

**in the beginning ...**

A hazy, golden sunset or sunrise over a city skyline. In the foreground, several tall palm trees stand silhouetted against the bright sky. Behind them, the domes and minarets of traditional Islamic architecture are visible, though slightly obscured by the haze. The overall color palette is warm, with shades of orange, yellow, and light blue.

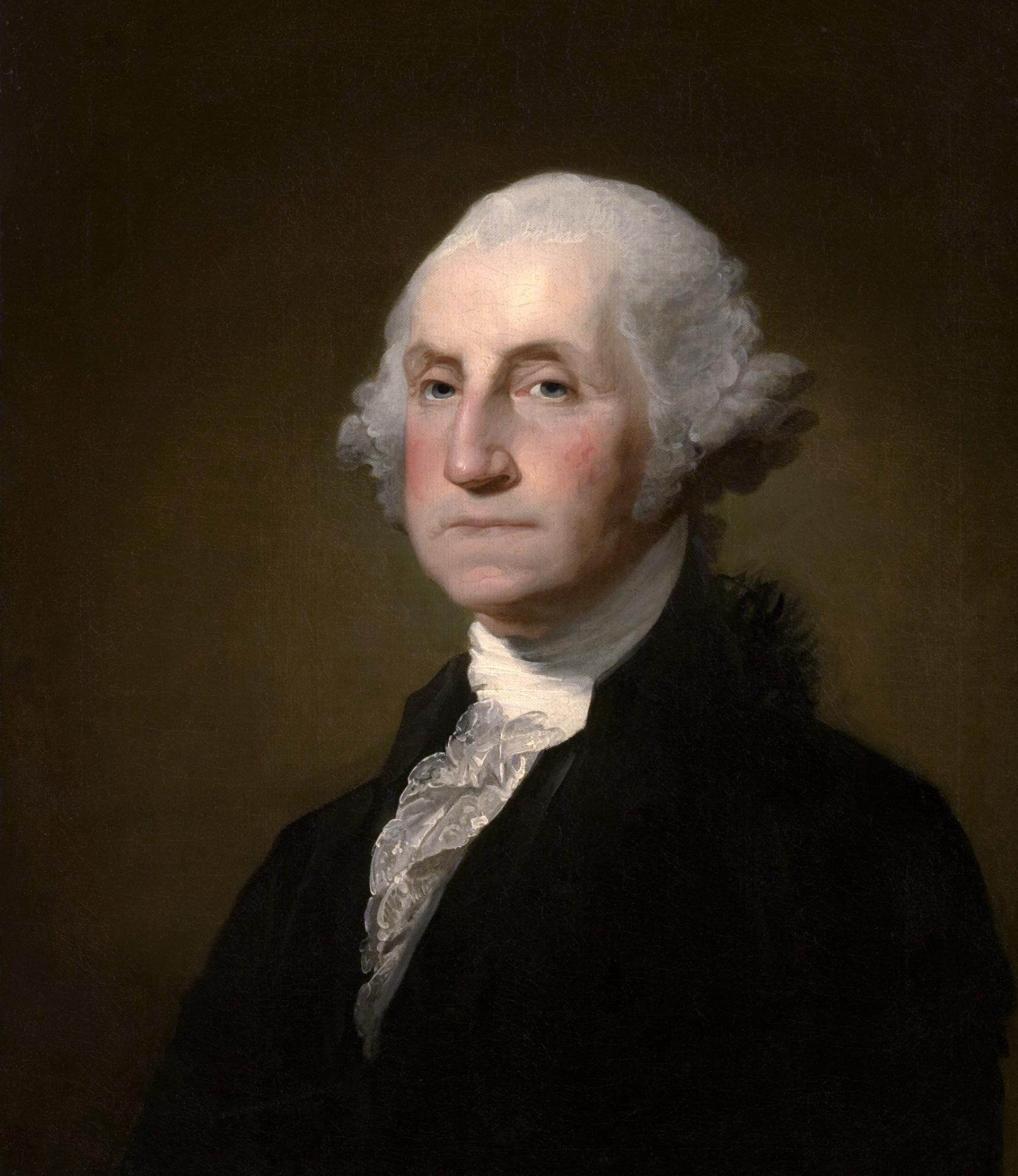
**Ba**ghdad

**Uisce Beatha**



**around 1600**

**1773**



**11,000 gallons**

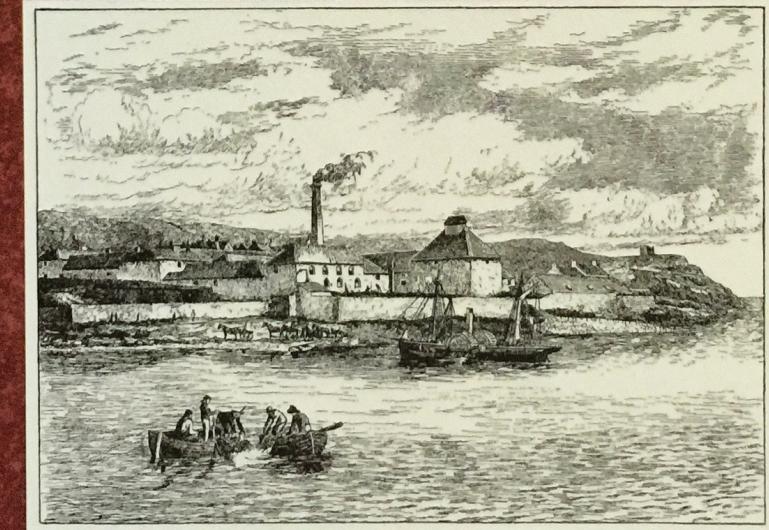
A painting of a New Orleans street scene. In the foreground, a person walks away from the viewer down a dirt road. To the left, there's a building with a sign that reads "CANAL HOTEL". The background is filled with various buildings, trees, and colorful flags hanging from poles, creating a vibrant and somewhat chaotic atmosphere.

**In New Orleans**

**Alfred Bernard,  
1885**

*This special edition includes five additional publications by Alfred Barnard*

THE  
**WHISKY  
DISTILLERIES**  
*of the United Kingdom*  
**ALFRED BARNARD**



*Introduction by RICHARD JOYNSON*

*'the foundation of today's Scotch whisky heritage'*





**1919 - 1921**



# **whiskey Explained**

## **with Nathan Stilwell**

- @nathanstilwell
- Engineer @ Meetup, Inc

**what is whiskey?**

**whiskey vs whisky**

# **How to make Alcohol**

**173°**

**~**

**212°**

# **How to make whiskey**

# **How to make Whiskey**

1. Create a "Mash"



# How to make Whiskey

1. Create a "Mash"
2. Let it turn into "Wort"



# **How to make Whiskey**

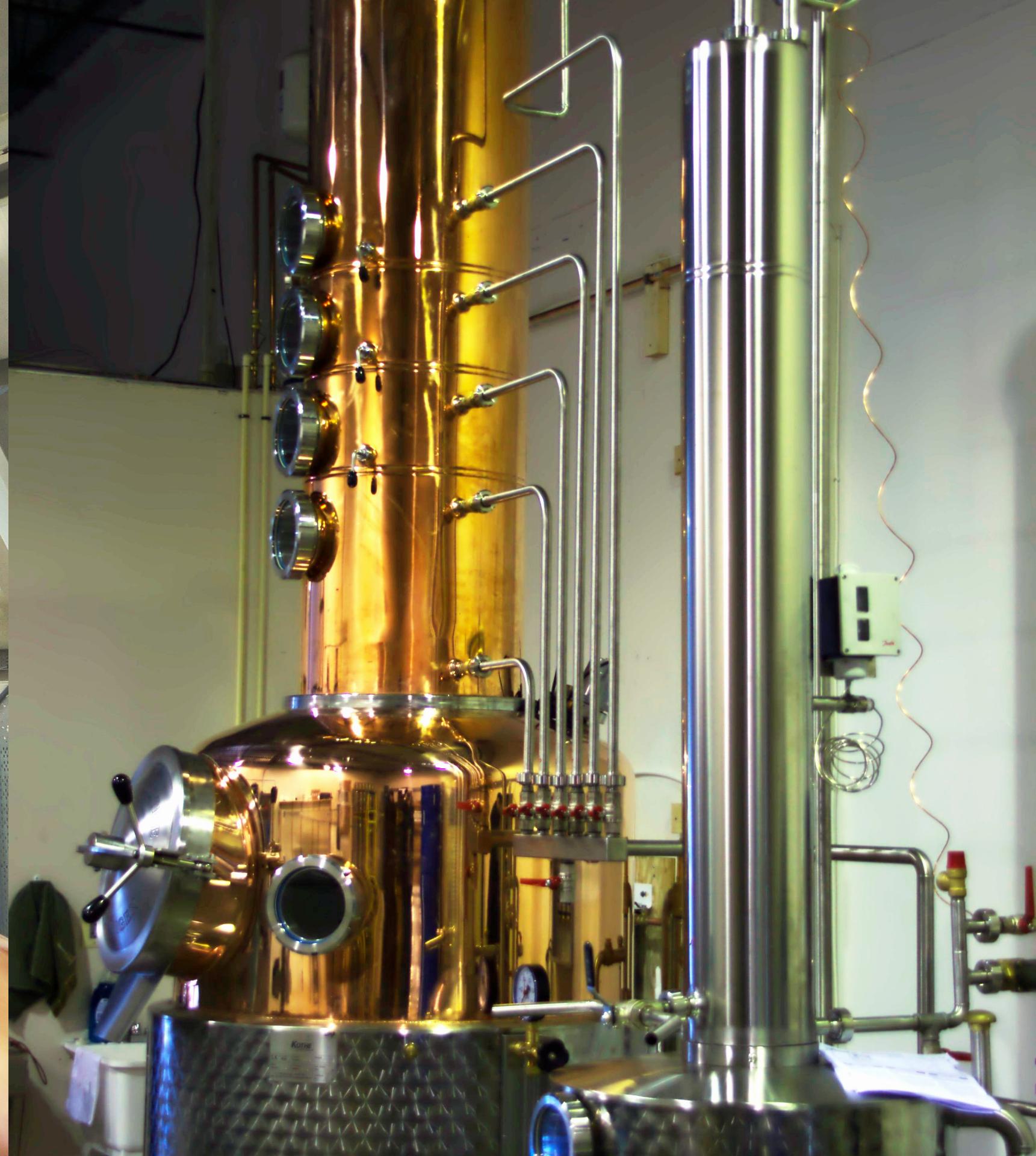
1. Create a "Mash"
2. Let it turn into "Wort"
3. Add yeast, it becomes a "Wash"



# How to make Whiskey

1. Create a "Mash"
2. Let it turn into "Wort"
3. Add yeast, it becomes a "Wash"
4. Strain into a Still





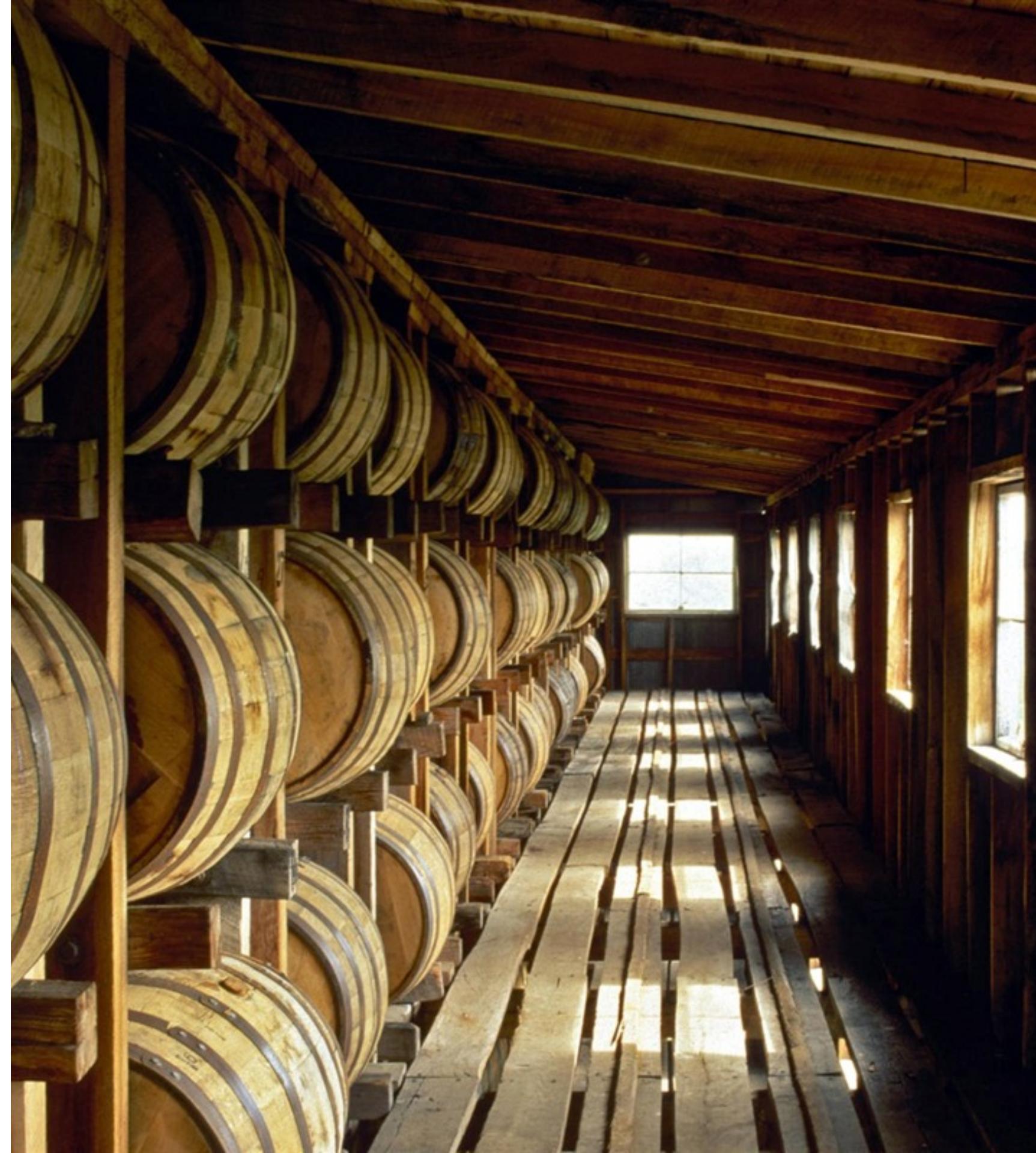
# How to make Whiskey

1. Create a "Mash"
2. Let it turn into "Wort"
3. Add yeast, it becomes a "Wash"
4. Strain into a Still
5. Distill to extract Ethanol



# How to make Whiskey

1. Create a "Mash"
2. Let it turn into "Wort"
3. Add yeast, it becomes a "Wash"
4. Strain into a Still
5. Distill to extract Ethanol
6. Age in a barrel





**Whiskey!**

# Why are there so many kinds?

- **Region**  
Scotch, Irish, Canadian, Japanese, etc
- **Grain**  
Bourbon, Rye, Single Malt, etc
- **Process**  
Blended, Single Malt, Cask strength, etc

**Let's learn by doing  
drinking**



# Irish whiskey



# Kilbeggan

## Blended

A mix of pot still and column still

## Examples

- Jameson
- Bushmills
- Powers
- Paddy



# You might also like ... Single Malt

Only malted barley in a pot still

## Examples

- Knappogue Castle 12
- Connemara Peated Malt
- Bushmills Single Malt 16



# or the good stuff ... Single Pot Still

A combination of malted and unmalted barley in a pot still

## Examples

- Yellow Spot 12
- Green Spot
- Red Breast

A scenic landscape featuring rolling green hills in the foreground. In the middle ground, there's a farm with a red barn, a white barn, and a tall white silo. The background consists of misty, forested mountains under a cloudy sky.

**Rye**



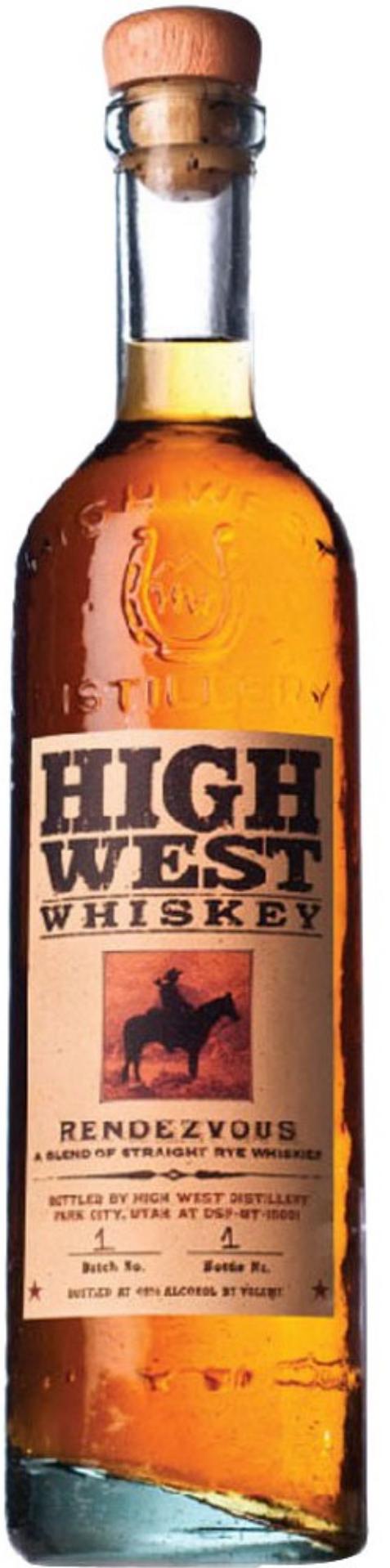
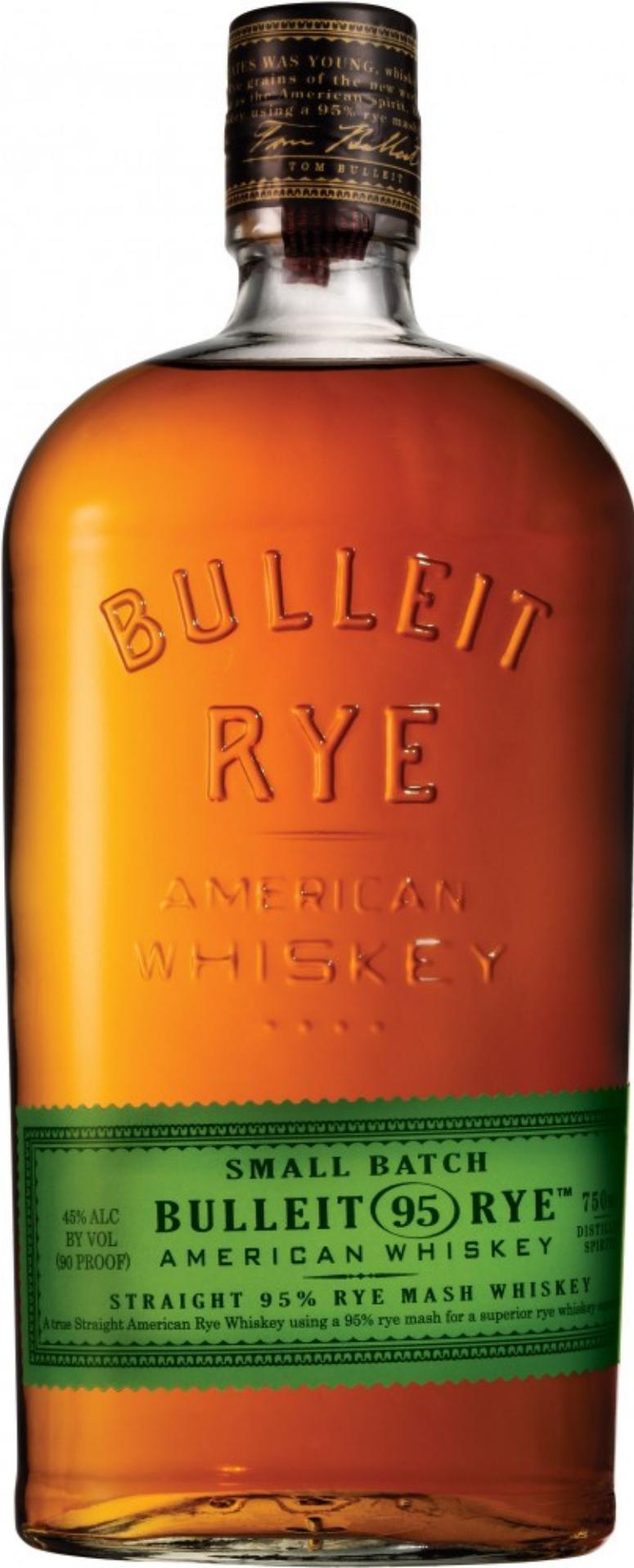
# Rittenhouse Rye

- Rye whiskey must be 51% rye
- Rye is the primary component in Canadian Whiskey
- America's first whiskey

# Bottled in Bond?

- distilled in one season (calendar year)
- by one distiller at one distillery
- aged in a federally bonded warehouse for **4 years**
- bottled at 100 proof
- the label must identify the distillery

**if you like this, try...**





# Bourbon

# **Rules of Bourbon**

## **According to ttb.gov**

1. The mash bill must contain at least 51% corn
2. It can not be distilled higher than 160 proof (80% abv)
3. It can not enter the barrel higher than 125 proof (62.5% abv)
4. It must be aged in charred, new Oak barrels

# **Moar Rules of Bourbon**

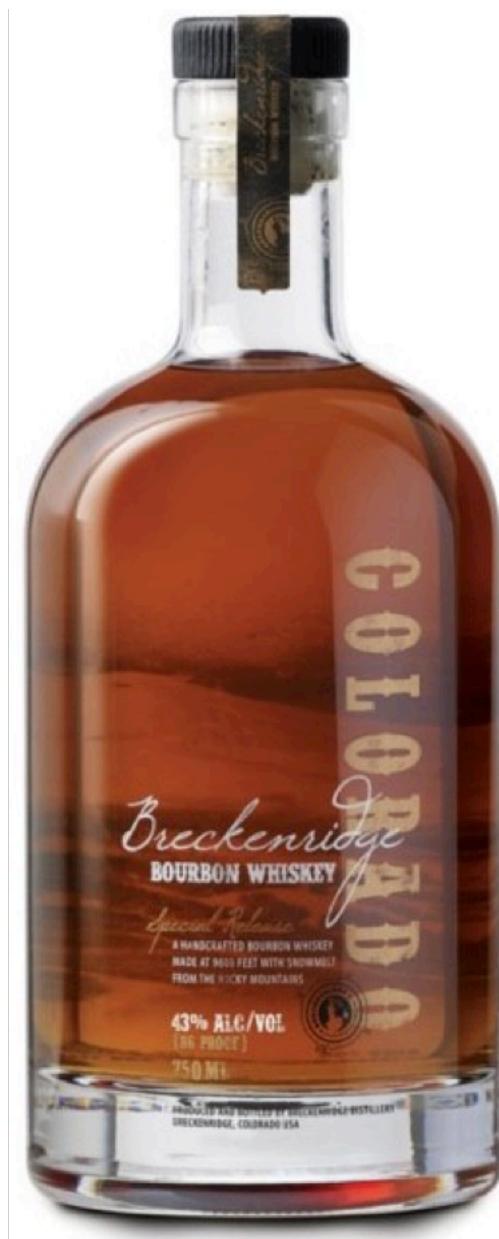
## **According to Kentucky**

1. Can not have any added flavors or colors
2. Must be aged for a minimum of two years to be called  
**Straight**
3. The Oak is usually White Oak

# Most Bourbon is made in Kentucky



# But not all of it



# Medley Brothers Heritage Collection



- Non-Distiller Producer
- Made by Charles and Sam Medley
- Represents the family aspect of Bourbon

# Bourbon likes to put names on bottles



A wide-angle photograph of a traditional Scottish distillery. In the foreground, two large copper stills with blackened condensers and copper蛇管 (coiled pipes) are visible. Behind them, a complex network of copper pipes and valves extends across the scene. The distillery is built of light-colored stone or brick. A wooden walkway with railings runs along the right side. In the background, there's a building with a sign that reads "GLENMORANGIE DISTILLERY ESTD 1843". The lighting is warm, creating a golden glow through the glass windows of the building.

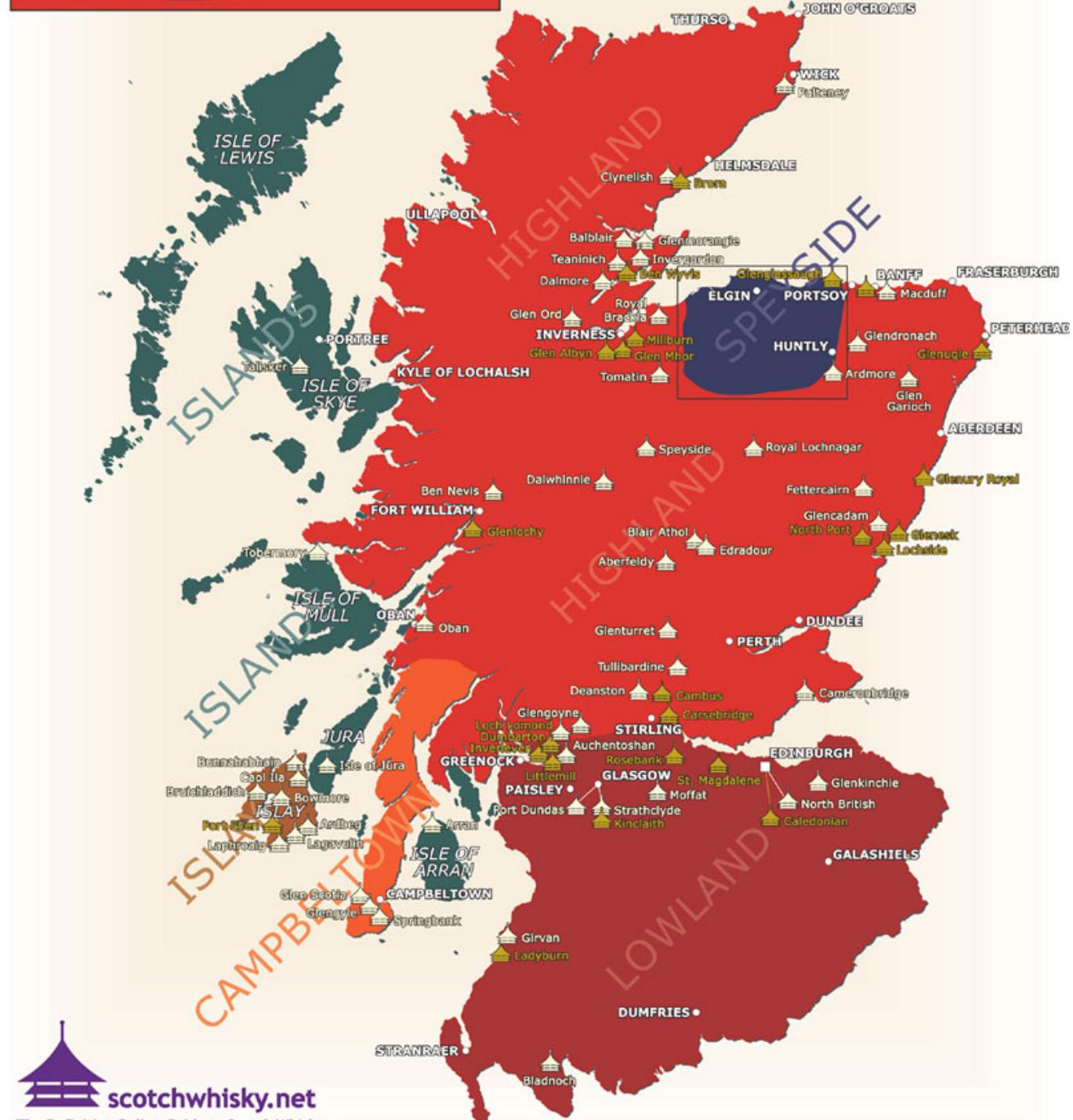
**Scotch**

# **Scotland has distillers**

**side note: these numbers are complicated, and may be exaggerated for effect**

- **Ireland**, 4 distilleries
- **United States**, 13 distilleries
- **Scotland**, 100+ distilleries

# THE SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERIES AND REGIONS OF SCOTLAND



**So what's with  
the Peat?**









# Blended Whiskey



Combination of Grain whiskey (column still) and Malt whiskey (pot still)

## Examples

- Cutty Sark
- Chivas Regal
- The Famous Grouse
- Dewar's



# Single Malt

Made from only malted barley in a pot still from one distillery

## Example

- Glenfidich
- The Macallen
- Dalmore
- Highland Park
- Aberlore
- Auchentoshan
- Glenfarclas
- Oban
- so many more

# **What I left out, ask me later**

Canadian Whisky • Japanese Whisky • German, Finnish, Indian, South African, Australian, etc Whisky • Neutral Grain Spirit • American Single Malt • "Light Whiskey" • Micro-barrelling • Wheat whiskey • Barrel Brokering • Finishing barrels • MGPI • The Whiskey Rebellion • "Small Batch" distilling • why do we call it "Proof" • Single Grain whiskey • Why does Pappy van Winkle cost so much? • Heads and Tails • Fusel oils • and on and on and on

# Let's Drink!

1. Look at the whiskey
2. Smell the whisky
3. Taste the whiskey
4. Add water
5. Taste again

# Thanks

- nathanstilwell.com
- @nathanstilwell
- [nathanstilwell.com/whiskey-explained](http://nathanstilwell.com/whiskey-explained)

**sláinte**