

## **Sagamore Spirit and The Whiskey Tree Aging Alliance (WTAA™) Team Up to Create First Ever Whiskey Aged in a Live Oak Tree**

*Balanced with hints of flora and fauna, the new, unorthodox aging process melds delicate flavor with bold rye to create a whiskey full of vitality, energy, and natural life*

**BALTIMORE, March 29, 2022** - Sagamore Spirit announced today the release of its newest limited-time-offering, the **Sagamore Spirit Live Oak Finish**. Made in partnership with the Whiskey Tree Aging Alliance (WTAA™), a Maryland non-profit dedicated to aging Maryland Rye Whiskey in live oak trees, the final product is the first ever whiskey to be aged inside a living oak tree, rather than traditional oak barrels.

How's it work? ? The process is simple: drill, pour, and wait. After over a year of experimenting with different techniques, trees and processes, Sagamore Spirit distillers found that live oak trees are even more effective at adding the compounds that enhance the whiskey's flavor – lignin, lactones and tannins – than traditional oak barrels. And unlike barrels, the tree's freeform shape allows the liquid to adopt new flavors never taste before, including wood spice, sap and earthy undertones thanks to its distinctive lobed leaves.

WTAA™ reps found aging whiskey in live oak has mutual benefits – with over 95% of their trees show improved signs of hydration and relaxation.

“Sagamore Spirit is known for experimentation, so when The Whiskey Tree Aging Alliance approached us with a proposition to create the first ever whiskey aged in a live oak tree, we knew we couldn't pass up the opportunity,” said Brian Treacy, Sagamore Spirit's co-founder and president of distillery operations. “While we plan on maintaining a large portion of our oak barrel inventory, the success of this project will help determine the direction of Sagamore Spirit's aging future. And who knows, we may just expand into other types of trees down the line.”

Like its other releases, Sagamore Spirit Live Oak Finish can be savored neat, on the rocks, or mixed into a savory cocktail – most notably, the Rooted Rye. Available in 750ml bottles at a suggested retail price of \$199.99, only 300 bottles will be distributed nationwide starting April 1, 2022.

To celebrate, the first 50 buyers of Sagamore Spirit Live Oak Finish will also receive a complimentary tree tap that can double as a liquid dispenser for the bottle.

Disclaimer: no real trees were harmed during the making of this whiskey.

### **About Sagamore Spirit**

Inspired by the legacy of Maryland Rye and today's spirit consumer, Sagamore Spirit is driven to craft the world's best Rye Whiskey while strengthening its collective communities. Its award-winning five-acre waterfront distillery in Baltimore is reclaiming the city's rightful place in

America's whiskey history, where storied distillers perfected rye whiskey for more than 150 years before Kentucky was founded.

Maryland Rye Whiskey was known to be full bodied yet notably more balanced than other regional rye styles, and Sagamore Spirit has picked up the torch. Its American Rye Whiskies have earned more than 100 awards internationally, including "World's Best Rye Whiskey" in 2019 at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition. Sagamore Spirit's distillation team blends two different rye mash bills – a high rye and a low rye – and then adds pure Maryland limestone-filtered spring water, transported 22 miles from Sagamore Farm, to craft the brand's Signature 83-proof Maryland-Style Rye Whiskey. To learn more about Sagamore Spirit's core expressions, including Cask Strength Rye Whiskey and Double Oak Rye Whiskey, as well as limited-time Reserve Series releases, visit [www.SagamoreSpirit.com](http://www.SagamoreSpirit.com).

### **About The Whiskey Tree Aging Alliance (WTAA™)**

Dedicated to experimentation and innovation of the whiskey aging process, the Whiskey Tree Aging Alliance is a non-profit based in Maryland that has planted and prepped over 1,000 oak trees across the state. Founded by April Williams, an Arborist that specializes in oak, and Brad Folsy, a whiskey enthusiast and distiller, the company is dedicated to one sole mission: change the future of whiskey.