



BEER

"Many of the world's best-known beers are almost tasteless. Their sales may be huge, but like many popular products, they are not memorable."

-Michael Jackson (The Beer Hunter)

Today our first mental image of beer is usually a pale golden lightly flavoured lager beer that originated in the Czech Republic in the mid 19th century, but for thousands of years before that beer meant a dark, warm and almost flat ale – not in any way like today's frothy lager.

Beer is made by fermenting grain into liquid form. Barley and wheat are the most widely used grains, but other cereals, such as oats, rye and even rice can be used. Extra flavour and character come from the addition of hops, spices, fruit and herbs. Great beer is generally made where wine is not - this is so because the very cool climate needed to produce the finest grain crops, water supply and maturation process is usually not suitable for grape growing. If you drew a horizontal line through the center of Europe you would find most great breweries on the north of the line & most of the great wineries below.

Earliest records indicate that over 5,000 years ago Sumerians started cultivating barley and fermenting it into beer in the area that is now known as Iraq. The Chinese and the native tribes of Africa and America soon followed suit. In early civilizations, beer-making had been woman's work, but during the Dark Ages, after the fall of Rome, the job was taken over by the European monastic orders. Monks made beer partly because poor sanitation meant that beer was safer to drink than water, and partly because the sale of ale to travellers provided a steady income for the monasteries. Once upon a time many monasteries owned their own breweries and pubs, but with the rise of the Protestant Church, and a more austere regime in the Catholic Church meant brewing moved into the towns and kings and governments began to regulate and tax the beer trade.

There are two main types of Beer – Lager and Ale. Both types have given rise to a multitude of different styles. Traditionally Ale is produced by a top fermenting yeast over a week at around 16 degrees, where Lager is made using bottom fermenting yeast over three weeks at around 10 degrees. Ale is often aged in wooden casks and Lager in metal tanks.

Over the next few pages are about 100 beers we consider to be of the highest quality and of intrinsic value to anyone with even the most fleeting interest in beer.

We are a tiny restaurant and have but a few fridges and very little space and as well as beer we also have a large range of Champagnes and wines to store, so we only keep a small number of each beer cold, so please forgive us if you manage to drink us out of a particular line of cold beers! But on the plus side...there are plenty of others to try!

PALE ALES & INDIA PALE ALES

English Pale Ales are often copper & amber in colour and are so named because when they were introduced they were considerably paler than standard ales of the time. The style is generally well bittered with resinous hop character and a good dose of malt to balance. Generally less intense & better balanced than the U.S. versions, and also with less carbonation.

American Pale Ale is the product of the US craft brewing movement running riot throughout the 1980's & 90's. The style is usually higher in alcohol & increasingly large portions of in-your-face floral and bitter hops thrown in. These beers are continually pushing the hop flavour envelope & often have floral, citrus & grapefruit thrust. Usually quite high in carbonation.

India Pale Ales originated in London between 1780 & 1820. They are characterised by pale malts, long maturation, massive hop levels & high alcoholic strength. The latter was necessary to ensure beer survived the long months at sea for the India stationed English troops.

BODRIGGY Chuckaboo White IPA (Melbourne) 330ml 5.5% **\$9**
Chuckaboo combines Centennial, Melba and Motueka hops with heaps of fresh orange zest and coriander. A subtle wheat finish will pop on your palate before leaving it ready for another gulp.

GOLDEN ROAD Heal The Bay IPA (USA) 480ml 6.8% **\$15**
The straw colored malt body takes a backseat to the bright citrus and juicy, tropical hop contributions, making this the perfect IPA for anytime. When you enjoy this IPA, you're helping Golden Road and its retail partners meet their goal of donating 10% of brewery sales to heal the bay area.

TEMPLE Okinawa our (Brunswick) 1000ml 4.0% **\$47**
We were lucky enough to nab this as part of our 2017 Good beer week event Cobra Kai where we played with a bunch of different Japanese food and drink pairings. We were somewhat concerned as Okinawa was to be a keg only release, but the guys at Temple came though with these one litre monsters. Made with Shikuwasa fruit imported from Okinawa, Japan on a standard pale base, this beer exhibits a lot of the flavours of being a 'sour' without technically being one. Expect big juicy citrus notes and a lip puckering finish. Go big or go home.

STONE BREWING COMPANY Delicious IPA (USA) 355ml 7.7% **\$13**
Undeniably Stone Brewing holds a high perch on the ladder of IPA kings, this however is a slight step to the left compared to their IPA's of the past. Lemondrop and El Dorado hops combine to bring on a magnificent lemon candy-like flavor that's balanced by hop spice and a light malt body. Also Brewed to be light in gluten!

BODRIGGY Highbinder Pale (Melbourne) 330ml 4.8% **\$9**
I had a friend put me onto these guys over a coffee at the bar and I'm pretty chuffed he did. (cheers for that Patrick). Rich amber in colour with a blend of Topaz, Mosaic and Calypso hops lending itself more towards the bitter english style.

FOUNDERS All day IPA (USA) 355ml 4.7% **\$11**
A naturally brewed IPA designed to be drunk just like it says on the can "All Day". Nicely bitter, Classic pine and grapefruit flavours wonderfully balanced by a light malt bill.

GARAGE PROJECT Death From Above (New Zealand) 650ml 7.5% **\$35**
The idea was to combine aggressive, high citrus character of American hops with heat & sweetness of Indochine flavours. Have you ever tried a Vietnamese mango & chili salad? If you haven't you should. So mango, chili, Vietnamese mint & lime juice are added to a lavish amount of Chinook, Centennial, Citra & Amarillo hops...The result? Unlike any beer before or since. A real game-changer. A deeply impressive beer and a stunning label.

You're not drunk if you can lie on the floor without holding on."
-Dean Martin



MORE PALE ALES

- VICTORY Headwaters pale ale** (USA) 330ml 5.2% **\$10**
Named in celebration of the East Branch of the Brandywine Creek from which the brewery draws its water, Headwaters is crisp and aromatic, boldly-hopped American ale balances notes of citrus and tea-like earthiness from American hops with a subtle German malt base.
- STONE BREWING COMPANY "Enjoy After" Brett IPA** (USA) 750ml 5.7 **\$55**
What you hold in your hands is an experiment. This IPA is spiked at bottling with Brettanomyces, a wild yeast that, over time, brings about charmingly unpredictable complexities of spice, funk, acidity, and more. The operative words in this beer-cellar thesis are "over time." For those of you who are impatient or like to experiment, the beer won't be fully carbonated until the date on the bottle. Ideally, you'll want to cellar the beer up to--or beyond--the Enjoy After date to help it reach its full evolutionary potential. At that point, some facets of the Brett characteristics will have mellowed, while others will have become more profound; it all matures into a fascinating and delicious culmination. Individual results will vary...and that's both the beauty and the intent behind this beer.
- MURRAY'S Fred IPA** (NSW) 330ml 5.6% **\$11**
'At first glance, you might think only his mum could love him. But once you try Fred, we reckon you'll fall under his spell.' Fred is aggressively late hopped with a Murray's house blend of hops from the US Pacific Northwest. It has the classic US hop aroma and flavour of big citrus, tropical fruit and pine notes throughout. An assertive bitterness is balanced by the sweetness of the pale, crystal and wheat malt additions. What a head.
- OSKAR BLUES Dale Pale ale** (USA) 330ml 6.5% **\$11**
Oskar Blues brewed up it's first batch of Dale's Pale Ale back in 2008 in Longmont Colorado and has been cranking out fresh Oskar Blues beers since. Dale delivers a hoppy nose and assertive-but-balanced flavours of pale malts and citrusy floral hops from start to finish.
- BALTER XPA** (Queensland) 375ml 5.0% **\$11**
Is anything cooler than a beer owned by a dude that has punched a shark in the face? Balter is owned by, among others, the pro surfer Mick Fanning, winner of the 2007, 2009 and 2013 ASP World Tour. hype aside this is a great little session IPA with heaps of floral and tropical notes to to tantalise your tastebuds.
- ROGUE 7 IPA** (USA) 650ml 7.77% **\$32**
In a bold collaboration with Mother Nature, Rogue grow their own varieties of aroma hops at Rogue Farms in Independence, OR. They also string, stake, train, test, trim, separate, sort, kiln and cool them. Brewmaster John Maier meticulously selected and blended 7 varieties of their aroma hops to create the bold and balanced profile of The 7 Hop IPA. Yet again a nice touch as it's 7.77%
- GARAGE PROJECT Garagista** (New Zealand) 330ml 5.8% **\$14**
Hailing from what is in my opinion the finest brewery in New Zealand. Brewed and double dry hopped with New Zealand, Australian and US hops, resulting in tropical, resin and pine flavours. One of the many great things that have come from the garage.
- HARGREAVES HILL New England Haze** (Spotswood) 330ml 6.5% **\$14**
This beer is brewed with a specific yeast train to exacerbate juicy hop character in this New England style IPA, lower bitterness & a distinctive level of haze. Expect abundant tropical and citrus fruit characters with a soft and creamy malt palate.

Beer: so much more than just a breakfast drink."

-Arion

MORE PALE ALES

SIERRA NEVADA 2017 Beer Camp Golden IPA (USA) 355ml 6.5% **\$11**

At Beer Camp, no beer style is off limits! A Golden IPA? why not. Using wheat malt for a light, dry body and bold American and experimental hops for intense citrus flavor. The perfect spring seasonal, I invite you to enjoy this year's Beer Camp encore.

NØGNE Ø American Pale Ale (Norway) 500ml 4.5% **\$22**

Nøgne's interpretation of an American pale ale. A little lighter in ABV than one might expect but certainly not lacking in flavour, A classic blend of American hops albeit presented in a lighter, more tropical style. Perfect on a sunny afternoon. .

PIRATE LIFE IPA (Adelaide) 355ml 6.8% **\$11**

Sitting nicely between The Pale Ale and IIPA at 6.8% ABV the IPA has a gentle orange hue and a round, full bodied malt character care of Pale Malt, Munich and Crystal. Packed full of Centennial, Riwaka and Simcoe making for a great Aussie IPA

TEMPLE BREWING Anytime IPA (Melbourne) 330ml 4.7% **\$9**

Temple Anytime IPA delivers the big, hoppy aroma and flavour you'd expect from an India Pale Ale, but is low enough in alcohol that it is drinkable anytime you feel the urge.

SIERRA NEVADA Hop Hunter IPA (USA) 355ml 6.7% **\$11**

Hop Hunter IPA managed to harnesses the complex flavors of just-picked hops through an all-new method of steam distilling wet hops before they even leave the fields. This revolutionary technique captures and intensifies the natural hop flavours, creating a unique and intensely aromatic beer. This custom process gathers pure hop oil which, when combined with traditional whole-cone hops in the kettle and in the Hop Torpedo, makes for an incredible IPA experience.

OSKAR BLUES Pinner IPA (USA) 330ml 4.9% **\$11**

Oskar Blues asked themselves a very important question at the outset of this brew. How do you cram as much hop & malt flavour and aroma as possible into a beer but make it crushable too? They answered that question with the Pinner. A little higher ABV than some Australian counterparts but ripping none the less. Tropical fruits, citrus, pineapple and spice berry up front with biscuit & toasted bread at the back balance out all the hops. Well worth a look.

PIRATE LIFE Pale Ale (Adelaide) 355ml 5.4% **\$10**

The ubiquitous Pale Ale. The workhorse of pretty much any modern brewery. The brief they gave themselves for their flagship beer was that it should be able to be sent to any bar in San Diego and to stand proudly alongside the many great Pales produced in, and around, the west coast of the US. The schematic for a West Coast Pale Ale is bucket loads of big US hops, full malty backbone and a characterful yeast. That is what this Pale Ale is all about. Enjoy as fresh as possible. Beer pairing: Everything, all of the time

BLACKMANS BREWERY Reginald IPA (Torquay) 330ml 6.2% **\$10**

By far and above my, and i suspect a lot of others, favourite beer for the Blackmans core range. A West Coast style IPA reinvented for the Surf Coast, it does just what you'd expect, citrus, pine and stone fruit aromas leaping from its robust amber body. A full, soft malt backbone ensures they don't do much in the way of damage to your bitterness sensors too much.

"Not all chemicals are bad. Without chemicals such as hydrogen and oxygen, for example, there would be no way to make water, a vital ingredient in beer."

- Dave Barry



COLONIAL BREWING CO.

Margret River, WA

Uncomplicated. That's life in Margaret River.

And that's the philosophy behind the Colonial Brewing Company.

One of the first breweries to open on Western Australia's wild coastline, the Colonial Brewing Co tapped its first keg in 2004. It was the first step in an incredible journey, and guided by some of Australia's most talented and passionate brewers, they opened their first East Coast brewery in Port Melbourne in 2015.

COLONIAL BRWING CO IPA 355ml 6.5% **\$10**
So what is an Australian IPA? Well apparently It's a full-bodied IPA tailor-made for the tough arid and unforgiving land that is Australia. 100% Aussie Hops deliver tropical fruit tones and a hint of pine balanced with a blend of 100% Australian malt. All wrapped up in a green and gold can. Aussie, Aussie, Aussie! Oi! Oi! Oi!

COLONIAL BREWING CO Pale Ale 355ml 4.4% **\$9**
Designed to sit between traditional American and Australian pale ales, the fine folks at Colonial Brewing Co. have sought out a blend of American west coast hops and Australian favourites to create their prefect pale. The result is a tropical-tinged treat that's a glowing golden in colour, with subtle hints of passionfruit, pine and spicy botanics. Smooth and approachable but packed with aromatic hops, Colonial Pale Ale is brewed to linger on the palette, not overpower it.

COLONIAL BREWING CO Small Ale 355ml 3.5% **\$8**
The only thing that can become irksome about being an enthusiastic imbibor of craft beer is the ever climbing ABV of the beers I love. All of a sudden you weekend six pack starts at 7.2% and ends with a mid afternoon nap. Because of this I have come to embrace the "Middy" and I invite you to do the same. The Small ale exhibits lasting bitterness, and layered a swift kick of citrus-and-pine goodness. Perfect for the punter that wants a few.

COLONIAL BREWING CO Kölsch 355ml 4.8% **\$10**
A smooth easy drinking beer for the times you just feel like beer. Think refreshing on a scorching summer day and tasty on a cold winter one. Brewed using German Noble hops and malt, crisp and smooth with a hint of passion-fruit and lemon.

COLONIAL BREWING CO Inquest Imperial Stout 355ml 11.7% **\$15**
Big, dark and bold; at 11.7% ABV our imperial stout is liquid gold not to be forgotten. Brewed with two separate mashes, using the last worts of the first to mash in to the second, we've intensified the fermentables and are left with bountiful booze and a big body. A spree of dark malts provides a rich base of chocolate and coffee like character, with a touch of caramel and toffee to compliment.

CLASSIC ALES

RED, ABBEY, CREAM, SMOKED, AMBER & GOLDEN

Ale is an all-together different beast to lager.

They come in various unique, exotic and complex guises, but some are just cracking, straight-forward easy drinking beers - just usually with a lot more flavour and texture than their lager counterparts. Golden Ales are quite a varied category usually very malty with pronounced rich and complex flavours, but still with a refreshing acidity & a beautiful golden hue.

Often higher in alcohol than the average beer, Abbey ales insane spicy quaff ability can be misleading! Bitters are an age old style originating from the UK. Usually hand pumped Pale Ale style beers, with little carbonation, lower alcohol, a whack of bitter hops and a good dose of malt.

Traditional ales also come from the UK, often with darker colours, malt accented and usually little discernible bitter hop character.

SWELL Golden Ale (McLaren Vale) 330ml 4.5% **\$9**

The amount of puns I've used when suggesting this beer is getting out of hand. The opportunities are endless. Jokes aside this is a ripping little session golden ale from a relatively new coming to the scene out of McLaren. Grab yourself a can, they're.....Swell.

BODRIGGY Bruno Bitter (Melbourne) 330ml 4.5% **\$11**

The first can off the line for Bodriggy is a belting beer with a brilliant story. Bodriggy will at some point in the future fit out a brewery in the leased space across the road from Collingwood's Dr Morse bar and they are keen to pay homage to the buildings history and former inhabitants. One such inhabitant was Bruno a man who emigrated to Australia from Italy in the 1950s, once invented a device that powered a motorbike with pig shit, and who set up in business in Abbotsford at 245 Johnston Street where he worked every day until 2014. Lemon citrus and soft peachy tropical characters with a creamy texture and building bitterness.

STONE BREWING COMPANY Pataskala Red IPA (USA) 355ml 7.3% **\$14**

Pat-ASK-ala? Pata-SKALA? Pa-TASK-a-la? While those in the know favor the third pronunciation, no matter how you say it, this is a unique red IPA. The beer was first brewed in September 2015 to support music and arts education programs in Pataskala, Ohio, where Stone co-founder Greg Koch grew up. People there loved it, so we added the beer to our seasonal lineup, and the Pataskala name stuck.

BALTER Alt Brown ale (Queensland) 355ml 5.2% **\$11**

Yet another beer from the guys at Balter and another opportunity to name a beer 'Shark Puncher' overlooked. But what we do have is a well structured, medium-bodied beer that keeps its hop character in the background and instead delivers subtle layers of toasted, nutty, chocolatey goodness in a tight, sessionable style.

BODRIGGY Gongim Red IPA (Melbourne) 330ml 6.1% **\$13**

One of Two beers that Bodriggy released for Good Beer Week 2017. A collaboration with the Tramway Hotel Gongim is by far their biggest beer yet. Sweet caramel and biscuit flavours with a standout Hop lineup of Bravo, Citra, much hyped newcomer Idaho 7, Wai-iti and Hop Hash.

"You can't be a real country unless you have a beer and an airline - it helps to have some kind of football team, or some nuclear weapons, but at the very least you need a beer"
-Frank Zappa



MORE CLASSIC ALES

RED, ABBEY, CREAM, SMOKED, AMBER & GOLDEN

- BRIDGE ROAD Celtic Red** (Beechworth) 330ml 5.3% **\$11**
 Originally brewed for Beechworth's annual Celtic festival, the Celtic Red Ale is now a Bridge Road staple. The Celtic Red is classed as an Irish Red Ale in proper beer speak. The Red Ale has a big malty body owing to the use of caramelised malts and roast barley. The flavour is slightly roasted with smooth notes of chocolate, toffee or Jaffa, bringing back childhood memories of the occasional Jaffa that was actually consumed and not just thrown at the back of someone's head.
- FOUNDERS Backwoods Bastard** (USA) 330ml 11.6% **\$14**
 Founders puts Dirty Bastard Scotch Ale in bourbon barrels for a year and boom! You've got something big and delicious for your 'perty mouth. Warm smells of single malt scotch, oaky bourbon barrels, smoke, sweet caramel and roasted malts. A bit of earthy spice and a touch of over ripe cherries. Deceptively easy to drink at 11.6% and you get to say 'Bastard' in a public place. Perfect.
- ST BERNARDUS Abt 12** (Belguim) 750ml 10.0% **\$49**
 The St. Bernardus Abt 12 is the pride of our stable, the nec plus ultra of our brewery. Abbey ale brewed in the classic 'Quadrupel' style of Belgium's best Abbey Ales. Dark with a full, ivory-colored head. It has a fruity aroma, full of complex flavours and excels because of its long bittersweet finish with a hoppy bite. Worldwide seen as one of the best beers in the world. It's a very balanced beer, with a full-bodied taste and a perfect equilibrium between malty, bitter, and sweet. One of the original recipes from the days of license-brewing for the Trappist monks of Westvleteren.
- BAD SHEPHERD Hazelnut Brown ale** (Melbourne) 330ml 5.9% **\$12**
 A toasty and malty ale loaded with the rich nuttiness of roasted hazelnuts. Brewed with real hazelnuts, hazelnut extract, vanilla extract and a splash of Frangelico. Smooth and nutty with a dry clean finish. Spot on for this time of year.
- STONE BREWING COMPANY Winter Harvest 2014** (USA) 500ml 11.3% **\$59**
 This golden beauty was created solely for barrel experimentation - Brewed in April 2012 - Aged 27 months in Sonoma County Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay Barrels. Bottled December 2014. And featuring Pilsner malt Magnum hops, Hallertau hops, candi sugar and Stone Farms Merlot grapes!!! Super rare and limited brew and its fair to say the book has been entirely rewritten here...I have but 12 bottles and once its gone...Its gone!
- STONE BREWING COMPANY Vertical Epic Ale 08.08.08** (USA) 650ml 8.9% **\$35**
 In 2008, Stone Brewmasters Steve Wagner and Mitch Steele traveled to Belgium, where they enjoyed a number of hop-forward Belgian tripels, pale ales and IPAs—beers that had taken a cue from the U.S. craft brewing movement and inspired them in return. It's a big reason 2008's summer season came to be known at Stone as their "Summer of the Triple." Upon their return, they crafted Stone 08.08.08 Vertical Epic Ale, the seventh beer in the 11-beer Stone Vertical Epic Ale series. Packed with floral, spicy essence from Belgian yeast plus plenty of hoppy New World character, it's their West Coast take on hop-driven Belgian beers. This is the first time its been remade since 2008. Very rare beer and you will not see this again for many years to come - if ever.
- DAINTON BREWING COMPANY Manhattan Ale** (Melbourne) 500ml 9.7% **\$40**
 The flagship beer from Dainton. A rich smokey ale that has been aged for 6 months in Starward Whisky barrels. Its a smooth and creamy Imperial Rye Ale that has distinctive Whisky overtones and a boozy warmth. Only about 40 cases of this were made. Should easily improve over the next year or two. Get it whilst you can.

Who cares how time advances? I am drinking ale today"
 -Edgar Allan Poe



MORE CLASSIC ALES

RED, ABBEY, CREAM, SMOKED, AMBER & GOLDEN

PIRATE LIFE Golden Era Golden Ale (Adelaide) 355ml 4.7% **\$10**
Brewed in collaboration with Hilltop hoods and Pirate Life as part of their last Australian tour. A light bodied golden ale sure to sate any Hilltops fan.

JESTER KING Hibernial Dichotomous 2015 (Texas) 750ml 4.9% **\$55**
Zest & juice from Texas winter citrus, shredded root vegetables from Johnson's Backyard Garden, thyme grown at Pure Luck Farm, native yeast and bacteria, and cooler fermentation temperatures help embody the Texas winter in this unfiltered, unpasteurized & bottle-conditioned beer.

SIERRA NEVADA Barrel Aged Maillard's Odyssey (USA) 750ml 10.5% **\$75**
This is a special barrel aged version of their Beer Camp Across America collaboration with Bell's Brewery. This robust ale is layered with complex flavors of caramel, chocolate, and coffee, coupled with notes of vanilla and coconut from nearly 16 months of aging in bourbon barrels. Much like the beer below, it is rated 100/100 just about everywhere and also in the Top 50 Ale's in the world according to RateBeer website. Its also incredibly rare, brewed only once and only a minute amount made it to our shores. Will continue to evolve for years to come.

HARGREAVES HILL The Phoenix Imperial Red ale (Spotswood) 750ml 9.8% **\$59**
Could there be a more perfect analogy for the the story of Hargreaves Hill Brewery than this beer? Aptly named for the Tragic loss of the brewery in the Black Saturday fires and its subsequent and triumphant return! Phoenix is brewed with a complex malt and hop bill leaning towards a richness indicative of a Belgian strong ale. It's character will develop with cellaring at a constant low temperature, If you can wait that is. Have one here or snag one for the cellar.

SIERRA NEVADA "Ovila" Abbey Quad With Cherries (USA) 750ml 9.2% **\$39**
Part of what a limited edition set of exclusive beers by Sierra Nevada's Ovila imprint. Brewed in collaboration with the monks of New Clairvaux Abbey in California, this is described as a Belgian quad with cherries added. All of the adjunct ingredients for the beers in the pack were grown on the monks' own 600 acre farm, which is pretty cool and adds a touch of "terroir" to the beer. Feel is coating and slick as mentioned, with a low-ish carbonation compared to the other two beers in the pack. This creates the sensation of "heaviness" that a quad is supposed to boast, so I can't fault them on this front. For only 10.2% however, this may come off a bit too syrupy to some. Though it isn't cloying and it lacks the uber-sweet cherry character that some darker strong ales utilizing the fruit can assume, this is still up there in terms of thickness. I've had stronger American-made quads that didn't have this high of a finishing gravity (which is, in this case, likely due to the cherry inclusion) and that can cause this to wear out a bit towards the end of the glass.

STONE BREWING COMPANY Grainiac (USA) 650ml 8.5% **\$38**
This hoppy, deep amber-hued beer was created to shine a light on rare, unexplored grains seldom used in the brewing world. In addition to barley, wheat, rye and triticale, they added malted millet and malted buckwheat to bring the total unique grain count to nine. The earthy, nutty notes of granola found in this experimental multigrain malt bomb are complemented by the citrusy, floral flavors of four classic American hops. They dry-hopped the beer with Cascade and Centennial hops at the end, adding more citrus notes and rounding out the grain bill's rich, breadly character. Released in the USA in November 22nd 2015, this beer is sure to cause a lot of interest down under. I managed to get just 12 bottles of the rare beast. Get on it.

A fine beer may be judged with only one sip, but it's better to be thoroughly sure"
-Czech Proverb

PILSNERs, LAGERs & EASY DRINKERs

Pilsners are highly subtle, elegant with crisp light bodies, subdued maltiness & lifted floral hops to balance. They are a great alternative to the faceless bland mass marketed lagers out there.

Lagers are the most popular beers in the world nowadays. Unfortunately most lagers are often drab, flavourless & essentially just another way for countless big multinational companies to hypnotise unadventurous & uneducated drinkers with glossy marketing campaigns. Think Corona, Crown Lager, Pure Blonde, VB, Stella Artois, Beck's, Budweiser, Miller, Heineken, Cascade, Asahi etc...these are all basically the same boring formulaic flavourless beer designed to take your money and giving you very little in return.

Fortunately, there are still some interesting lagers still available.

BAD SHEPHERD California Lager (Melbourne) 375ml 4.9% **\$11**

Their take on the California gold rush Steam Beer. Brewed with the pale ale malt and Cluster hops used in the 19th century, combined with woody Northern Brewer hops. We then round it out with the ever reliable Cascade and the Australian Ella hops to create a piny, woody and grapefruity aroma backed up by light fruity esters and a light malt body. Finishes slightly bitter but crisp and dry.

BROOKES Bendigo Pale Ale (Bendigo) 330ml 4.3% **\$8**

Yeah I know its a Pale Ale, but its a super easy drinking refreshing number I reckon it will appeal to Lager and Pilsner drinkers. There are touches of passion fruit on the nose and its even a touch hoppy and fruity on the palate, but not overwhelmingly so. A solid malt dose keeps this on track. Perfect for the easy going, dont have to think to hard, session...

VICTORY Prima Pilsner (USA) 330ml 5.3% **\$12**

A solid blend of European hops (Hallertau, Tettnang, Saaz, Spalt) and german malts. Big herbal aromas due to the noble hops mingling with subtle malt complexity. A really ripping bitter hoppy pils.

TEMPLE BREWING Pilsner (Melbourne) 330ml 5.1% **\$10**

Brewed with 100% German Pilsner malt and noble German hops the Power Stance Pilsner displays traditional characteristics that you expect from a German pilsner. A great place to start your evening.

BLACKMANS BREWERY Juicy Banger IPL (Torquay) 330ml 4.6% **\$12**

Hopped up tropical lager with big grapefruit and citrus aromas and flavours that dominate what's otherwise a clean and crisply bitter drop. Beautifully balanced first single batch of the blackmans new lager collective.

*"Pint Of Lager, Please, Mary."
-Danny*



LAMBICS, SOURS, WHEAT AND FRUIT BEERS

The modern world has over 6000 breweries...and those that use wild yeasts can be counted on the fingers of two hands. Theirs are the Lambic beers; unique to Belgium. Lambic beers can be similar in flavour to sherry and chardonnay.

Lambic beers are aged in oak casks. They are hard, but not harsh; bone-dry but not astringent. They are often tart and sour. Many are often flavoured with fruit and fruit juice to sweeten them for untrained palates.

Blends of old and young Lambics are called Gueuze.

It takes about 3 weeks to make a great ale, 3 months to make a great lager and 3 years to make a great Lambic.

BOATROCKER Miss Pinky Berlinerweisse (Melbourne) 330ml 3.4% **\$10**

Pouring beautifully pink with a low ABV (3.3) makes this beer great for a session. Over 100kg of fresh Victorian raspberries contribute to the beautiful raspberry aromas and flavours up front, with a dry and tart finish. Happy now Mike?

RODENBACH Grand Cru (Belgium) 750ml 6.0% ~ **\$49**

is a blend of "young" beer (33%) and an older beer (67%) that has matured in oak vats. It is the high percentage of the older ripened-in-oak beer that gives it the complex and intense bouquet with a very long aftertaste like a Grand Cru wine. This is a complex beer with lots of wood and fruity esters, wine-like and with a balsamic vinegar aroma. A sharp taste, fruity, refreshing and with a balanced Madeira-like sweetness. One of the best Lambics getting around and certainly in my Top 10 all time beers.

3 RAVENS Wild Ravens Purple plum red ale (Belgium) (750ml 6.0% **\$51**

Part of the "Wild Ravens" range, one of many projects at the brewery instigated by the, bearded and all round ferment freak, head brewer Brendan O'Sullivan. It's inspired by Flemish style red ales and, says Brendan, before release underwent processes including kettle souring, abbreviated fermentation, maturation in old wine barrels with lactic acid bacteria and wild yeast, and re-fermentation with fresh local Angelina plum juice. In your glass, that translates to a hazy, blood orange coloured beer with aromas that encompass tart and acidic, fruity (in a berry sense) and creamy butter biscuits. It's leaner and possesses softer carbonation than the Old Brown, with a cleansing acidity and a tart, drying, plum juice like finish.

BEARD AND BRAU Bon Chen Farmhouse Ale (Queensland) 500ml 7.9% **\$25**

A really surprising Saison from what was, at least to me, an unknown brewery. honey blossom on the nose with a delicate biscuit, apple and light hop palate followed by a solid crisp zing! Well worth a look if you like a true to style farmhouse ale.

TEMPLE Okinawa our (Brunswick) 1000ml 4.0% **\$47**

We were lucky enough to nab this as part of our 2017 Good beer week event Cobra Kai where we played with a bunch of different Japanese food and drink pairings. We were somewhat concerned as Okinawa was to be a keg only release, but the guys at Temple came though with these one litre monsters. Made with Shikuwasa fruit imported from Okinawa, Japan on a standard pale base, this beer exhibits a lot of the flavours of being a 'sour' without technically being one. Expect big juicy citrus notes and a lip puckering finish. Go big or go home.

Who cares how time advances? I am drinking ale today"
-Edgar Allan Poe

SAISONS

Saisons are an Ale and can be often be found in 750ml bottles with corks, like a Champagne bottle. They have pronounced hoppiness or fruity maltiness & are typically highly carbonated with spicy characters, mild acidity & caramel notes.

The word Saison means "Season" and refers to Summer, when these beers were designed to be drunk. They have grown to prominence largely due to the work of Bridge Road and La Sirene - both great Victorian brewers.

BROOKLYN BREWERY Sorachi Ace (USA) 750ml 7.6% **\$45**

Brooklyn Sorachi Ace is a classic Saison, an unfiltered golden farmhouse ale with a wonderfully clean malt flavor and the hero, the quirky Sorachi Ace hop, standing front and center. Dry-hopping releases Sorachi Ace's bright, spicy aromatics to tickle the nose before ascending into a fine harmony between pilsner malt and playful Belgian yeast. In 2008, the Sorachi Ace hop was quietly revived by a family farm in Washington State. Less than a year later, Brooklyn Brewery made it the star of one of our favorite beers ever. Dry, sharp and crackling with flavor, Brooklyn Sorachi Ace is reminiscent of lemongrass, verbena, dill and lemon peels. Brooklyn Sorachi Ace has to be in the Top 20 beers we have ever stocked... and we have stocked over 500 beers.

BRIDGE ROAD BREWERS Chevalier Saison (Beechworth, Vic) 330ml 6.0% **\$10**

My favorite Australian beer. Quite sour and briny in flavour. Great acidic palate with tartness and a salty and lemony tang to round off the phenolic straw compounds. If you have never tried this beer, then you owe it to yourself to give it a crack. You will not be disappointed. A revelation 8 years ago - equally now.

SIERRA NEVADA "Ovila" Saison with Sage (USA) 750ml 7.5% **\$39**

Saisons commonly have spicy flavors from the unique combinations of malt, hops, and farmhouse yeast used to make them. This take on the classic rustic ale gets an herbal boost from the use of native California white sage, grown on the grounds of the abbey of New Clairvaux. A very unique and rare release.

To-ØI Snowball Saison (Denmark) 330ml 8.0% **\$17**

It is a SUPER sparkling crisp and dry Saison that has been refermented with milk acid bacterias and dry hopped over and over to give the beer a crisp and smooth tart finish (not to mention.... there is a lot of hops of course...). One of the best "new wave" Saisons we have had the pleasure of stocking.

DUPONT SAISON (Belguim) 750ml 6.5% **\$28**

Saison Dupont is a classic Belgian farmhouse ale. This is a beautifully balanced, complex beer that has a refreshing fruitiness and long, dry finish. It is bottled unfiltered so it may be cloudy or have a slight sediment but this is normal. One of my all time favourite summer beers.

TWO BIRDS Taco (Spotswood) 330ml 5.2% **\$10**

Two Birds Taco is brewed using ale and wheat malts, with an addition of flaked corn. Citra and Amarillo hops contribute citrus and fruity characters, which complement the additions of bucket loads coriander leaf and fresh lime peel. A cracking zesty wit. If only we served tacos.

FANTOME Pissenlit Saison (Belgium) 750ml 8.0% **\$45**

A beer made from dandelions would be worth a try if only because no one has ever brewed one before, but the great news is that this is actually a cracking beer. The Brewers at Fantome, and whoever else they can rope in, get busy every spring picking bushels of dandelions that grow in the fields around the picturesque farmhouse brewery. The yellow flowers are removed and dried in the sun, then soaked in water for a few days. The thick, dark dandelion "tea" that results is the basis for the Pissenlit, which is made also from traditional barley malt and hops. It resembles a classic saison beer - golden spritzy brew, strong and very flavorful, with a good hop bite. You may have to strain to taste the dandelions, but you know they're in there

LA SIRENE Saison (Alphington, Victoria) 750ml 6.5% **\$48**

Pouring a glowing orange yellow with an impossibly towering, fluffy white head that offers up all manner of tropical and floral aromas, this saison melds some sweet malts with a touch of peppery spice and a touch of that all-important saison funk (courtesy of their house yeast) in a beautifully subtle and complex take on the style. 100% Bottle. %100 Awesome.



HITACHINO NEST BEER

(Kiuchi Brewery - Tokyo, Japan)

The Kiuchi Brewery started sake brewing in 1823 by Kiuchi Gihei, the headman of Kounosu village. Since then the Kiuchi family has been brewing genuine, quality centered sake for 190 years. Previously Japan had a strict alcohol tax law that only four large breweries were allowed to brew beers.

The law was then relaxed allowing smaller breweries to brew beers in 1994, so Kiuchi decided to start a small beer brewery. In the beginning they knew nothing about beer even though they've been brewing Japanese sake for centuries, so they asked for some professionals at big beer manufacturers in Japan for advice on developing their business plan.

HITACHINO Nest Lager 330ml 5.5% **\$13**

A super solid lager Hitachino Nest Lager is bottom fermented, light in color with a blend of USA and english noble hops, balanced against Kaneko Golden and Pale lager malts. Refreshing with a bitter finish.

HITACHINO Saison Du Japon 330ml 5.0% **\$14**

Brewed with a local wheat and koji (malted rice) which is a vital ingredient to create sake The Saison Du Japon has a uniquely sweet flavor of rice koji and a natural acidity caused by the rice fermentation. With an addition of Yuzu juice to bump the fruit tones this should be a welcome sight to any saison lover.

HITACHINO Extra High (XH) 330ml 8.0% **\$16**

Brewed in a classic belgain dark ale style the HX features Chinook, Simcoe, Styrian Golding with a good lick of chocolate and crystal malts. Take what is already a ripping Belgo and age it in ex sake cask and you really have something smashing.

HITACHINO Japanese Classic Ale 330ml 7.0% **\$14**

This Japanese Classic Ale is a recreation of the beer that were widely seen in Japan during the Edo period (Mid 18th century). Aged in cedar barrels like the old English IPA styles with a fairly classic English hop bill.

HITACHINO Dai Dai IPA 330ml 6.2% **\$15**

This Japanese Classic Ale is a recreation of the beer that were widely seen in Japan during the Edo period (Mid 18th century). Aged in cedar barrels like the old English IPA styles with a fairly classic English hop bill.

"Wax on, wax off"
-Mr Miyagi

STOUTS, PORTERS & VERY DARK BEERS

Robust or Stout Porters – to give them their correct name – have outlived other members of the porter family, thanks to Arthur Guinness and his Irish dry stout. Stouts and porters can come in any number of styles – dry, medium or sweet and many are even flavoured. Some are overtly hoppy & others creamy and malty.

- BRIDGE ROAD BREWERS Robust Porter** (Beechworth, Vic) 330ml 5.2% **\$9**
Big chocolate, roasted and mocha notes are the key to this style. A wise country football coach once said "theres no point half doing something". And in making this porter BRB have taken his advice on board. Their Robust Porter uses plenty of roast barley and chocolate malt to give you a big porter that wont leave you asking for more.
- BREWDOG Jet Black Heart** (Scotland) 330ml 4.7% **\$12**
Roasty coffee and chocolate lead to a decadent, full-bodied richness and a velvet mouthfeel from the addition of oatmeal and a touch of wheat. This is complemented by Magnum and Sorachi Ace hops, with the latter bringing an intensity of smooth vanilla and dark berry fruit on the long, rewarding finish. All wrapped up in a textual package. The black cat that got the cream.
- FOUNDERS KBS Stout** (USA) 355ml 11.9% **\$20**
What we've got here is an imperial stout brewed with a massive amount of coffee and chocolate, then cave-aged in oak bourbon barrels for an entire year to make sure wonderful bourbon undertones come through in the finish. Makes your taste buds weak at the knees. You know, if taste buds had knees.
- FOUNDERS Porter** 355ml 6.5% **\$12**
The nose is sweet with strong chocolate and caramel malt presence. No absence of hops gives Founders' robust porter the full flavour you deserve and expect. Cozy like velvet. It's a lover, not a fighter.
- STONE BREWING COMPANY shakespeare oatmeal stout** (USA) 650ml 6.6% **\$35**
Whilst I may not be overjoyed by bracing chill bitter winds and impeding sickness that comes with winter in Bendigo, I do love the shifting beer preferences. Moving away from those crisp fruity IPA's and pales and onto beers like this. Deeply roasted and creamy, with tantalizing bitterness. Thick, smooth, and sumptuous and above all deeply satisfying.
- BODRIGGY Blinker Oatmeal Stout** (Melbourne) 330ml 5.2% **\$13**
Alongside their near neighbours Nighthawks Bodriggy concocted Blinker to be launched on May 17 at Nighthawks as part of a Good Beer Week event screening the documentary A Band Called Death about Detroit's punk pioneers. On the lighter end of the stout style Blinker comes with some lactose to add additional sweetness and creaminess on top of the oats resulting in a beer thats more the easy drinking sweeter chocolaty style, with a light dusty roast character to dry things out.
- BALTER Black Metal Disco** (Queensland) 500ml 5.0% **\$15**
Like thrash being played on the jazz flute, this stout may seem vicious, but its sweet notes make light in the dark of night. The roasted barley and subtle hops mix deliver espresso, chocolate, and vanilla aromas, all wrapped in a creamy mouthfeel and satisfyingly dry finish. Throw out your preconceived notions of what's possible, strap on your mirror ball helmet and dive into club sweet stout.

"hello darkness my old friend"
-Simon & Garfunkel

CIDER

(AND GINGER BEER)

The history of cider goes back to ancient Egypt. Apple trees were known to have grown along the Nile delta. In Medieval times cider became the most popular alcoholic drink in both England and France. Cider is not normally made from eating apples, but from dedicated cider varieties, which tend to be too sour to eat.

There are four categories of cider apple: sweet, bittersweet, sharp and bittersharp. The differences between them are based on the acidity, tannin & sweetness of each apple. Broadly speaking, there are two styles of cider: English and French. Both styles tend to be dry, and the English style is usually stronger. The best English ciders are often compared to great beers, whereas the French model their best ciders on sparkling wines.

Cider can also be made from pears. This is known as Perry.

BLUE ELEPHANT Cider No. 2 (Harcourt, Victoria) 330ml 5.0% **\$10**
Made entirely with Pink Lady apples, this local cider is soft and elegant with balanced acidity and a refreshingly sweet palate. Designed off-dry for those who prefer a rounder, softer and sweeter drink.

COLONIAL BREWING CO Bertie (Margret River, Western Australia) 375ml 4.6% **\$9**
Bertie. Weird name for a cider, right? But when you're walking in the footsteps of an Australian icon, you've got to embrace it. The home of our cold press cider is in Bertie Street Melbourne, in the very same building that once produced that staple of showbags across Australia, the Bertie Beetle chocolate treat. A hand picked blend of Victorian Sundowner and red gala result in a crisp off dry style. Now if only they still put them in show bags...

DOMAINE DUPONT Cidre Reserve (Normandy, France) 750ml 7.0% **\$55**
This natural cider has matured six months in oak casks which had previously contained Calvados and has been bottled at the Domaine Dupont. Considered by many as one of the greatest ciders on the planet.

BRESS (Harcourt, Victoria) 750ml 7.0% **\$45**
This is an expensive Cider. That cannot be helped. Handmade with love and care, its an expensive thing to make...but a thing of beauty. This is easily the best local cider we have ever had. Its a knockout. French in style and 100% Harcourt in attitude and flavours. This is a cider made from 9 different cider apples grown on their biodynamic property just 20km's from here. They are individually pressed and fermented before blending making it a unique cider to Australia and can age for 5 or more years

VICTOR GONTIER Cidre Bouche (France) 750ml 4.5% **\$42**
A true farmhouse cider from France. This will divide people as it always has. Some will love the funky character and slightly pongy nose. The tart and rustic flavours will again divide - many will think it tastes of mouldy cheese and body odour...and many will love it because of this!

HARCOURT VALLEY Ginger Kid ES (Harcourt, Victoria) 355ml 8.0% **\$10**
Cracking turbo charged Ginger Beer by our friends down the road. This is the "Extra Strong" version that packs a mean punch. Spicy and gingery as you'd expect, but also very refreshing & moorish...just don't have too many!

*"Everybody has to believe in something. I believe I'll have another drink."
-W. C. Fields*