**A close up of a logo

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**Matti Anttila**

Founder & CEO, [Grain & Barrel Spirits](https://grainandbarrel.com/)

A person standing in front of a barrel

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In 2012, Anttila founded [Grain & Barrel Spirits](https://grainandbarrel.com/), a West Palm Beach-based beverage alcohol company. At home in the Southeast with production and sales partners around the world, Grain & Barrel Spirits is an innovative, emerging company with wholly owned brands including [Dixie Southern Vodka](https://dixievodka.com/) which Anttila created from scratch and which won of a 2019 “Rising Star” Growth Brands Award from the Beverage Dynamics magazine; pre-Prohibition favorite [Chicken Cock Whiskey](https://www.chickencockwhiskey.com/?gate=success), which Anttila resurrected; and [Endless Summer Rum.](https://endlesssummerrum.com/) In 2019 Grain & Barrel was added to the Inc. 5000 list of America’s fastest growing private companies, coming in within the top 25% at number in 1,113.

Last year Grain & Barrel launched Dixie [Wildflower](https://dixievodka.com/dixie-wildflower-honey-vodka/) Honey in partnership with the [Savannah Bee Company](https://savannahbee.com/our-passion-the-bee-cause-project/) and its Charleston-based non-profit, The [Bee Cause](http://thebeecause.org/), which installs observation hives worldwide with the mission to develop future stewards of the planet. On a personal note, Anttila is a board member of [Piper’s Angels](https://www.pipersangels.org/), a foundation which has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the cystic fibrosis community. Their annual Father’s Day event, [Crossing for a Cure](https://www.crossingforacure.com/), is an 80-mile open-sea paddle board crossing from the Bahamas to Florida; in 2018, Anttila made his first solo crossing in 16 hours, and he just completed the 2019 crossing in 14.5 hours.

Anttila’s career began in 2001, as an analyst for J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. Four years later, he found himself in São Paulo, Brazil where he founded Cabana Cachaça, which by 2011 was named one of the top 50 spirits in the world by Wine Enthusiast magazine. From 2015 onward, Anttila straddled the finance and CPG industries, marrying the two through his investment company North End Commerce which holds Anttila’s companies Grain & Barrel Spirits, licensing company Cloudbreak Brands, and food and snack focused Intercoastal Brands.

Anttila attended Amherst College and lives in Palm Beach, Florida, with his wife and two daughters. In his spare time he enjoys golf and paddle boarding, and is currently brushing up on Finnish, a language he spoke nearly fluently as a child.

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*Interviews, images, and spirits samples available upon request. Please drink responsibly.*