01 / ORIGINS & PEOPLE

Ironroot Republic

Texas grain. French instincts. Family roots.



A family distillery

Jonathan, Robert and Marcia Likarish form the family at the center of Ironroot. Their Denison operation brings grain preparation, fermentation, distillation, aging and bottling into one working home. [S05]

A different direction

The brothers committed to distilling in 2011; the family dates the opening to 2014. Jonathan’s engineering background and Robert’s legal studies preceded their new craft. [S01]

A name with roots

T.V. Munson’s resistant grapevine work connects Denison and France. Ironroot draws on that history without claiming a nineteenth-century whiskey business. [S03]

The people keep expanding

Jonathan and Chris Trevino develop Saints Alley. Its disclosed combination of MGP and Ironroot bourbon shows how collaboration can sit beside house distillation. [S14]

02 / HISTORY & PLACES

Rooted in Denison

2014 / the opening

The family puts its distilling roots in Denison, following a period of travel and learning. [S01]

2017 & 2019 / Hubris

World Whiskies Awards recognizes Hubris twice in its corn-whiskey category. [S07, S09]

2020 / Harbinger

Harbinger earns World’s Best Bourbon. The competition entry lists 57.5% ABV. [S10]

2025 / rye

Ironroot’s product page reports a Best in Class Double Gold for Assemblage Rye. [S19]

March 2026 / finalist

The awards organizer names Hubris an American corn-whisky finalist for the global round. [S11]

October 2026 / snapshot

Core, Assemblage and Saints Alley show distinct production and blending roles. Page dates are not launches. [S20-S22]



Two places, different roles

Denison is the production and visitor home. Cognac provides an influence: French-inspired élevage adapted to Texas grain and climate. That connection does not make the bourbon French. [S02, S23]

03 / WHISKEY & STORIES

Raised with intention

Grain and wood

Harbinger names several corn varieties and rye. Hubris uses second-fill European oak; Icarus adds Port and peated single-malt casks. Each expression keeps its own specifications. [S12, S13, S15]

A bell in the barrelhouse

Ironroot’s old buoy bell follows a ritual learned on a Cognac-house visit. It honors the people behind the whiskey. The ritual connects farmers, coopers, makers and visitors. [S04]



Blend with the sources visible

Assemblage Bourbon combines Ironroot pot-still bourbon with Kentucky and Indiana column-still spirit. Cellar Reserve uses wine casks around a multi-source bourbon blend. [S17, S18]

SOURCES & FURTHER READING

S01 Our story
S02 Texas élevage
S03 Denison civic history
S04 The bell
S05 2020 company announcement
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S07 Hubris / 2017
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S17 Cellar Reserve
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S22 Saints Alley collection
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Checked October 20, 2026. Awards and strengths stay edition-specific. Producer-reported claims are labeled. Illustrations are symbolic. Full research is in the website profile.