

BEER

The Magic of Beer

Beer...Beer...Beer. How can so many styles and so many wonderful flavors come from four simple ingredients: water, barley, hops and yeast? We have been brewing beer since time immemorial, across different cultures and throughout our history, it has been the art of the brewer and their particular place in time that has shaped and influenced the beer we enjoy today. All beer carries with it a story, and it is within these stories we find the reasons why different beer tastes differently. Understanding the numerous styles of beer will help us to anticipate what flavors we will find in a new beer. Generally, beer comes in three categories: ales, lagers and hybrids or specialty beers. All beer in the world is one of these three types. The only true difference between ales and lagers lies in the yeast used. Ale uses top fermenting yeast and is kept at warmer temperatures, while lagers uses bottom fermenting yeast and is kept at cooler temperatures. Any beer that is not made from either of these processes or adds in different ingredients like fruit or herbs is considered a specialty beer. As we proceed, we will find that certain styles were created out of necessity and others by accident. We will discover that all contained herein were picked with passion and love for the art of brewing, and hopefully you will experience just how damn good they are.

Beer Styles

Back to Basics

When it comes to brewing beer, barley and hops are paramount. Hops add both bitterness and aroma to beer. Malted barley gives beer its sweetness and body. How much the barley is roasted also adds complexity and depth much like roasting coffee beans to extract deeper and darker flavors. All beer has a combination of malt and hops. How much of each and what particular kind helps us to categorize the beer into different styles. Some beer will be balanced, having similar levels of both hop bitterness and malt sweetness. Other beer will have higher levels of either hops or malt, creating anything from a rich sweet high alcohol brew to a pale, dry and extremely bitter one.

Ales

Ales are the single largest category of beer style. Most beer brewed in the world is a type of ale. Ale also boasts the most diverse portfolio of distinct flavor profiles. The range is from mild pale ale to incredibly rich imperial stout and sweet barley wine.

Pale Ale

This category contains both the English and American versions of Pale Ale. In general, pale ales will have a more pronounced hop bitterness with the malt adding a backbone of body and fullness. The quintessential English brew often exhibits less hop bitterness than their American counterpart. American microbreweries prefer American strains of hops which impart more complex aromas and a higher level of bitterness to the beer than English hops do. Keep in mind that ratios of hops to malt will vary depending upon the individual brewer. So, in order to find your favorite, you'll just have to try them all.

Bass Pale Ale

Burton upon Trent, England
ABV 5 %

Dominion Ale

Ashburn, Virginia, USA
ABV 4.7%

Brooklyn Summer Ale (Seasonal)

Brooklyn, New York, USA
ABV 4.5%

Boddingtons Pub Ale 14.9oz.

Manchester, England
ABV 4.8%

Boulder Beer Company Hazed and Infused

Boulder, Colorado, USA
ABV 4.85%

Magic Hat #9

South Burlington, Vermont, USA
ABV 4.6%

Oskar Blues Dale's Pale Ale

Lyons, Colorado, USA
ABV 6.5%

Southern Tier Phin & Matt's Extraordinary Ale

Lakewood, New York, USA
ABV 5.6%

Stoudt's American Pale Ale

Adamstown, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 5%

Flying Dog Doggie Style Pale Ale

Denver, Colorado, USA
ABV 5.3%

Sierra Nevada Pale Ale

Chico, California, USA

ABV 5.6%

Brooklyn Pennant Pale Ale

Brooklyn, New York, USA

ABV 5%

Sly Fox Phoenix Pale Ale

Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 5.1%

Otto's Mt. Nittany Pale Ale

State College, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 4.7%

Bear Republic XP Pale Ale

Healdsburg, California, USA

ABV 5.4%

Tommyknocker Pick Axe Pale Ale

Idaho Springs, Colorado, USA

ABV 6.2%

India Pale Ale

No its not ale from India, its ale *for* India. Of the many wonderful uses of hops, their ability to help preserve beer, either for aging or for long voyages at sea, is what helped to spread the demand for this kind of pale ale. The earliest form of this beer is credited to George Hodgson and his Bow Brewery in England in the mid 18th century. His *October* beer was different from all the other English pale ale because it had more hops and less malt. His beer was preferred by the East India Company traders because it stood up to the test of the sea voyage to India and was reportedly loved by the English soldiers. Sometimes referred to as Pale ale on steroids, American IPA's are higher in alcohol than their English predecessors and can be both aggressively bitter and have seductively floral aromas.

New Holland Mad Hatter

Holland, Michigan, USA

ABV 5.8%

Moylan's IPA

Novato, California, USA

ABV 6.5%

Great Divide Hercules Double IPA

Denver, Colorado, USA

ABV 4.9%

Great Divide Titan IPA

Denver, Colorado, USA

ABV 6.8%

Southern Tier IPA

Lakewood, New York, USA
ABV 6.5%

Victory Hop Devil

Downingtown, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 6.7%

Victory Wild Devil 750ml.

Downingtown, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 6.7%

Green Flash West Coast IPA

Vista, California, USA
ABV 7%

Magic Hat Lucky Hat

South Burlington, Vermont, USA
ABV 5.8%

Voodoo 4 Seasons IPA 22oz.

Meadville, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 8%

South Hampton IPA

South Hampton, New York, USA
ABV 5.2%

Anderson Valley Hop Ottin' IPA

Boonville, California, USA
ABV 7%

Bell's Two Hearted Ale

Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA
ABV 5.5%

Brooklyn East India Pale Ale

Brooklyn, New York, USA
ABV 6.8%

Redhook Ale Brewery Long Hammer IPA

Seattle, Washington, USA
ABV 6.5%

Otto's Slab Cabin IPA 22oz.

State College, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 6%

Bear Republic Racer 5 India Pale Ale

Healdsburg, California, USA
ABV 7%

Dogfish Head 60 Minute IPA
Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA
ABV 6%

Stone Ruination IPA 22oz.
San Diego, California, USA
ABV 7.7%

Stone IPA
San Diego, California, USA
ABV 6.9%

Boulder Beer Company Mojo IPA
Boulder, Colorado, USA
ABV 6.8%

Ithaca Beer Company Flower Power India Pale Ale
Ithaca, New York, USA
ABV 7%

English Bitter/Special Bitter/ Extra Special Bitter

This English style ale was traditionally served only on draft and was usually cast-conditioned and had to be pumped by hand into your glass without the use of gas. Counter to its name, bitter ales are not usually as bitter as American pale ales and IPA's. Most of these have less carbonation than typical pale ales. The designation of special bitter and extra special bitter or ESB denote the increase of malt complexity. Special Bitter and ESB's will also have higher amounts of alcohol than simple bitter ales and the extra malt will add a toasty and fruity balance to the overall product.

Fuller's ESB
London, England
ABV 5.9%

Redhook Ale Brewery ESB
Seattle, Washington, USA
ABV 4.52%

Rogue Brutal Bitter
Newport, Oregon, USA
ABV 6.5%

American Amber/Red Ale

American Amber ales are an expression of old world style and American innovation. Though this category tends to be a catch all for beer that is darker than a pale ale yet not quite as dark as a brown ale or stout, these beers tend to be the most balanced of any ale style. While a pale ale may be bitter and dry and a brown ale sweet and toasty, amber ales will exhibit a harmony between the two. To find the best, have one of each – or perhaps two.

Bear Republic Red Rocket
Healdsburg, California, USA
ABV 6.8

North Coast Ruedrich's Red Seal Ale
Fort Bragg, California, USA
ABV 5.5%

Otto's Red Mo Ale 22oz.
State College, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 5%

Anderson Valley Boont Amber Ale
Boonville, California, USA
ABV 5.8%

Bell's Amber Ale
Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA
ABV 5.8%

Green Flash Hop Head Red
Vista, California, USA
ABV 6%

Tröegs Hopback
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 5.6%

Smithwick's Ale
Kilkenny, Ireland
ABV 5%

Slyfox Seamus Red Ale (Seasonal)
Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 4.9%

Rogue Dead Guy Ale
Newport, Oregon, USA
ABV 6%

Ithaca Beer Company Cascazilla
Ithaca, New York, USA
ABV 7%

Wheat Ale

Wheat ales are so called because malted wheat is used in place of malted barley. These brews are not made entirely from wheat, varying amounts of malted barley are still used. Most of these styles are bottle conditioned and unfiltered which gives the beer a cloudy appearance. German wheat ales typically use special yeast that gives the beer flavors like banana, fresh bread, and clove spice. American wheat ales tend to have a little more carbonation and can have a more

noticeable hop bitterness. Regardless, wheat ales are considered refreshing and light, and make wonderful warm weather beer.

Tröegs Dreamweaver

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 4.8%

Anderson Valley High Rollers Wheat Ale

Boonville, California, USA
ABV 5.5%

Magic Hat Circus Boy

South Burlington, Vermont, USA
ABV 5.4%

Franziskaner Hefe-Weissbier Dunkel 16.9oz.

Munich, Germany
ABV 5%

Harpoon UFO (Seasonal)

Boston, Massachusetts, USA
ABV 4.8%

Tommyknocker Jack Whacker Wheat Ale

Idaho Springs, Colorado, USA
ABV 4.7%

Paulaner Hefeweizen 16.8oz.

Munich, Germany
ABV 5.5%

Widmer Hefeweizen

Portland, Oregon, USA
ABV 4.7%

Franziskaner Hefe-Weissbier

Munich, Germany
ABV 5%

Erdinger Weissbier 16.9oz.

Erding, Germany
ABV 5.3%

Flying Dog In-Heat-Wheat

Denver, Colorado, USA
ABV 5.1%

Brooklyner-Schneider Hopfen-Weisse (Limited Release) 750 ml

Brooklyn, New York, USA
ABV 8.5%

Strong Ale

Strong ales can be tricky to define. In England, strong ales are stronger and more malty than pale ales but not quite as strong as barley wines or old ales. In America, strong ales represent almost any beer 7% alcohol and above. In most cases though, strong ales will be coppery red to reddish brown, exhibit more complex malty flavors, less hop bitterness, and a noticeable alcohol flavor and warmth.

Stone Arrogant Bastard Ale 22oz.

San Diego, California, USA

ABV 7.2%

Stone Oaked Arrogant Bastard Ale

San Diego, California, USA

ABV 7.2%

Brown Ale

Though brown ale began in England, this fine beer is produced all over the world. The concept here is to use darker malt which provides not only a darker overall color, but also a more complex roasted flavor and richer body. The hop bitterness will be subdued and instead, expect these brews to be either slightly sweet or slightly dry. The flavors of both English and American brown ale can range from mild and toasty to rich and nutty.

Abita Turbo Dog

Abita Springs, Louisiana, USA

ABV 6.1%

Rogue Hazelnut Brown Nectar 22oz.

Newport, Oregon, USA

ABV 6.2%

Newcastle Brown Ale

Newcastle, England

ABV 5%

Tröegs Rugged Trail

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 4.4%

Samuel Smith Nut Brown Ale

Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, England

ABV 5%

Dogfish Head Indian Brown Ale

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 7.2%

Bell's Best Brown Ale

Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA

ABV 5.8%

Brooklyn Brown Ale

Brooklyn, New York, USA

ABV 5.6%

Voodoo Wynona's Big Brown Ale 22oz.

Meadville, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 7.3%

Tommyknocker Maple Nut Brown Ale

Idaho Springs, Colorado, USA

ABV 4.5%

Altbier

Altbier is a German style of brown ale. 'Alt' means 'old' in German and this simply refers to the pre-lager brewing methods which were used. In Dusseldorf in the 1800's, brewers used pale malts along with warm temperature, top fermenting yeast – almost exactly like English pale ales. The difference is that these ales were then conditioned or laid to rest for longer periods of time and in cooler conditions. This provides the beer with a mellower overall flavor that tends to be balanced between the malt sweetness and hop bitterness. Expect a smooth, well rounded beer.

Stouts

A 'stout' was traditionally a generic name for any strong dark beer. The only real defining factor when it comes to a stout is that some of the unmalted barley is roasted to varying degrees. This accounts for the dark to black color of the brew and for flavors ranging from chocolate to burnt coffee. After centuries of experiments with different recipes and style variations between American, Irish, and English stouts, we have today, many distinct styles we would like to define.

Dry or Irish

Dry stouts are the most common. Made famous in Ireland, this style is brewed all over. Usually lighter in body than other stouts, they get their 'dry' characteristic from the addition of more hops – though the overall flavor will be of toast or coffee. The Irish traditionally serves this beer on a nitro system for a lighter, creamier texture.

Rogue Shakespeare Stout 22oz.

Newport, Oregon, USA

ABV 6%

Guinness Extra Stout 11.2oz.

Saint James's Gate, Ireland

ABV 6%

Sly Fox O'Reilly's Stout

Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 3.6%

Chocolate

Chocolate stouts will have a pronounced dark chocolate flavor. Some brewers actually use chocolate malt—which is malt that is roasted until it has a chocolate color. Some are even brewed with a small amount of chocolate.

Rogue Chocolate Stout 22oz.

Newport, Oregon, USA
ABV 6.3%

Brooklyn Black Chocolate Stout (Seasonal)

Brooklyn, New York, USA
ABV 10.1%

Dogfish Head Chicory Stout (Seasonal)

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA
ABV 5.2%

Young's Double Chocolate Stout 14.9oz

Wandsworth, England
ABV 5.2%

Milk

Milk stouts are also called 'sweet stout'. It is the addition of lactose, a sugar derived from milk, that gives this beer a special sweetness and body.

Lancaster Milk Stout

Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 5.3%

Oatmeal

Oatmeal stout is brewed with a small portion of oats—usually not more than 30%. Even a very small addition of oats give this beer an unusually smooth texture and slight sweetness.

Anderson Valley Barney Flats Oatmeal Stout

Boonville, California, USA
ABV 5.7%

Samuel Smith Oatmeal Stout

Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, England
ABV 5%

Oyster

Take a guess what oyster stouts are brewed with. Mmmmm. Oysters. When stouts were emerging in the 18th century, oysters were common fare in English pubs. Stouts became a hearty ale to compliment the oysters and brewers began to experiment with the addition of actual oysters to the stout brew.

Yard's Love Stout

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 5%

Porter

There is actually some controversy as to what exactly porters are. Some claim that 'porter' is synonymous with 'stout' and was only used to denote the style of beer that was popular among English transportation workers. Other sources say that porter was the first truly engineered beer, made from mixing an old ale with a brown ale and a mild ale. This produced hybrid which was more complex than any of its parts alone. Today, most porters are brewed using a pale malt base with the addition of black, crystal, chocolate or smoked brown malt. Roasting the malt is uncommon and is what allows us today to differentiate between stouts and porters. Expect dark and luxurious with lasting finish.

Anchor Porter

San Francisco, California, USA

ABV 5.6%

Yuengling Porter

Pottsville, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 5.4%

Atwater Vanilla Java Porter

Detroit, Michigan, USA

ABV 6%

Rogue Mocha Porter

Newport, Oregon, USA

ABV 5.1%

Arcadia London Porter

Battle Creek, Michigan, USA

ABV 7.2%

Samuel Smith Taddy Porter

Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, England

ABV 5%

Stone Smoked Porter 22oz.

San Diego, California, USA

ABV 5.9%

Scotch Ale

Scotch ale is actually a pale ale in which some of the malt is allowed to caramelize in the copper kettle. This gives this brew a distinct toffee flavor. Some brewers even use smoked malts which lend a whiskey-like flavor. Expect caramel to dark caramel colors, low hop bitterness and a smoky or sweet full body.

Brooklyn Winter Ale (Seasonal)

Brooklyn, New York, USA

ABV 6%

Oskar Blues Old Chub

Lyons, Colorado, USA

ABV 8%

Old Ale

The original old ales were nothing more than ales which were aged after they were brewed. After aging, these brews were stronger and richer than most other English ales and were mixed with mild pub ales to give customers something different. Today, old ales tend to be high in alcohol and have a dark and rich malty flavor and pronounced alcohol warmth. Some of these ales are conditioned in oak casks and old bourbon barrels. Expect dark fruits and sweet chocolate along with an alcohol bite.

Thomas Hardy Ale 8.5oz.

Devon, England (UK)

11.7%

Barley Wine

As its name suggests, barley wines are ales brewed to the strength of wine. These are of the strongest of all brews. They are thick and heavy, amazingly complex and brooding. English versions tend to be sweeter, maltier, and have very little carbonation. American versions can be extremely hoppy as well. Expect dark rich fruit and a definite alcohol flavor. This one is a palate crusher – enjoy.

New Holland Dragon's Milk Ale 22oz.

Holland, Michigan, USA

ABV 9%

Brooklyn Monster Ale (Seasonal)

Brooklyn, New York, USA

ABV 10.8%

Weyerbacher Blithering Idiot

Easton, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 11.1%

Sierra Nevada Bigfoot Barleywine

Chico, California, USA

ABV 9.6%

Stone Old Guardian Barleywine 22oz.

San Diego, California, USA

ABV 11.3%

Victory Old Horizontal Barley Wine (Seasonal)

Downingtown, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 10.5%

Imperial Ale

The name 'imperial' as it refers to beer comes from a stout brewed in 1796 for export to the court of Catherine II of Russia. It became known as Russian imperial stout and had high levels of alcohol – around 9 to 10 abv.

Once American microbreweries got a hold of this concept they began making 'imperial' versions of all of the other types of beer. They started making imperial pale ales, imperial India pale ales, imperial ambers, imperial porters, and of course imperial stouts. Today, many American microbreweries make pumped-up versions of their regular ales. Its like taking a simple pale ale, bombarding it with gamma rays, and pissing it off. This category pays homage to all of us who think that bigger, bolder, and badder are better.

Brooklyn Black Ops (Limited Release) 750 ml.

Brooklyn, New York, USA

ABV 10%

Sam Adam's Imperial Stout

Boston, Massachusetts, USA

ABV 9.2%

Stoudt's Fat Dog Stout

Adamstown, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 9%

Bell's Expedition Stout

Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA

ABV 10.5%

Rogue Double Dead Guy Ale 22oz.

Newport, Oregon, USA

ABV 9%

Otto's Jolly Roger Stout 22oz.

State College, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 9%

Dogfish Head World Wide Stout (Limited Release)

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 18%

Stone Imperial Russian Stout 22oz.

San Diego, California, USA

ABV 10.5 %

North Coast Old Rasputin

Fort Bragg, California, USA

ABV 9%

Victory Storm King Stout

Downingtown, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 9.1%

Sly Fox Odessey Imperial IPA (Seasonal)

Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 8.4%

New Holland Imperial Hatter 22oz.

Holland, Michigan, USA

ABV 9%

Moylan's Moylander Double IPA 22oz.

Novato, California, USA

ABV 8.5%

Moylan's Hopsickle Imperial Ale 22oz.

Novato, California, USA

ABV 9.2%

Weyerbacher Double Simcoe IPA

Easton, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 9%

Sam Adam's Imperial Pilsner

Boston, Massachusetts, USA

ABV 8.8%

Southern Tier Unearthly Imperial IPA 22oz.

Lakewood, New York, USA

ABV 11%

Stoudt's Double IPA

Adamstown, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 10%

Victory Hop Wallop (Seasonal)

Downingtown, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 8.5%

Arcadia Hop Rocket

Battle Creek, Michigan, USA

ABV 9%

Otto's Double D IPA 22oz.

State College, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 7.9%

Dogfish Head 90 Minute IPA

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 9%

Stone Double Bastard Ale 22oz.

San Diego, California, USA

ABV 10.5%

Dogfish Head 120 Minute IPA (Limited Release)

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 18%

Dogfish Head Burton Baton (Seasonal)

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 10%

Dogfish Palo Santo Marron (Limited Release)

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 12%

Seasonal Beer

Seasonal ales are simply not made all year long. They may fall into other categories or may be unique on their own. Some celebrate particular seasons by providing us with spring and summer wheat, pumpkin ales in the fall, and special spiced beer for Christmas. Others are just limited production and are hard to acquire. Those listed below are subject to availability. Can you have that Christmas ale in July? Just ask.

Penn Oktoberfest (Seasonal)

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 6.5%

Weyerbacher Winter Ale (Seasonal)

Easton, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 5.6%

Wild Goose Snow Goose (Seasonal)

Frederick, Maryland, USA

ABV 6.3%

Samuel Smith Winter Welcome (Seasonal)

Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, England

ABV 4.9%

Anderson Valley Winter Solstice (Seasonal)

Boonville, California, USA

ABV 6.9%

Anchor Christmas (Seasonal)

San Francisco, California, USA

ABV Varies

Dogfish Head Aprihop (Seasonal)

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 7%

Anchor Summer Ale (Seasonal)

San Francisco, California, USA

ABV 4.6%

Anderson Valley Summer Solstice Cerveza Crema (Seasonal)

Boonville, California, USA

ABV 5.6%

Dogfish Head Punkin Ale (Seasonal)

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 7%

Brooklyn Post Road Pumpkin Ale (Seasonal)

Brooklyn, New York, USA

ABV 5%

Wyerbacher Imperial Pumkin Ale (Seasonal)

Easton, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 8%

Dogfish Head Red & White 750ml. (Limited Release)

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 10%.

Dogfish Head Midas Touch (Limited Release)

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 9%

Belgian Ales

Belgian beer comprises the most diverse national collection of quality beer in the world. Beer is to Belgium what wine is to France – it is imbedded in their culture and they hold its production to the highest of standards. They have been making beer since the middle ages, and today, Belgium produces over 8700 different kinds of beer. Some of the most famous Belgium beer is made by the Trappist monks and other various monasteries, and some of them have been following the same recipes since the 1100's. Because of the uniqueness of the brews and their sought after quality, many microbreweries around the world imitate the various styles of Belgian beer. The diversity of Belgian ale makes it difficult to categorize. We will find some new styles as well as some variations on styles we have already covered. This list will include both ale from Belgium and also Belgian-style ale from elsewhere.

Saison

Saisons are also known as farmhouse ale. 'Saison' means 'season' in French, and traditionally, saisons were brewed in the winter to be consumed in the summertime. Historically, saisons did not share identifiable characteristics to pin them down as one style or another. They were meant to be refreshing summer ales. Brewers added a good amount of hops to help the beer survive maturation through the winter, which typically gave the beer a dryer finish. Expect a pale ale of medium body, fruity aromas, earthy yeast tones, and dry with a touch of sweetness.

South Hampton Saison 750ml

South Hampton, New York, USA

ABV 6.5%

Sly Fox Saison Vos 750ml.

Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 6.9%

Weyerbacher Muse Farmhouse Ale

Easton, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 6.2%

Ommegang Hennepin Famhouse Saison 750ml.

Cooperstown, New York, USA

ABV 7.7%

Biere de Garde

Biere de garde or 'keeping beer' is historically similar to saison in that it was produced mostly by farmhouses, brewed in the winter and kept until the spring. The style itself began in France and not Belgium, but can still be considered a Belgian-style of ale. Expect golden to deep copper colors, a toasted malt aroma, medium hop bitterness, and a slight malt sweetness.

Flying Dog Garde Dog

Denver, Colorado, USA

ABV 5.5%

Belgian White

Belgian whites or witbier are similar to wheat ales because they are brewed with malted wheat, unfiltered, and usually bottle conditioned. What makes these wheat ales Belgian-style is the addition of spices and fruit, most notably, coriander and orange peel. Expect a truly refreshing warm weather brew, lightly sweet and exotically spiced.

Leinenkugel Sunset Wheat

Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, USA

ABV 4.9%

Flying Dog Woody Creek Wheat

Denver, Colorado, USA

ABV 4.8%

Unibroue Blanche de Chambly

Quebec, Chambly, Canada
ABV 5%

Blue Moon Belgian White

Golden, Colorado, USA
ABV 5.4%

Victory Hop Whirlwind Wit (Seasonal)

Downingtown, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 5%

South Hampton Double White

South Hampton, New York, USA
ABV 6.8%

Hoegaarden Original White Ale

Hoegaardeng, Belgium
ABV 4.9%

Sam Adams White Ale (Seasonal)

Boston, Massachusetts, USA
ABV 5.2%

Sam Adam's Imperial White

Boston, Massachusetts, USA
ABV 10.3%

Allagash White

Portland, Maine, USA
ABV 5%

Weyerbacher Blanche

Easton, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 4.6%

Belgian Pale or Golden Ale

Belgian pale ales were initially brewed to compete with the rise of the popular pilsner style of lager around the time of WWII. They differ from other regional varieties of pale ale in that they are usually less bitter, use aged hops for a more delicate flavor, and exhibit a sweeter, toasty maltiness. Very pale malts are used in addition to Czech, German, and Slovenian hops while retaining their special ale yeast. Expect fruity tasting and luxurious crowned with an unmistakably thick and creamy head.

Corsendonk Pale Ale

Oud-Turnhout, Belgium
ABV 7.5%

Duvel

Breendonk, Belgium
ABV 8.5%

South Hampton Grand Cru 750ml.

South Hampton, New York, USA

ABV 9.5%

Delerium Tremens

Melle, Belgium

ABV 9%

Belgian Brown or Strong Ale

This style encompasses a large, hard to define, range of Belgian-style ales. Very much like the strong ale category above, Belgian strong ales come in various dark garnet colors and a myriad of flavor profiles. What makes a strong ale a Belgian-style is that thick, rocky head, sweet and spicy malt, and characteristic low hop bitterness. Alcohol can range from 4% to a whopping 15%.

Tröegs Mad Elf (Seasonal) 22oz.

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 11%

Stone Vertical Epic 090909 22oz. (Limited Release)

San Diego, California, USA

ABV Varies

Stone Vertical Epic 080808 22oz. (Limited Release)

San Diego, California, USA

ABV Varies

Ommegang Chocolate Indulgence 750ml.

Cooperstown, New York, USA

ABV 7%

Ommegang Rare Vos 750ml.

Cooperstown, New York, USA

ABV 6.5%

Unibroue Trois Pistoles

Quebec, Chambly, Canada

ABV 9%

Brooklyn Local 1 750ml.

Brooklyn, New York, USA

ABV 9%

Brooklyn Local 2 750ml.

Brooklyn, New York, USA

ABV 8.7%

Dogfish Head Raison D'Etre

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 8%

Dogfish Head Raison D'Extra (Limited Release)

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 18%

Delerium Nocturnum

Melle, Belgium

ABV 9%

Corsendonk Brown Ale

Oud-Turnhout, Belgium

ABV 7.5%

Lambic

Lambics are very distinctive ales that used to only be brewed in a small area of Belgium. Some are brewed using fruit like cherry and currant and peach. They were originally farmhouse ales that were allowed to ferment naturally by using wild yeast. They are brewed with a small amount of wheat. A combination of the wheat used, the wild yeast, and various bacteria found around the brewery and in the aging vessels give lambics there decidedly tart flavor. Both hop bitterness and malt sweetness is subdued to let the fruit flavors shine through.

Lindemans Framboise

Vlezenbeek, Belgium

ABV Unknown

Lindemans Pomme

Vlezenbeek, Belgium

ABV Unknown

Lindemans Peche

Vlezenbeek, Belgium

ABV Unknown

Abbey Style Ale

Truly, some of the most unique and sought after beer in the world originally came from Belgian monasteries especially those of the Trappist order. There are still 7 Trappist monasteries which produce beer today, 6 in Belgium and 1 in the Netherlands. Because of the huge popularity of Trappist ales around the world, many other breweries in Belgium model their beer after the Trappist style and license their name from other abbeys, some defunct, and some of which are still in operation. Other breweries around the world now make abbey-style ale. A complex wonder to behold, these brews are an experience like no other.

Dubbel

Traditionally a Trappist ale, dubbels are dark and richly malty. They showcase some dark fruit flavors, caramel, and dark candy sugar. Most have very low hop bitterness, and a thick, dark head.

Ommegang Abbey Ale 750ml.
Cooperstown, New York, USA
ABV 8.5%

Chimay Premier Ale (Trappist) 11.2oz.
Scourmont Abbey, Chimay, Belgium
ABV 7%

Chimay Grand Reserve (Trappist) 11.2oz.
Scourmont Abbey, Chimay, Belgium
ABV 9%

Maredsous 8 Belgian Abbey 11.2oz
Breendonk-Puurs, Belgium
ABV 8%

Westmalle 8 Dubbel (Trappist) 11.2oz.
Malle, Belgium
ABV 7%

Tripel

The name comes from the brewers using triple the amount of malt than a standard Trappist ale. Tripels are golden in color with a dense creamy head. They are usually brewed with Belgian candy sugar which lightens the body and adds complex alcoholic aromas and flavors. Tripels are notoriously high in alcohol, but their complexity and depth hide this characteristic. A work of great evil.

Weyerbacher Prophecy
Easton, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 9.3%

Weyerbacher Merry Monks
Easton, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 9.3%

Chimay Cinq Cents 11.2oz.
Scourmont Abbey, Chimay, Belgium
ABV 8%

Voodoo Love Child 22oz.
Meadville, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 10.5%

Unibroue La Fin Du Monde
Quebec, Chambly, Canada
ABV 9%

New Holland Black Tulip – Tripple Ale 22oz.
Holland, Michigan, USA
ABV 8.8%

Quadrupel

As if dubbels and tripels were just not strong enough, not full enough of sensual aromas and wonderful complex character, enter the Quad. Big and rich and malty do not even come close to describe these. Quads are darker than tripels and boast even higher alcohol. Expect a ludicrous amount of rasiny, plummy, dark fig flavors, sugar and sometimes chocolate. Hop bitterness will be very low and alcohol should be nicely perceived.

Sly Fox Ichor 750ml.

Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 10%

Ommegang 3 Philosophers 750ml.

Cooperstown, New York, USA

ABV 9.8%

Lager

Lagers are not ales. They really only differ based on the method of brewing. Lager yeast ferments at lower temperatures and characteristically gives less flavor to the brew. Lager traditionally took much longer to ferment than ale and it was this slow fermentation process that made lagers smoother and less complex. Lager dominates the global marketplace. Almost every single beer made in an American macro-brewery is a style of lager. Though the flavor profiles of lager changes throughout the world, generally, they are never as hoppy or as malty as an ale. Their flavors lean toward balance and they are the definition of drinkable.

Pale Lager

Pale lagers are the most common and most consumed style of beer in the world. They tend to be dry and lean, clean-tasting and crisp. Expect low hop bitterness, especially in the big American ones, and very subtle malt sweetness and body. In the micro-brewed and international ones, expect a more pronounced hop bitterness and more body and complexity.

Rolling Rock

Saint Louis, Missouri, USA

ABV 4.6%

Stella Artois

Leuven, Belgium

ABV 5%

Red Stripe Lager

Kingston, Jamaica

ABV 4.7%

Heineken

Zoeterwoude, Holland

ABV 5%

Spaten Lager

Munich, Germany

ABV 5.2%

Yuengling Lager

Pottsville, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 4.9%

Brooklyn Lager

Brooklyn, New York, USA

ABV 5.2%

Sam Adam's Boston Lager

Boston, Massachusetts, USA

ABV 4.9%

Amstel Light

Amsterdam, Holland

ABV 3.5%

Harp Lager

Dundalk, Ireland

ABV 5%

Grolsch 16oz.

Grolle, Holland

ABV 5%

Budweiser

Saint Louis, Missouri, USA

ABV 5%

Bud Light

Saint Louis, Missouri, USA

ABV 4.2%

Corona

Mexico

ABV 4.6%

Corona Light

Mexico

ABV 4.5%

Michelob

St. Louis, Missouri, USA

ABV 5%

Michelob Ultra

St. Louis, Missouri, USA

ABV 4.2%

Coors Light

Golden, Colorado, USA
ABV 4.2%

Miller Lite

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA
ABV 4.2%

Buckler Non-Alcoholic

Zoeterwoude, Holland

Pilsner

Born in former Czechoslovakia, pilsners differ from pale lagers only in their increased use of hops. These brews will be pale straw in color and have a bitter spiciness and clean malty palate. Even with the generous use of hops, pilsners are never as hoppy as IPAs.

Victory Prima Pils

Downingtown, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 5.3%

Sly Fox Pikeland Pils

Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 4.9%

Brooklyn Pilsner

Brooklyn, New York, USA
ABV 5.1%

Tröegs Sunshine Pils

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 5.3%

Penn Pilsner

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 6.5%

Bock

The bock style hails from Germany where many of the lager styles were born. Made with significantly more malt, these higher alcohol brews take much longer ferment and mellow. Bocks are usually strong dark lagers with rich malty flavors and almost no hop bitterness.

Penn St. Nicholas Bock (Seasonal)

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 7.5%

Tröegs Troegenator 22oz.

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA
ABV 4.8%

Yuengling Bock

Pottsville, Pennsylvania, USA

ABV 5.1%

Sierra Nevada Double DeBockEI (Limited Release)

Chico, California, USA

ABV 9.4%

Maibock

Maibock is a pale version of bock, traditionally made to be consumed in the springtime. Alcohol levels will be about the same as with regular bocks, but there will be less malt sweetness and a more pronounced hop bitterness. On the whole however, hop bitterness is still relatively low.

Spaten Maibock

Munich, Germany

ABV Varies

California Common or Steam Beer

A 100% uniquely American style of beer. Neither truly a lager or an ale, it is a hybrid of the two. This style is brewed with lager yeast which would normally only ferment at cooler temperatures. Back in 1800's, in California, refrigeration was a luxury and brewers had to improvise to cool down their beer. Shallow fermentation tanks were used and in a way, the lager yeast was trained to ferment at higher temperatures very much like an ale. So, it's an ale made from lager yeast. Expect light amber colors, medium body, pronounced floral hop bitterness with a complex malty backbone.

Anchor Steam

San Francisco, California, USA

ABV 4.9%

Flying Dog Wild Dog Special Beer 750ml.(Limited Release)

Denver, Colorado, USA

ABV Varies

Fruit and Vegetable Beer

A category of misfits, fruit beer is either brewed with real fruit or some kind of flavored extract in order to achieve its purpose. Some of the flavors are very sublime and subdued while others burst through and dominate. Though most examples are ales, expect a lower threshold of hop bitterness, and tamed malt sweetness to showcase the fruit.

Samuel Smith Organic Cider 18.7oz.

Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, England

ABV 5%

Woodchuck Amber Cider

Springfield, Vermont, USA

ABV 5%

Melbourn Bros. Apricot Ale

Stamford, England

ABV 3.4%

Melbourn Bros. Strawberry Ale

Stamford, England

ABV 3.4%

Kasteel Rouge 11.2oz.

Ingelmunster, Belgium

ABV 8%

Unibroue Ephemere

Quebec, Chambly, Canada

ABV 5.5%

Unibroue Quelques Choses

Quebec, Chambly, Canada

ABV 8%

Dogfish Head Black & Blue 750ml. (Seasonal)

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, USA

ABV 10%

Ithaca Beer Company Apricot Wheat

Ithaca, New York, USA

ABV 4.9%

Samuel Smith Organic Ale 18.7oz.

Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, England

ABV 5.1%

Samuel Smith Organic Cherry Ale 18.7oz.

Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, England

ABV 5.1%