

OLE JACK AND US

Deep in the heart of Tennessee, where you can't hardly get there from here, is the home of Jack Daniels whiskey. Hundreds of thousands of people visit here each



year, despite the fact that they don't give away samples!

This is the only place in the world they make this whiskey, and it is sold in about 150 countries.

The government collects around \$9 million a month in alcohol tax at about \$13 per gallon. Run the numbers! The picture represents the number of bottles made from each

barrel of whiskey. The plant tour takes about an hour and shows you all the processes, from the making of charcoal, the digesting, the fermenting and the bottling and storage for aging the brew.

The barrels are made at a cooperage in St Louis, MO and they are burnt inside at the factory. It is interesting that the barrels are only used one time for aging whiskey. They are bought by other concerns such as wine curing, shipping and even planters!

There are only 400 employees for this around the clock, seven days a week operation. Most of them come from families that have worked here for generations. The grounds are beautiful with a stream running through. Not the super fine water used to make the whiskey however. That comes from a natural spring originating deep within a stone mountain cave, and is jealously guarded.

We are spending the holidays parked in the yard of Bonnie's cousin. She has 18 acres and we can watch deer munching about and see beautiful red Cardinals eating from her bird feeder.

Dave and Bonnie