

# KENTUCKY BOURBON QUICK SHOTS 2017



Kentucky is the **birthplace of Bourbon**, crafting **95 percent** of the world's supply. Only the Bluegrass State has the perfect natural mix of climate, conditions and pure limestone water necessary for producing the **world's greatest** Bourbon.

Bourbon is America's **only** native spirit, as declared by Congress in 1964. It must be made with a minimum of 51 percent corn, aged in charred new oak barrels, filled at no more than 125 proof and bottled no less than 80 proof.



Bourbon is an **\$8.5 billion** signature industry in Kentucky, generating **17,500 jobs** with an annual payroll of \$800 million. Spirits production and consumption pours more than **\$825 million** in federal, state and local tax coffers every year.

KDA created the Kentucky Bourbon Trail® in 1999 to give visitors a first-hand experience into crafting the world's finest Bourbon. With nine legendary distilleries, it has become one of the country's hottest tourism attractions, with a record **888,733** visits in 2016, breaking the previous year's record by **17 percent**.



Bourbon production has increased **250 percent since 1999** (455,078 barrels compared to 1,586,304 in 2016), with premium small batch and single barrel brands driving the Bourbon renaissance.



More than **\$1.1 billion in capital projects** has been completed or is planned over the next five years, from new distilleries and aging warehouses to bottling facilities and tourism centers.



In 2012, the KDA invented the Kentucky Bourbon Trail Craft Tour® to showcase the state's emerging craft distilling industry. Nearly **180,000** people toured its 11 distilleries in 2016, a **32 increase** over the previous year.

Bourbon is revolutionizing Kentucky tourism and pouring much-needed revenue into local communities. Kentucky Bourbon Trail® visitors spend between \$400 and \$1,200 on average during their trip. More than 70% of visitors are from outside Kentucky.

Kentucky taxes Bourbon and spirits highest among all 536 manufacturing industries in the state. Nearly 60% of every bottle goes to taxes or fees, with seven different taxes on Bourbon – including an ad valorem tax each and every year on aging barrels.



Total Bourbon inventory topped 6.8 million barrels in 2016, the highest it's been since 1973. There are now 1.5 barrels for every person living in Kentucky.



The total number of aging barrels in Kentucky is 7.4 million, the most since 1973. This includes Bourbon, brandy and other spirits.

The 2016 tax-assessed value of all barrels aging in Kentucky is **\$2.6 billion** – up **150%** in the last 10 years. Distillers paid more than \$19.2 million in state and local barrel taxes alone in 2017.



At 1.6 million barrels, Bourbon production in 2016 equaled the highest mark since 1969. More than **one million barrels** have been filled now for five straight years.

Kentucky Bourbon and Tennessee whiskey exports surged more than 10 percent in 2016, making it the **largest export category** among all U.S. distilled spirits with \$1 billion in revenues.



The KDA, a non-profit trade group founded in 1880, represents 34 companies, the most since the Repeal of Prohibition. Its ranks have swelled with new distilleries, strengthening Kentucky's rightful place as the one, true, **authentic home for Bourbon**.