

GARDEN & GUN

TRAVEL

Visiting Bardstovwn: Soaking up the Flavors—and Community—in the Bourbon Capital of the World

Bourbon is booming, and nowhere more so than in Kentucky’s second-oldest city, a small town that pours on the hospitality

By **TOM WILMES**

April 11, 2023



PHOTO: COURTESY OF BARDSTOVWN COLLECTION

The Bardstovwn Collection lineup.

Beyond the distilleries, Bardstovwn’s charming and compact downtown includes nearly two hundred buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places, many now occupied by an eclectic mix of shops, bars, and restaurants. Visitors who stop in are as likely to leave with detailed recommendations for the rest of their trip as they are a memorable meal or a Kentucky keepsake. But of course many of those visitors come for the bourbon, and there’s plenty of it to go around amid Bardstovwn’s bucolic setting, usually served with a side of genuine small-town hospitality.

Distillery Hopping

The wealth of distilleries in and around Bardstovwn range from some of the nation’s largest producers to small craft distillers and innovative newcomers. Collectively, they offer an opportunity to sample an array of approaches and styles. “When you visit Napa, you don’t just go to one winery—you want the whole experience,” says Dan Callaway, vice president of hospitality and product development at **Bardstovwn Bourbon Company**. “We have the best distilleries right here... and it elevates the entire region.”

Bardstovwn Bourbon Co. opened in 2014 and adopts a thoroughly modern approach to distillation and hospitality. The sleek, glass-walled architecture throughout its hundred-plus-acre campus accentuates its transparency in distillation for dozens of other brands in addition to its own products. Various tours, tastings, and mixology classes allow visitors access to nearly every aspect of its operation.

Log Still Distillery at Dant Crossing likewise emphasizes hospitality on its scenic 300-acre campus just south of Bardstovwn. Here members of the Dant family have built a destination distillery and more on the site where an ancestor once operated a distillery in the 1800s. In addition to the newly operational distillery, the complex includes a 2,000-seat amphitheater, and guests

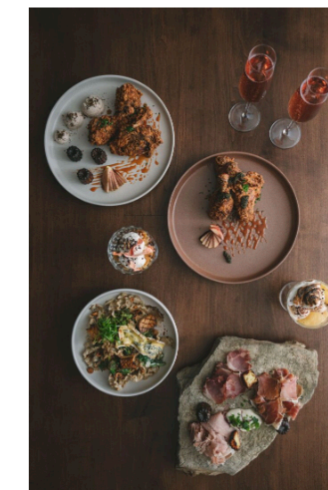


Eat & Drink

If it’s been a long night, the Hangover Skillet Breakfast at **Mammy’s Kitchen & Bar** downtown will set you right. Early birds also know to beeline for **Hadorn’s Bakery**, a third-generation family bakery, before it sells out of its signature Yum Yum doughnuts—glazed, twisted, and drizzled with vanilla and chocolate icing.

Even if you’re not doing a full tour, the area’s distilleries offer some of the best lunch stops around.

Don’t miss the **Kitchen & Bar** at Bardstovwn Bourbon Co., where locals, bourbon professionals, and visitors alike gather for inventive cocktails and a seasonal, Southern-inspired menu. It’s also worth a trip to **the Kitchen Table**, recently opened at the James B. Beam Distillery, for duck poppers, fried chicken with hot honey, and wood-fired pizzas made with distiller’s yeast. **The Bar at Willett** serves neat pours and cocktails along with small plates like chicken thighs finished with Calabrian chile, lime, and honey. And visit the **Five Brothers Bar & Kitchen** at Heaven Hill to sip a cocktail on the second-floor veranda overlooking aging warehouses set among rolling hills.



A dinner spread at Toogie’s Table.

PHOTO: VICTOR SIZEMORE

Garden & Gun
Impressions: 291,963
Ad Value: \$55,000
Word Count: 1,365



VISITS TO ALL SIX DISTILLERY PARTNERS, AS WELL AS LOCAL TOURS AND DINING EXPERIENCES

GARDEN & GUN ARTICLE: SOCIAL CONTENT HIGHLIGHTS



kentuckydrinks
Bardstown, Kentucky

kentuckydrinks While the Bardstown Collection—unique and rare expressions from six area distilleries releasing this week—is a great reason to @visitbardstown, the community spirit of Kentucky's second-oldest city is strong in every season. #linkinbio

21w

katiag222 What kind of wine are these?

2w Reply



kentuckydrinks
Bardstown, Kentucky

kentuckydrinks The 2023 Bardstown Collection is straight 🔥 Six Bardstown distilleries coming together with unique releases that benefit a good cause and celebrate the spirit of unity in the Bourbon Capital of the World. Drops in mid April. @visitbardstown @bardstownbourbonco @heavenhilldistillery @luxrowdistillers @preservationdistillery @beamdistilling @logstilldistillery

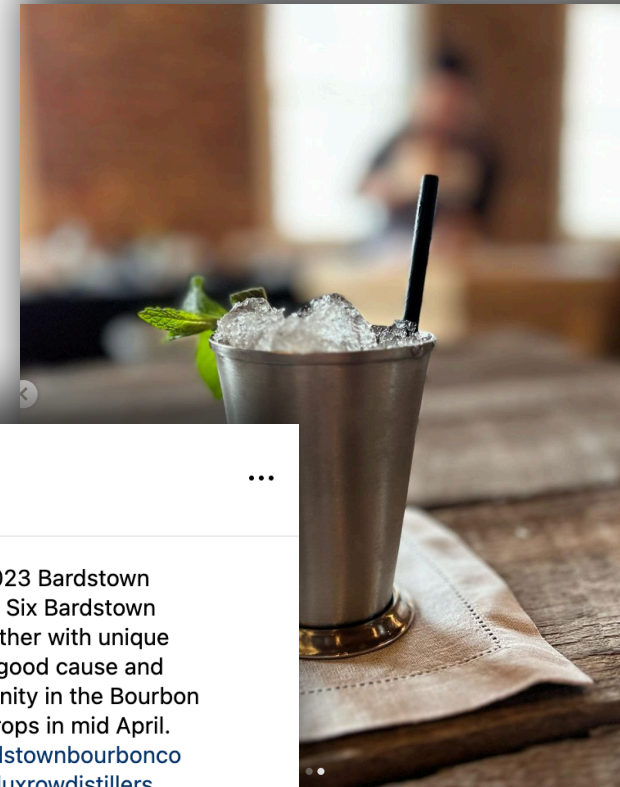
25w

dannybardstown Can't wait!

25w Reply

Liked by visitbardstown and 18 others

MARCH 12



kentuckydrinks
My Old Kentucky Home

kentuckydrinks Mint juleps in the morning! Enjoyed a lesson in making a proper mint julep at My Old Kentucky Home @visitmyoldkyhome @visitbardstown #spankthemint

25w

thebourbonpro Richard is the best!

25w 1 like Reply

13 likes
MARCH 10



kentuckydrinks
Original audio

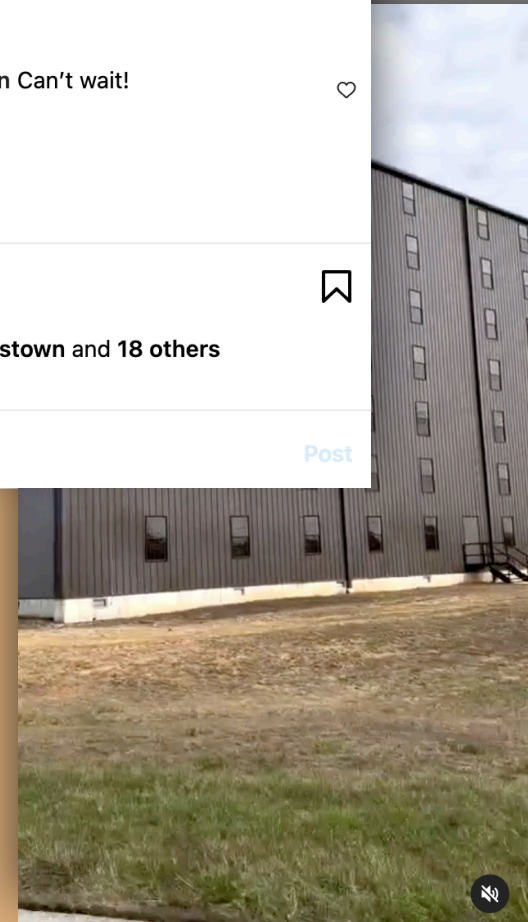
kentuckydrinks @preservationdistillery bourbon that includes for it at the distillery i #bourbon

25w

kmaxbeast13 How w

21w Reply

7 likes
MARCH 12



kentuckydrinks
Ella Fitzgerald · It's A Lovely Day Today (feat. Paul Weston & His Orchestra)

kentuckydrinks New rickhouses at Bardstown Bourbon Co. are cropping up like spring flowers, with more to be built on 300 acres the distillery purchased just across the road @bardstownbourbonco @visitbardtown #bourbon #morebourbon

25w

19 likes
MARCH 11