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FOR RELEASE

Hood River Distillers Acquires Crater Lake Spirits Portfolio

Production remains in Bend.

Photos are available at this [link](#).

HOOD RIVER, OR (April 2, 2026)... [Hood River Distillers](#) (HRD), the largest and oldest importer, distiller, producer, and marketer of distilled spirits in the Pacific Northwest, announced today that it has agreed to acquire the [Crater Lake Spirits](#) portfolio from Bendistillery. Terms were not disclosed.

Under the agreement, Bendistillery will continue to produce and bottle all Crater Lake Spirits products at its Bend, OR, facility, maintaining the craftsmanship and quality the brand has delivered for nearly three decades.

“From a product standpoint, very little will change,” said Jim Bendis, Founder and CEO of Bendistillery. “We’ll continue crafting the same high-quality spirits our customers know and trust. The difference is that instead of navigating a complex network of state markets and distributors on our own, we’ll now produce for Hood River Distillers, whose reach and relationships are broader than ours. It’s truly a win-win.”

Hood River Distillers, founded in 1934, also owns Clear Creek Distillery, Oregon’s first craft spirits distillery, which it acquired in 2014. Established in 1996, Bendistillery founded the nation’s first craft vodka and gin. The combined portfolio now represents more than 160 years of craft distillation expertise.

“Crater Lake Spirits is an award-winning portfolio with a strong legacy, a loyal following across Oregon, and deep roots in the Bend community,” said Russell Dodge, HRD President. “We both share a commitment to craftsmanship and quality which is why these new additions fit seamlessly into the HRD portfolio.”

The agreement comes at a pivotal time in the beverage alcohol industry as wineries, breweries and distilleries across the country are facing the challenges of declining alcohol consumption and shifting consumer preferences.

About Bendistillery

Bendistillery, Inc. began creating Crater Lake Spirits in 1996 in Bend, Oregon. What started as America's first craft gin and vodka grew to a portfolio of more than 20 products including vodkas, gins, naturally infused vodkas, and whiskeys. In addition, Bendistillery has collaborated with Deschutes Brewery to create Black Butte Whiskey. With deep roots in the Pacific Northwest, Bendistillery continues to innovate while honoring its legacy as a pioneer in the American craft spirits movement. For the complete product portfolio and more information, visit www.craterlakespirits.com.

About Hood River Distillers

Founded in 1934 and headquartered in Hood River, OR, Hood River Distillers is the Northwest's largest and oldest importer, distiller, producer, and marketer of distilled spirits. Timberline® Vodka, Forthwest® Whisky, Big Gin®, Batanga® Tequila, Easy Rider® Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey, Trail's End® Finished Small Batch Bourbon, DeGroff® Bitter Aperitivo and New World Amaro, Clear Creek®, McCarthy's® Oregon Single Malt, Old Delicious® Double Bourbon Barreled Apple Brandy, Sinfire® Whisky, Lucid® Absinthe Supérieure, ULLR® Nordic Libation, Yazi® Ginger Vodka, Lewis and Clark®, HRD® Vodka and the complete line of Monarch® distilled spirits are distributed across the country. For the complete product portfolio and more information, visit www.hrdspirits.com.

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Photos and samples are available. Contact Laura Peet at lpeet@peetcom.com.
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