

# **BLACKWATER**

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DISTILLING

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KENT ISLAND, MD

## **Maryland's Blackwater Distilling Brings Home Five New Distinctions**

*Blackwater Distilling Tops Maryland's Growing Craft Distilling Industry with Awards for Product Quality and Packaging proving the Kent Island Distillery's Spirits are Gold Both Inside and Out*

KENT ISLAND, MD (April 16, 2018)—**Blackwater Distilling**, Maryland's first fully-licensed distillery to open since 1972, recently added five new honors to the list of impressive awards the team has earned since opening in 2008. The winning streak began in 2012 with Blackwater Distilling's first product, Sloop Betty Vodka, and continued this year with Sloop Betty Vodka's new packaging winning the American Advertising Award "Gold Addy" and the "Judge's Choice Award" in the category of Sales and Marketing Packaging. The Sloop Betty Vodka packaging also won the prestigious 2018 Muse Creative Awards' Platinum ranking, proving excellence can be found both in and out of the bottle. Two of Blackwater Distilling's rum products have brought home honors from the American Distilling Institute this year with the Picaroon Dark Rum winning "Best of Category – Aged Pot-Column Still Rum" and the new Picaroon Coffee Rum Liqueur winning a Silver Medal for "Excellence in Packaging".

Blackwater Distilling's first product, Sloop Betty Vodka, started winning early, bringing home three gold medals, including "Best Vodka in Show" at the 2012 New York World Wine & Spirits Competition and a 94-point rating in The Tasting Panel Magazine. Further awards include "Gold Medal" at the 2017 New York International Spirits Competition where Picaroon Overproof White Rum also earned "Silver Medal" honors.

"While winning awards is not our primary goal, we do aim to create the finest craft spirits, incorporating unique distilling and aging concepts that set Blackwater Distilling apart in terms of quality and flavor," said Chris Cook, CEO and co-founder of Blackwater Distilling. "Our creative partners at Tribe designed a logo and labels for our spirits that match the adventurous spirit of what is found inside our bottles. I guess a natural result is the awards we have been honored to receive."

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Blackwater Distilling is headquartered on scenic Kent Island, Maryland and is home to a variety of award-winning rums, vodkas, and most recently the introduction of whiskey. The family-owned business is the brainchild of brothers Christopher and Jonathan Cook who sought to resurrect the art of distilling in Maryland that fell off in the early 1970's. Chris spearheaded statewide legislation in 2012 that essentially opened the doors for all Maryland distilleries to host onsite tours, tastings, and sales. Leading in the distilling resurgence, Blackwater has set the bar in Maryland and its spirits are highly decorated.

Blackwater Distilling products are available through Republic National Distributing Company (RNDC) in Maryland and the District of Columbia and can be purchased at Blackwater Distilling on Kent Island at 184 Log Canoe Circle, Stevensville, Maryland, just 15 minutes from Annapolis and an hour from Washington, DC or Baltimore, MD (first exit off of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge). Blackwater Distilling offers tours and tastings at its distillery seven days a week from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. with tours kicking off at the top of each hour. Follow the company on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

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### **About Blackwater Distilling**

Blackwater Distilling is located on scenic Kent Island, Maryland and has been producing high-quality, master crafted spirits since 2011. Family-owned by the Cook brothers, Christopher and Jonathan, Blackwater Distilling is Maryland's first fully-licensed alcohol distillery since 1972. Blackwater Distilling is also the state's most decorated, having received dozens of awards for its incredible line-up of vodkas, rums, whiskeys and specialty spirits. Blackwater Distilling uses organic or local ingredients whenever possible for its unparalleled quality and taste. Visit [blackwaterdistilling.com](http://blackwaterdistilling.com) or follow the company on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).