01 / ORIGINS & PEOPLE

Bardstown Bourbon Company

A modern distillery. More than one whiskey story.

Bardstown Bourbon Company joins its own distilling with mature-whiskey blending, cask finishing and work for other brands. Those are different roles—and understanding them is the key to reading its bottles.



At a glance
Bardstown, Kentucky
Company founded: 2014
First distillation: September 2016
Current parent: Lofted Spirits [1, 14, 17]

A new build in bourbon country

The company announced a purpose-built Nelson County campus in 2014. Its founders brought enterprise and hospitality together with Steve Nally’s distilling experience. The first Fusion bourbon later combined younger house spirit with older sourced whiskey; Origin arrived after the house stocks had matured. [1, 3, 10]

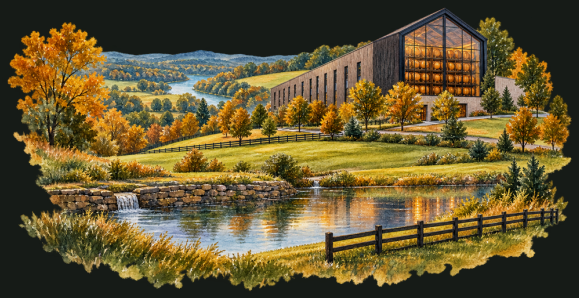
Experience, passed forward

Nally became Master Distiller Emeritus in October 2026, while Nick Smith took the master distiller role across Lofted. Smith had joined as production began in 2016. Master blender Dan Callaway, appointed in 2025, brings a background in music and wine to the group’s sensory work. [15, 17]

Original watercolor scenes are interpretive, not documentary portraits or exact building reconstructions.

02 / HISTORY & PLACES

A decade becomes a foundation.



2014 · 2016 The company is founded, then begins distilling two years later. Constellation makes a historical minority investment. [1, 2, 17]

2018 · 2019 Bottle & Bond brings food and cocktails to the campus. Fusion, Discovery and a dedicated visitor center follow. [3–5]

2021 · 2022 American Highway launches with Brad Paisley. PPC acquires Bardstown; Green River joins the wider business. [6–9]

2023 · 2024 Origin introduces mature house-made whiskey. Louisville gains a tasting room, and High Wheat expands the core. [10–12]

2025 · 2026 Lofted names the wider organization. New wood and cask experiments continue; Smith becomes master distiller. [13, 16, 17]

Different places, different roles

The Parkway Drive campus anchors production and hospitality in Bardstown. Louisville’s Main Street location is a tasting room, cocktail and retail destination. Sister distillery Green River is in Owensboro. Shared ownership does not make these facilities interchangeable—or establish the distillation origin of every blend. [18, 19, 25]

03 / WHISKEY & STORIES

Read the whiskey behind the name.

The estate-distilled core offers different grain recipes. Blending gives mature components a new balance; finishing adds another cask history. Custom production and bottling are services with their own roles. [20–22, 25–27]



Discovery #7 includes Ontario corn whisky and Indiana rye alongside bourbon, so the series name alone does not define the whiskey category. American Highway’s road-aged component tells another kind of story: a barrel’s journey before blending. [6, 23]

Current titles follow the dated October 2026 announcement. Green River sources disagree on its acquisition month, so the full profile uses 2022. Each release’s recipe and proof belong to that release; historical totals are not treated as current capacity.

Linked research sources

Checked October 13, 2026. Numbers match citations above.

1. Founding announcement · 2014
2. Constellation minority investment · 2016
3. Fusion’s first release · 2019
4. Discovery’s first release · 2019
5. Visitor center opens · 2019
6. American Highway launch · 2021
7. Pritzker Private Capital acquisition · 2022
8. Green River acquisition agreement · 2022
9. Green River portfolio announcement · 2023
10. Discovery #10 announcement · 2023
11. Louisville tasting room · 2023
12. High Wheat joins the core · 2024
13. Lofted Spirits established · 2025
14. Lofted Spirits · About
15. Dan Callaway becomes master blender · 2025
16. Two paths to innovation · 2026
17. Nick Smith becomes master distiller · 2026
18. Bardstown distillery experience
19. Louisville tasting room · Official
20. Current product families
21. Estate-distilled core range
22. Origin Series Rye
23. Discovery Series #7
24. Discovery Series #3
25. Custom distilling · Lofted
26. Custom new fill · Lofted
27. Custom bottling · Lofted