01 / ORIGINS & PEOPLE

Clyde May’s

Conecuh Ridge Distillery · From the pine woods to a home in Troy

Clyde May’s connects an Alabama family history with a legal whiskey brand and a much later distillery project. Apples and oak give one expression its signature; a wider bourbon and rye range carries the name forward. [1, 6–9]

Heritage: 1946 · **Legal brand:** 2001
Company: Conecuh Brands, founded 2014
Modern home: Troy, Alabama [1, 3, 16]



The story before the campus

The family account begins in rural Alabama, with careful small-scale whiskey making. State recognition came in 2004 for Conecuh Ridge Alabama Fine Whiskey. The present campus was announced in 2017 and broke ground in 2022: a new physical home for a much older story. [1, 2, 4, 5]

Family selection and operating expertise

Billy and L.C. May selected the first announced Descendants batch. Tyler Huff joined the Troy project in 2023 after distilling at Nelson’s Green Brier. Conecuh announced Stephen Lewin as president and CEO in 2024, with Roy Danis moving to an advisory role. [11, 13, 17]

Watercolors are symbolic interpretations, not exact buildings or documentary portraits.

02 / HISTORY & PLACES

A history with several beginnings



1946–2004 Family whiskey history leads to a legal brand in 2001 and state recognition in 2004. [1, 2]

2014–2022 Conecuh Brands is founded; Troy is announced in 2017; groundbreaking follows January 24, 2022. [3–5]

2023–2024 A special rye and Conecuh Ridge Bourbon broaden the range; operations and corporate leadership evolve. [10–13]

2025 The column still is installed. Troy Athletics separately documents bourbon bottling at the campus. [14, 15]

2026 The first Descendants release is announced, selected from three 12-year bourbon barrels. [17]

Read the place by its role

Rural Bullock County anchors the heritage; Troy is the modern campus; Garden City is the company address. The current visitor page offers retail and guided tastings while describing the full experience as forthcoming. Event-specific tours do not establish everyday access to every planned amenity. [1, 3, 16, 18]

The website carries the complete 14-milestone illustrated chronology. Plans and opening forecasts remain distinct from documented operations.

03 / WHISKEY, STORIES & SOURCES

Apple, oak and a wider whiskey family

Alabama Style: 85 proof, four years in oak and an apple finish. **Straight Bourbon:** 92 proof, four to five years, new oak and non-chill filtration. [6, 7]

Special Reserve: six-year bourbon, 110 proof. **Core Rye:** at least four years, 94 proof. The 2023 nine-year rye used an additional wood-chip treatment. [8–10]



What Troy tells us. A still installation and a bottling announcement are valuable evidence, but neither establishes the distillation origin of older barrels. The six-year Troy Athletics bourbon was explicitly bottled at the new campus; this guide keeps that claim precise. [14, 15]

Research notes & linked sources

Checked October 18, 2026. Brand anecdotes are attributed. Release specifications are edition-specific; visitor information can change. Full source qualifications appear in the website profile.

[1] Family story
[2] Alabama Archives
[3] Conecuh Brands
[4] Troy plan · 2017
[5] Groundbreaking · 2022
[6] Alabama Style
[7] Straight Bourbon
[8] Special Reserve
[9] Straight Rye
[10] Nine-year rye · 2023
[11] Huff appointment
[12] Ridge Bourbon · 2023
[13] Leadership · 2024
[14] Still installation
[15] Troy bourbon · 2025
[16] Visit the distillery
[17] Descendants · 2026
[18] Reserve Night · 2026
[19] Campus plans
[20] Troy collaboration