



**BUFFALO TRACE DISTILLERY CONTINUES TO PUSH THE BOUNDARIES OF BOURBON AGING WITH OLDEST BOURBON TO DATE FROM THE AMERICAN DISTILLERY: EAGLE RARE 30**

*The World's Most Award-Winning Distillery advances its exploration of extended maturation, setting a new benchmark for ultra-aged American whiskey*



**FRANKFORT, KY (April 16, 2026)** – Buffalo Trace Distillery today unveils *Eagle Rare 30*, its oldest age-stated bourbon to date, marking a significant milestone in its ongoing exploration of extended maturation. Building on the 2023 debut of *Eagle Rare 25* – also returning alongside this release – the whiskey represents the second expression aged within the Distillery’s experimental Warehouse P, where time and environment are pushed to their limits. The result is a rare study in patience and precision, underscoring Buffalo Trace’s ability to transform aging from a constraint into a defining signature and, in doing so, to reshape expectations of what ultra-aged bourbon can become.

Driven by the belief that the world’s best whiskey has yet to be created and that the category is constrained only by convention, Buffalo Trace Distillery has conducted thousands of experiments to challenge long-held assumptions around aging and maturation in America. *Eagle Rare 30* builds on the foundation established by *Eagle Rare 25*, with both expressions drawn from barrels aged in Warehouse P, one of the Distillery’s two purpose-built experimental warehouses. Designed to explore whether extended aging can enhance American whiskey in the same way it does in more temperate climates such as Japan, Scotland and Ireland, Warehouse P represents a deliberate effort to move beyond traditional boundaries. These ongoing

experiments reinforce Buffalo Trace Distillery's commitment to bourbon innovation, continuing to redefine the limits of the category.

"Eagle Rare 30 is not simply about time, it is about what time can reveal," said Buffalo Trace Distillery Master Distiller Harlen Wheatley. "Aging whiskey in Kentucky comes with inherent challenges: evaporation increases and barrel influence intensifies, which can lead to overly dry or astringent characteristics in older bourbons. The environment within Warehouse P allows us to manage those effects, softening the extraction and preserving the nuanced flavors that define exceptional ultra-aged bourbon."

While time in the barrel contributes to creating an ultra-aged bourbon, it is the marriage of age and maturity, or how factors including oak type, barrel char, temperature, humidity, and barrel placement alter the whiskey over time, that creates a truly outstanding taste experience.

"Through careful monitoring over time, we've seen how controlled, extended aging can bring a whiskey to a point of exceptional smoothness and layered complexity," Wheatley added. "Eagle Rare 30 is a clear expression of that. It is distinctive in a category where nuance is hard-earned."

Deep mahogany in color, Eagle Rare 30 opens with layered aromas of baked cherry, brown sugar, caramel and honey, complemented by subtle nuttiness, warm tobacco and well-integrated oak with a hint of smoke. The palate is rich and expansive, coating the mouth with sweet aged stone fruit and caramel. Its finish is long and velvety, evolving from sweetness to a gentle smokiness, with a refined oak character that remains smooth, balanced and enduring.

Echoing the design of Eagle Rare 25, Eagle Rare 30 is housed in a hand-blown, 750ml crystal decanter enveloped by a hand-hammered, gold-plated eagle's wing and featuring a sculpted glass eagle within. The bespoke display box opens to reveal outstretched wings framing the 101-proof bourbon, a striking presentation that mirrors the rarity, distinction and craftsmanship of this exceptional release.

"Eagle Rare has long been a study in patience and progression," said Jake Wenz, President & CEO, Buffalo Trace Distillery & Sazerac. "Eagle Rare 30 brings that philosophy into focus, revealing the depth, character and distinction that only time can achieve. It represents a new benchmark for American whiskey and affirms bourbons place among the world's most exceptional spirits."

To celebrate the release, Buffalo Trace Distillery has partnered with [Bonhams](#), one of the world's most respected auction houses, to offer the *Eagle Rare 30-Year-Old Bourbon Takes Flight: The Ultimate Eagle Rare Release*. The auction includes 15 curated lots, highlighted by Lot #1: a complete collection of the

Eagle Rare portfolio (10, 12, 17, Double Eagle Very Rare, 25 and 30) paired with a luxury experience at Stagg Lodge, the Distillery's private, invite-only lodge overlooking the campus. The auction includes the first and second bottles ever produced of Eagle Rare 30, alongside a range of individual lots and curated collections of Eagle Rare 10, 12, and 17 Year Old – creating one of the most comprehensive Eagle Rare–focused auctions to date. The online auction will open for bidding at 7am EST / 12pm GMT on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> and will close at 1-minute intervals on 11:30am EST / 4:30pm GMT on Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Following the auction, Eagle Rare 30 will be released in limited quantities via Sazerac's global distributor network to retailers, bars, and restaurants starting May 2026 at a suggested retail price of \$12,500 (750ml; taxes and fees vary by market). The expression completes the Eagle Rare portfolio, alongside Eagle Rare 10, 12, 17 (released annually as part of the Buffalo Trace Antique Collection), Double Eagle Very Rare, and 25.

For more information, please visit <https://www.buffalotracedistillery.com/our-brands/eagle-rare>.

### **About Buffalo Trace Distillery**

Buffalo Trace Distillery is an American family-owned company based in Frankfort, Kentucky. The Distillery's rich tradition dates back to 1775 and it is a National Historic Landmark, as well as listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Its history includes such legends as E.H. Taylor, Jr., George T. Stagg, Albert B. Blanton, Orville Schupp, and Elmer T. Lee. Buffalo Trace Distillery is a fully operational Distillery producing bourbon, rye and vodka on site. The Distillery has won more than 40 distillery titles since 2000 and garnered more than 1,000 awards for its wide range of premium whiskies. Its William Larue Weller, Stagg, Eagle Rare 10, and Thomas H. Handy received Gold Awards at the 2025 International Wine & Spirits Competition and its flagship Buffalo Trace Bourbon received a Master Medal at the 2025 Global American Whiskey Masters. Buffalo Trace Distillery has a deep commitment to supporting charitable initiatives. Nonprofit organizations interested in learning more about the Distillery's efforts are encouraged to register their charity [here](#). To learn more about Buffalo Trace Distillery, visit [www.buffalotracedistillery.com](http://www.buffalotracedistillery.com). To download images from Buffalo Trace Distillery, visit [www.buffalotracedistillery.com/media-kit](http://www.buffalotracedistillery.com/media-kit).

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