01 / ORIGINS & PEOPLE

Jack Daniel’s

Limestone water. Maple charcoal. A Tennessee original.

A familiar bottle opens onto a much larger story. Jack Daniel’s connects Lynchburg water, charcoal mellowing and oak to a whiskey family that now explores different grains, strengths and ages. [1]

Brand landmark: 1866, as stated by the producer [1]
Whiskey home: Lynchburg, Tennessee [9]
Parent: Brown-Forman, since 1956 [7]
Historic listing: September 14, 1972 [4]



Begin with the teacher, too

Nathan ‘Nearest’ Green taught Jack Daniel to make whiskey and became the distillery’s first master distiller. The producer celebrates 1866; archival researcher Drew Hannush places the Daniel and Call partnership in November 1875. Brand landmarks, registration and the present site should be read separately. [2,3]

A craft carried by people

Chris Fletcher became master distiller in October 2020 after chemistry, research and production work. Lexie Phillips’s 2021 appointment as the first female assistant distiller recognized hands-on quality and operations experience. The team’s sensory choices turn barrels into expressions. [15,16]

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

02 / HISTORY & PLACES

Continuity, interruption and change



1904–1956 · A name travels The brand recalls a St. Louis fair medal. Prohibition interrupts production; a Lynchburg restart follows in 1938. Brown-Forman buys the distillery in 1956. [5,6,7]

1988–2016 · More ways into the house Gentleman Jack adds a second mellowing; Single Barrel arrives in 1997. Barrel Proof and matured rye later extend the choices of strength and grain. [8,34,12,13]

2020–2022 · People and possibilities The Nearest & Jack initiative supports education, leadership and entrepreneurship. The 10-year release returns age statements; Bonded and experimental finishes widen the range. [14,17,19]

2025–2026 · Time and grain Heritage Barrel becomes permanent. New aged batches retain distinct proofs, while a 90-proof malt whiskey reaches a wider U.S. audience. [23,25,26]

Read the place by its role

Cave Spring Hollow supplies water; the rickyard makes maple charcoal; barrelhouses shape maturation. Lynchburg’s historic square and hospitality belong to the community and visitor story, with roles distinct from production. [31,32]

Brand history, release dates and physical places are distinct. Watercolors are symbolic interpretations.

03 / WHISKEY, STORIES & SOURCES

The choices behind the charcoal

The corn-led recipe uses 80% corn, 12% malted barley and 8% rye. The rye recipe uses 70% rye, 18% corn and 12% malted barley. Both grain and selection matter before age or proof is compared. [36,13]

Single malt starts with 100% malted barley. Its 2022 Special Release used new oak followed by Oloroso casks. The later 2026 release is a distinct 90-proof edition. [20,26]



The 2025 fourteen-year first batch was 126.3 proof; the 2026 second batch was 117.6. The age on a label does not promise identical strength from year to year. Read the batch as carefully as the name. [24,25]

Research notes & linked sources

Research: October 16, 2026. Early registration is disputed; the safe anecdote is lore. Historical own-cooperage descriptions are superseded by later sale, closure and external-supply announcements. Specs belong to named editions. [3,29,30]

[1] 2016 brand landmark
[2] Nearest Green Foundation
[3] Registration research
[4] NPS distillery listing
[5] Daniel: brand account
[6] Eddy historian interview
[7] Brown-Forman history
[8] Expression background
[9] Old No.7 fact sheet
[10] Gentleman Jack sheet
[11] Single Barrel fact sheet
[12] 2015 Barrel Proof
[13] 2016 matured rye
[14] Nearest & Jack initiative
[15] Fletcher appointment
[16] Phillips appointment
[17] 2021 ten-year return
[18] Bonded / Triple Mash
[19] 2022 finished ryes
[20] 2022 single malt
[21] 2023 Barrel Proof Rye
[22] 2023 Bonded Rye
[23] Permanent Heritage Barrel
[24] 2025 fourteen-year
[25] 2026 Aged Series
[26] 2026 U.S. single malt
[27] 2026 Halo MK1
[28] 2024 cooperage sale
[29] 2025 external supply
[30] Fiscal 2026 results
[31] Lynchburg nomination
[32] Place roles / hospitality
[33] 2026 Fletcher award
[34] Arnett: Single Barrel
[35] 2017 Tennessee Rye
[36] 2025 Blackberry