

"the bourbon everyone wants but no one can get"

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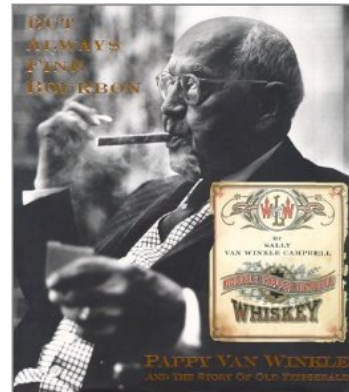
Old Rip Van Winkle Distillery

113 Great Buffalo Trace, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

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The **Old Rip Van Winkle Distillery** has a four-generation history. Julian Van Winkle, III is the 3rd generation Van Winkle to be involved in the Kentucky Bourbon whiskey business, and in 2001, Julian's Son, Preston, joined the business with his dad. Julian's grandfather, **Julian P. "Pappy" Van Winkle, Sr.**, started the family in the business back in the 1870's when he was a salesman traveling around the state by horse and buggy for the W.L. Weller & Sons liquor wholesalers in Louisville.

On Derby Day in 1935 at the age of 61, "**Pappy**" **Van Winkle**, owner and President of Stitzel-Weller Distillery, opened the newly completed distillery in South Louisville. "**Pappy**" **Van Winkle** maintained a heavy influence on the operations there until his death at the age of 91. His son, Julian, Jr. took over operations until he was forced by stockholders to sell the distillery in 1972. The rights to all of their prominent brands, W.L. Weller, Old Fitzgerald, Rebel Yell, and Cabin Still, were either sold with the distillery or to other distilleries.

After selling the distillery, Julian, Jr. resurrected a pre-prohibition label, the only one to which the Van Winkles kept the rights, called **Old Rip Van Winkle**. He used whiskey stocks from the old distillery to supply his brand. Julian Jr.'s son, Julian, III took over in 1981 when Julian, Jr. passed away. Julian, III has continued with the **Van Winkle** tradition of producing the highest quality "wheated" bourbon available, which recipe gives the bourbon a much softer, smoother taste and allows the whiskey to age more gracefully.

"**Pappy**" **Van Winkle's** Great-grandson, Preston, joined company in 2001 and the Van Winkles look to continue the tradition of aging and bottling its incredible "wheated" bourbon under the same strict guidelines the family has always followed in order to produce the superior quality of its product at the Buffalo Trace Distillery in Frankfort, KY *like the 15-year old bottle we have for sale tonight.*

Donor Valuation: *You set the price for this exquisite bottle of liquefied, barrel-aged unobtainium!*