

Roadhouse looks to bottle, ship beer

West Bank brewery is preparing to expand distribution next year.

By Isa Jones

Roadhouse Brewing Co.: Franklin Powell pours a pint Sunday at Roadhouse Brewing Co. in Wilson. The restaurant and brewery announced expanded brewing operations and distribution beginning in 2017. - RYAN DORGAN / NEWS&GUIDE



The world is about to know of Roadhouse Brewing Co.

The local brewery, which operates out of the Q Roadhouse & Brewing Co. restaurant off Highway 390, plans to expand its operations in the beginning of 2017 and will start distributing bottled beer outside of Jackson.

"I think to start this was always the plan," co-founder Gavin Fine said. "When I started this thing in the back of the bar at the Roadhouse it was like, 'Let's just make some beer and have some fun.' As it became a reality and as the craft beer business is exploding and people love our product, it became, 'Do we continue to do this in the back or really go for it?'"

The decision to "really go for it" is leading to a new production facility in Jackson that will bottle and distribute five of Roadhouse's beers: Rhombus IPA, Avarice & Greed Golden Ale, Family Vacation American Blonde Ale and Trout Whistle American Pale Ale.

The bottles will be available throughout all of Wyoming and in neighboring states.

"We want to take care of Wyoming first and foremost," Fine said. "Then our plan is to go pretty slowly. We don't want to be enormous right out of the gate. Regionally, as far as other states, it's going to be decided beginning of the year."

In addition to expanding brewing and distribution, Fine and company are looking at how to refine their beer and food pairings — a natural extension considering the brewery was founded in the kitchen of a restaurant.

"I've been pairing food and wine my whole life, and our goal is to make some really great beers that work with really good food to eat," Fine said.

That will lead to a culinary think tank in the new facility.

"We're going to push the envelope on food and beer and constantly making great beer," he said.

Fine said that since there will be another facility focusing on brewing the flagship beers, customers should expect a rotating tap and new, experimental brews at Q Roadhouse. He said that no matter what is next, Jackson helped create Roadhouse, and it remains home.

"We are super appreciative of the Jackson community being receptive of our beers," he said. "It has pushed us to take the next step."