads industry’s first serious lobbying group. Time calls him a “front man” as “The Big Four” corporations, some headed by former bootleggers, emerge to control about three-quarters of the industry.

1938—Mint Green

The Mint Julep, long a Kentucky Derby tradition, becomes the race’s “official drink,” sold in souvenir glasses for seventy-five cents apiece. Churchill Downs, where the race is held, sold nearly 120,000 of them during race weekend this year.

1941—WWII

U.S. Government assumes control of the industry as distillers churn out 44 percent of the 1.7 billion gallons of industrial alcohol used in the U.S. war effort, earning the spirit the name “Cocktails for Hitler.”

1947—Make or Break

With the world still reeling from WWII, President Harry Truman—who liked his bourbon with water or ginger ale—shuts down the nation’s distilleries for 60 days in order to conserve grain, which is sent overseas to feed hungry Europeans.

1952—Big Squeeze

Julian “Pappy” Van Winkle accuses larger competitors of “skulduggery” and “squeeze moves” during a House Judiciary Committee hearing on whiskey monopolies. His distillery, Stitzel-Weller, folds decades later as industry consolidates.



A Timeline of Bourbon History cont.

1959—Cold War

Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev is given his first bourbon Highball during Vice President Richard Nixon's visit to Moscow. "This is very good whiskey," he says. "But you Americans spoil it. You put in more ice than whiskey."

1961—Respect for Elders

Saddled with surpluses, distilleries grow desperate to sell aging whiskey. Lewis Rosenstiel, founder of Schenley Industries, who controls nearly half of the nation's aging whiskey stocks, spends \$21 million on slogans like, "Age Makes the Difference."

1964—Red, White, and Bourbon

Congress declares bourbon a "distinctive product of the United States," giving it special trade protection in overseas markets. Rosenstiel celebrates by sending a case of bourbon to every U.S. embassy in the world.

1967—Bond, James Bond

At the height of the Cold War, Jim Beam hires James Bond actor Sean Connery as a spokesperson. Nobody mentions that he's Scottish or that Bond actually preferred vodka Martinis.

1981—Hope and Aspiration

Hiram Walker purchases Maker's Mark, one of the only brands to grow during the industry's downfall. The brand's upmarket advertising ("It tastes expensive...and is.") illuminates the industry's path to salvation.

1984—Singles Going Steady

Noting growth of a luxury market and success of single malt scotch, Ancient Age Distillery (later known as Buffalo Trace) releases Blanton's, the first bourbon mass-marketed as "single barrel."

2009-2014—Off the Charts

Domestic whiskey sales surge 40 percent in five years as a new generation discovers, and an older generation rediscovers, both bourbon and rye, causing demand to outstrip supply once again.

2017—Strength in Numbers

Rising from only a handful in 2000, the number of American craft distilleries surpasses 1,300. Bourbon, like America, continues to evolve.