



**Contact:** Amy Preske  
PR & Events Manager  
apreske@buffalotrace.com  
502-696-5957  
www.buffalotracediakit.com

**For Immediate Release**

**AMERICAN WHISKIES FROM BUFFALO TRACE DISTILLERY  
NAMED 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 2<sup>ND</sup> BEST IN THE WORLD**

*Never before has any one distillery earned the top two honors!*

**FRANKFORT, FRANKLIN COUNTY, KY (Nov. 6, 2012)** – Buffalo Trace Distillery has made history in the whiskey industry with not one, but two Whiskey of the Year Awards from esteemed whiskey reviewer Jim Murray. In the newly published 2013 *Jim Murray's Whiskey Bible*, the Thomas H. Handy Sazerac Rye was named “2013 World Whiskey of the Year” and the William Larue Weller was named “Second Finest Whiskey in the World.”

The coveted number one and two spots were the result of Jim Murray tasting over 4,500 whiskies, in route to publishing his annual *Whisky Bible*. It is the first time in the book's ten year history that both the number one and two whiskies in the world have come from the United States, much less the same distillery.

About the Thomas H. Handy, Murray says, “This is enormous....Once off the ground it just doesn't stop traveling. Superb!” A 97.5 (out of 100) rating.

The praise doesn't stop there; for the second place William Larue Weller, Murray says, “WOW! This is becoming a must experience whiskey for hardcore bourbon lovers. Well, whisk(e)y lovers period, really! Majestic! Or, as it's American, perhaps I should say: Presidential.” Also a 97.5 (out of 100) rating.

In regards to deciding between the first and second place, with both whiskies earning the same score, Murray says, “This was a very tough call to make on which of the two deserved top billing. Although from the same distillery they are very different animals. The enormity of the Weller was so apparent...I knew from the very first taste that it stood every chance of being World Whisky of the Year.

“But it was eclipsed by the Thomas Handy Rye, even though they both scored the same number of points. The Rye edged it, by the smallest of fractions, simply because of its extraordinary life and balance on the palate and its uncanny ability to just keep working on full alert for the longest imaginable time. It took a couple of days to decide between the two, but the Handy could not be denied.”

In addition to the number one and number two finest whiskies in the world, Buffalo Trace Distillery also earned an astounding 35 additional awards from Jim Murray, including Bourbon of the Year for its William Larue Weller; Rye of the Year for its Thomas H. Handy Sazerac Rye; Rye 11 Years or Older for its Sazerac 18 Years Old, and a host of Liquid Gold Awards, which are given only to those whiskies which score a “94” or higher, which is considered, “superstar whiskies that give us all a reason to live,” according to Jim Murray.

Amongst those whiskies from Buffalo Trace Distillery that received Liquid Gold Awards were George T. Stagg; Buffalo Trace Bourbon; Pappy Van Winkle's Family Reserve 15 Years Old; Old Weller Antique 107 and Single Oak Project Barrels 63, 14, 132, 33, 61, 164, 191, 81 and 167.

"We were blown away when we heard the results from Jim," said Harlen Wheatley, master distiller, "To have one 'Best Whiskey in the World' is wonderful. To have the number one *and* the number two spots is just amazing; we're very proud of our team here at Buffalo Trace."

The 2013 Jim Murray's Whiskey Bible can be purchased at the Buffalo Trace Distillery gift shop, among other places, or online at [www.whiskybible.com](http://www.whiskybible.com).

### **About Buffalo Trace Distillery**

Buffalo Trace Distillery is a family-owned company based in Frankfort, Franklin County, Kentucky. The Distillery's rich distilling tradition dates back to 1787 and 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 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Distillery has won seven distillery titles since 2000 from such notable publications as *Whisky Magazine*, *Whisky Advocate Magazine* and *Wine Enthusiast Magazine*. It was named *Whisky Magazine* 2010 World Icons of Whisky "Whisky Visitor Attraction of the Year." Buffalo Trace Distillery has also garnered more than 200 awards for its wide range of premium whiskies. 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](http://www.buffalotracedistillery.com).

###