

Charles K. Cowdery, Biography

Charles K. ‘Chuck’ Cowdery is “the dean of American whiskey journalism” according to *The New York Times*.^{*} He is a Kentucky Colonel (Patton, 206), a member of the Kentucky Bourbon Hall of Fame (2009), and the author of:

- *Bourbon, Strange: Surprising Stories of American Whiskey* (2014)
- *The Best Bourbon You’ll Never Taste. The True Story of A. H. Hirsch Reserve Straight Bourbon Whiskey, Distilled in the Spring of 1974* (2012)
- *Bourbon, Straight: The Uncut and Unfiltered Story of American Whiskey* (2004).

He is the producer/director/writer of the public television documentary "Made and Bottled in Kentucky" (1992).

Other books include *Blues Legends* (1995), 20 profiles of notable blues musicians. Cowdery was a contributor to the book *1001 Whiskies You Must Taste Before You Die* (2012).

He is a regular contributor to *Whisky Advocate Magazine*, and the editor and publisher of *The Bourbon Country Reader*, the oldest publication dedicated exclusively to American whiskey.

In 2012, Cowdery was cited by the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals as an expert on the history and marketing of American whiskey in *Maker's Mark v Diageo*. He wrote the ‘Bourbon’ article in *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture, Volume 7, Foodways* (2007).

He is available for speaking appearances and guided tastings.

He lives in Chicago, Illinois, near Wrigley Field.

^{*} “A Golden Age for American Whiskey Writers,” by Robert Simonson, *New York Times*, January 4, 2017, page D6.