

KOVAL

GRAIN TO BOTTLE ORGANIC SPIRITS
HANDMADE IN CHICAGO



Top 10 Most Influential
Craft Whiskey Makers
-Whisky Advocate-

One of the 100 Best Distilleries
to Visit in the World
-Whisky Magazine-

One of
“America’s Coolest Distilleries”
-Travel + Leisure-



@KOVALDISTILLERY

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THE DISTILLERY

Established in 2008, KOVAL is Chicago’s first distillery since the mid-1800s, producing, organic whiskeys, liqueurs and specialty spirits. KOVAL’s founders, Robert and Sonat Birnecker, chose to leave their careers in academia to bring the distilling traditions of Robert’s Austrian family to America. In making this decision, they vowed to make organic spirits from scratch (avoiding the common industry practice of purchasing and bottling pre-made spirits) and to change the way people understood whiskey by creating a new, signature style – a brighter, cleaner whiskey – using only the “heart” cut of the distillate.

Embracing the grain-to-bottle mentality, KOVAL thoughtfully monitors each step of the spirit-making process: from contracting local farmers to grow organic grain, to milling and mashing on-site; to distilling, bottling and packaging. KOVAL has won numerous international awards and with Robert at the helm of consulting for the burgeoning craft industry, has grown to be one of America’s leading small-batch, independent spirit manufacturers.

LEADERS OF THE CRAFT MOVEMENT

Dr. Robert Birnecker, KOVAL’s Master Distiller, is one of America’s top distilling experts, an internationally-renowned consultant and the creator of the most unique spirits in America. An Austrian native, Robert grew up helping his grandparents at their award-winning distillery and winery. He later received a certificate from Austria’s leading university for distilling technology, Höhere Bundeslehranstalt und Bundesamt für Wein-und Obstbau Klosterneuburg.

Robert is a key lecturer for the Seibel Institute of Technology’s distilling courses and teaches over 160 prospective distillers a year in his own workshops through kothe-distilling.com. Robert has educated and/or consulted for a third of all craft distilleries that have started in the past four years. Before focusing on distilling, Robert was the Deputy Press Secretary for the Austrian Embassy in Washington, D.C. His decision to distill was born out of his love for traditional crafts and the pride of a small family business, both of which exemplify the real American dream.