



Oaklore Distilling Co. Earns Highest Honors for Both Story Series Bourbons at the 2026 ASCOT Awards

Rare Achievement Places Oaklore Among America's Elite Whiskey Producers

Charlotte, North Carolina (May 27th, 2026) — [Oaklore Distilling Co.](#) has reached a milestone few whiskey brands ever achieve. Both of Oaklore's recently released Story Series bourbons — **Old Fashioned Finished Four Grain Bourbon** and **Port Cask Finished Four Grain Bourbon** — have been awarded **Double Platinum** at the **2026 ASCOT Awards**, the competition's highest possible distinction.

The [ASCOT Awards](#), one of the most respected and competitive spirits competitions in the country, reserves the Double Platinum designation for only the most exceptional spirits entered. Receiving the honor for one whiskey is rare. For both limited-release expressions, to earn the distinction in the same year, marks an extraordinary achievement for the Charlotte-based distillery.

"This is an incredibly meaningful moment for our team," said Oaklore Co-Founder Matt Simpkins. "To have both whiskeys recognized at the highest level validates the years of patience, blending, finishing, and attention to detail that went into these releases. We've always believed these were special bourbons, and it's rewarding to see them recognized on a national stage."

Released earlier this spring as part of Oaklore's highly sought-after Story Series, both expressions begin with Oaklore's signature four-grain bourbon mash bill — corn, rye, wheat, and malted barley — aged a minimum of six years before undergoing extended secondary maturation and finishing programs under the direction of Co-Founder Thomas Bogan.

The **Story Series: Old Fashioned Finished Four Grain Bourbon** is finished for an additional 18 months in barrels previously used to age Oaklore's Barrel-Aged Old Fashioned Cocktail Mixer, creating layered notes of orange bitters, snickerdoodle, vanilla, and baking spice.

The **Story Series: Port Cask Finished Four Grain Bourbon** spends an additional 12 to 18 months in freshly dumped domestic port wine barrels that previously held port for up to 18 years, resulting in rich notes of dark fruit, cherry, raspberry, and sweet oak.

Since launching in 2024, Oaklore Distilling Co. has rapidly emerged as one of the most talked-about new whiskey brands in the country, known for its small-batch craftsmanship, innovative finishing techniques, and limited-release bourbons that routinely sell out among collectors and enthusiasts.

"These awards reflect the standard we hold ourselves to every day," said Thomas Bogan, Co-Founder of Oaklore Distilling Co. "We want every release to feel intentional, memorable, and worthy of the people who support our brand. Receiving Double Platinum for both expressions is an honor we don't take lightly."

Now available in **limited quantities**, both expressions retail for **\$89.95 SRP** (Old Fashioned Finish) and **\$79.95 SRP** (Port Cask Finish). Distribution will be limited, with bottles available at select retailers in the Carolinas and shipping nationally through Oaklore's website at shop.oakloredistilling.com, ensuring continued high demand among collectors and enthusiasts alike. And if you're interested in trying out Oaklore's Barrel-Aged Old Fashioned Cocktail Mixer, they are currently offering a free bottle on all orders from their website while supplies last at shop.oakloredistilling.com!

Built on the idea of community and shared stories, Oaklore Distilling Co. has rapidly distinguished itself as one of the most exciting new whiskey producers in America—proving that its meteoric rise is no accident, but the result of relentless dedication to quality and craft.

Follow Oaklore Distilling Co. on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#). To learn more, visit www.oakloredistilling.com.

Media Images May Be Found [HERE](#).

ABOUT OAKLORE DISTILLING CO.

Built on the idea of community, Oaklore Distilling Co. in Charlotte, NC celebrates great spirits and the stories that come along with them. Born of friendship and passion in 2017 Matt Simpkins, Thomas Bogan, and Travis Masters have spent years learning the art of distilling and crafting Oaklore's signature line of spirits. Oaklore spirits – 100 percent Carolina crafted – are created with dedication to the process, ingredients, quality, and presentation. Oaklore Distilling Co. was named No.1 distillery by the Charlotte Observer's Best in 2023, 2024 and 2025. For more information, visit www.oakloredistilling.com.

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