

Stuart officially entered the whisky industry by joining Edrington in April 2013 after he completed the Saltire Fellowship, an experiential MBA programme delivered by a partnership between Entrepreneurial Scotland and Babson College in Boston.

Prior to this, Stuart had a successful career in music and events that often found him performing or providing entertainment for whisky companies across the world. Stuart founded his first business at 17 years old, The Scottish Bagpiper Company, before selling this business in 2004 to concentrate on his new venture, The Red Hot Chilli Pipers. In 5 years, The Red Hot Chilli Pipers became a globally recognised Scottish brand selling over half a million albums worldwide and performing at the world's biggest events and venues. In 2011, a musician's injury called Focal Dystonia forced Stuart to retire from performing and look for a new career.

In 2005, Stuart was awarded the BBC Young Traditional Musician of the Year award and was the first person to graduate from The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland with an honours degree in bagpipes and Scottish music.

Stuart was very proud when The Famous Grouse Experience was awarded ASVA Best Visitor Experience and Icons of Whisky UK Visitor Attraction of the Year in 2015. Stuart was then named Icons of Whisky Global Visitor Attraction Manager of the Year in 2016.

