



## From Bootlegging to Legal Moonshine: Distilleries in South Carolina’s Upstate

Upstate South Carolina (*June 1, 2020*) – Many moons ago, bootleggers in South Carolina made moonshine illegally, often passed around in an iconic mason jar. Today, the **recipe for authentic white whiskeys has largely remained the same**, but one big thing has changed: the production of this famed “social spirit” is now legal! In 2009, South Carolina lawmakers unanimously passed the state’s microdistillery law, and by 2011 **the first legal moonshine** was being sold throughout the state. These days, some distilleries will even ship it.

Though it may be too soon for you to visit these microdistilleries in person, in anticipation of National Moonshine Day, which is celebrated on the first Thursday in June, we wanted to share with you some information about these pretty incredible – and delicious – places to enjoy moonshine in South Carolina’s Upstate. National Moonshine Day started in 2013 and was And great news: If you’re lucky enough to live in one of the states that they can legally ship to, you can order some of their products for home delivery and get a taste a little sooner.

### **Palmetto Distillery**

200 West Benson Street, Anderson, SC 29624

<https://www.palmettomoonshine.com>

Located in the heart of Anderson, Palmetto Distillery owners Bryan and Trey Boggs drew inspiration from their own heritage when they used their grandfather’s moonshine recipe (which he made and ran bootleg) to create the infamous Palmetto Moonshine collection. The brothers were proud to reignite the family tradition of bringing high-quality moonshine and whiskey to the masses as the first legal moonshine distillery in South Carolina. In addition to Palmetto Moonshine, the distillery also produces the state’s most awarded craft whiskey, Palmetto Whiskey, and musician Darius Rucker’s signature brand, Backstage Southern Whiskey. Palmetto Distillery is among those that can ship its products (including [Palmetto Distillery Hand Sanitizer](#)).

**Must-Make Recipes:** A toss-up between [Blackberry Breeze](#) and [Peach Tea](#). For a Blackberry Breeze, combine Blackberry Moonshine with lemon-lime soda and slices of cucumbers and limes for a tangy flavor with a burst of cool cucumber and a lemon-lime finish. For a classic tea with a twist, add Palmetto Peach Moonshine and a splash of lemon to sweet or unsweetened tea for the perfect Peach Tea.

### **Dark Corner Distillery**

14 South Main Street, Greenville, SC 29601

<http://www.darkcornerdistillery.com>

Dark Corner Distillery was inspired by a love of storytelling and an appreciation for moonshine. A place where all are welcome to make memories over a great drink, the name Dark Corner comes from the area in which the distillery is located. The northeastern corner of Greenville County's Appalachian hills has been known as "Dark Corner" for more than 175 years, when settlers started operating illegal distilleries at night to evade revenuers.

**Must-Order Drink:** [Lewis Redmond 1854 Whiskey](#). Distilled from wheat mash and matured in the distillery's very own bourbon barrels, the whisky is mellow with roasted nuttiness and subtle notes of butterscotch, tobacco and dried cherry. The drink's namesake was a 19<sup>th</sup>-century renegade who found himself in Dark Corner after killing a U.S. Deputy Marshal trying to arrest him for moonshining. Like many outlaws of the time, Redmond became a media darling.

**Fun Fact:** Both *Palmetto Distillery* and *Dark Corner Distillery* lay claim to being **South Carolina's first legal moonshine distillery**. *Palmetto* was the first distillery to get a license and *Dark Corner* was the first to officially open its doors!

### **Chattooga Belle Distillery**

454 Damascus Church Road, Long Creek, SC 29658

<https://www.chattoogabellefarm.com/distillery>

A one-stop shop, Chattooga Belle Distillery grows the fruit, ferments, distills, bottles, labels and sells everything on site. The Chattooga Belle Distillery is located on the scenic grounds of Chattooga Belle Farm. The current owners are a husband-and-wife team, but way back when, the property belonged to a partnership that included Groucho Marx!

**Must-Order Drink:** MuscaShine. The distillery's take on the infamous moonshine, this version is made with muscadine grapes that are grown on the farm.

### **Sugar Tit Moonshine**

330 Main Street, Reidville, SC 29375

<https://www.sugartitmoonshine.com>

Yes, this distillery's name is amusing, but it's also an actual place: Sugar Tit is a small unmarked town just outside of historic Reidville, where the distillery is based. And the moonshine has history, too: it comes from an old family recipe, is hand-crafted in small batches and so smooth because it's distilled six times. Located in a historic building dating to 1857, the tasting room's original floorboards are believed to have been walked on by Union Army General William Sherman's troops at the end of the Civil War – seemingly after being talked out of burning the town down.

**Must-Order Drink:** Offering authentic moonshine in traditional flavors along with some unique fruit combinations, the tasting room's most popular drinks are the traditional moonshine as well as the apple pie- and peach-flavored moonshines.

### **Six & Twenty Distillery**

3109 Highway 153, Piedmont, SC 29673

<https://www.sixandtwentydistillery.com>

This artisan distillery may not have moonshine on the menu but their famed Carolina Cream is a decadent liquid dessert! Making its products with only South Carolina grains, Six & Twenty Distillery creates whiskies, vodkas, gins, and brandies along with the Carolina Cream. Founder and CEO David

Raad and his team pride themselves on their approach of handcrafting spirits batch-by-batch, with balance and authenticity. [Online ordering](#) is available for Six & Twenty products (to select locations).

**Must-Order Drink:** [Carolina Cream](#). This show-stopper combination of natural cream, 5-Grain bourbon and rum can be enjoyed neat, on the rocks or in coffee.

For more information about these Upstate South Carolina destinations, please visit:

- [www.LakeHartwellCountry.com](http://www.LakeHartwellCountry.com)
- [www.VisitOconeeSC.com](http://www.VisitOconeeSC.com)
- [www.VisitAnderson.com](http://www.VisitAnderson.com)
- [www.UpcountrySC.com](http://www.UpcountrySC.com)
- [www.VisitSpartanburg.com](http://www.VisitSpartanburg.com)

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