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Top 10 most pioneering US craft distilleries

29th April, 2014 by Amy Hopkins

[Slideshow 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10](#)

[← Previous](#)

[Next →](#)

Anchor Distilling Company



Although now part of the newly formed umbrella company, Anchor Brewers & Distillers, an amalgamation of Anchor Brewing Company, Anchor Distilling Company, Berry Bros. & Rudd and Preiss Imports, San Francisco-based Anchor Distilling Company still produces a number of craft spirits and paved the way for other smaller producers.

The original Anchor Distilling Co. was established in 1993 by Fritz Maytag, who had pioneered the craft brewing movement with his acquisition of Anchor Brewing in 1965.

When Anchor Distilling began production, it was the only distillery producing pot-distilled American whiskey. The company desired to produce a whiskey which “pushed boundaries” and was more inspired by colonial methods. Maytag also produced an American single malt whiskey by using 100% malted rye and used unique toasted handmade barrels over the charred barrels that were the status quo for whiskey.

With a desire to “commercially unite craft distillers from around the world”, Anchor Brewers & Distillers was founded when Tony Foglio and Keith Gregg acquired Preiss Imports in 2008.

[Slideshow 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10](#)

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3 Responses to “Top 10 most

pioneering US craft distilleries”

1.  [Dominick](#) says:
[April 30, 2014 at 6:02 pm](#)

Cisco Brewers – Triple Eight Distillery & Nantucket Vineyards...


located on the island of nNantucket 30 miles out to sea not only represents a unique location for a production facility however is one of only 5 locations in the US that has all three facilities on the same site. Not only do they distill a full range of sprits but their NOTCH (which stands for Nanatucket-Scotch) is the highest rated American Whiskey which is only available at the distillery and of course sells for \$888 per bottle.

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2.  [R. Thompson](#) says:
[April 30, 2014 at 6:59 pm](#)

Very interesting article! There are some great distilleries listed. A few I've tried and a few still on the list to try. I love the experimentation going on with the craft distilleries around the country. Only time will tell what great expressions will come from this experimenting. I look forward to it!

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3.  [sue](#) says:
[May 1, 2014 at 10:10 pm](#)

Domaine Charbay in Northern California should have made the top ten, its rising fast and lots of PR.

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