

BEER STYLES

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Are you ready to take a deeper dive into America's craft beer styles? Do you want to improve your ability to describe the tastes, textures and aromas of beer? Well, here is your study guide that will prepare you for what you might encounter when tasting beer.

What is the CraftBeer.com Beer Styles Guide?

Beer styles continue to evolve over time. Today, there are hundreds of documented beer styles and a handful of organizations with their own unique classifications. CraftBeer.com Beer Styles exist to give beer lovers a methodology to describe, compare and contrast the many beers produced by small and independent U.S. brewers.

No matter the form, style guidelines may provide more information than many beer novices care to know. However, as your beer journey unfolds, your desire for more descriptors and resources will grow. Understanding the sensory side of craft beer will help you more deeply appreciate and share your knowledge and enthusiasm for the beverage of beer.

Do All Craft Brewers Brew Their Beers to Style?

Craft beer resides at the intersection of art and science. It is up to each individual brewer to decide whether they want to create beer within specific style guidelines or forge a new path and break the mold of traditional styles.

Because so many craft brewers brew outside style guidelines, it is impossible to make a list that fully represents the spectrum of beers being created today. CraftBeer.com Beer Styles include many common styles being made in the U.S. today, but is not exhaustive.

Common U.S. Beer Styles

Craft brewers use a wide variety of ingredients to achieve the aroma, body, flavor and finish they desire in their beer. They often take classic, old-world styles from great brewing countries like England, Germany and Belgium and add their own twists by modifying the amount or type of ingredients or the brewing processes. Due to the popularity of craft beer in America, there are now multiple beer styles uniquely credited to the U.S.

Due to the constant experimentation and exploration by today's U.S. brewers, new beer styles are constantly evolving. That makes it difficult, if not impossible, to fully document all types of beer being made at any given time. Another factor is that new beer styles usually become established by developing a track record of multiple breweries making the same type of beer over years and years. In other words, it takes time before any trendy new type of beer is deemed a recognized beer style.

We narrowed the list down to 77 styles in 15 style families. Descriptive terms are always listed from least to most intense.

Overview of the Style Guide

Explanation of Quantitative Style Statistics

- **Original Gravity (OG):** The specific gravity of wort (unfermented beer) before fermentation. A measure of the total amount of solids that are dissolved in the wort, it compares the density of the wort to the density of water, which is conventionally given as 1.000 at 60 Fahrenheit.
- **Final Gravity (FG):** The specific gravity of a beer as measured when fermentation is complete (when all desired fermentable sugars have been converted to alcohol and carbon dioxide gas). When fermentation has occurred, this number is always less than Original Gravity.
- **Alcohol By Volume (ABV):** A measurement of the alcohol content in terms of the percentage volume of alcohol per volume of beer. Caution: This measurement is always higher than Alcohol By Weight (not included in this guide). To calculate the approximate volumetric alcohol content, subtract FG from OG and divide by 0.0075.

Example: OG = 1.050, FG = 1.012

$ABV = (1.050 - 1.012) / 0.0075$

$ABV = 0.038 / 0.0075$

$ABV = 5.067$

$ABV = 5\%$ (approximately)

- **International Bitterness Units (IBUs):** 1 bitterness unit = 1 milligram of isomerized (exposed to heat) hop alpha acids in one liter of beer. Can range from 0 (lowest—no bitterness) to above 100 IBUs. Usually the general population cannot perceive bitterness above or below a specific range of IBUs (said to be below 8 and above 80 IBUs by some sources).
- **Bitterness Ratio (BU:GU):** A comparison of IBUs (Bitterness Units) to sugars (Gravity Units) in a beer. .5 is perceived as balanced, under .5 is perceived as sweeter and over .5 is perceived as more bitter. Formula: Divide IBU by the last two digits of Original Gravity (remove the 1.0) to give relative bitterness. Note: Carbonation also balances beer's bitterness, but is not factored in this equation. This is a concept from Ray Daniels, creator of the Cicerone® Certification Program.

Example: a pale ale with 37 IBUs and an OG of 1.052 is $37/52 = 0.71$ BU:GU

- **Standard Reference Method (SRM):** Provides a numerical range representing the color of a beer. The common range is 2-50. The higher the SRM, the darker the beer. SRM represents the absorption of specific wavelengths of light. It provides an analytical method that brewers use to measure and quantify the color of a beer. The SRM concept was originally published by the American Society of Brewing Chemists.

Examples: Very Light (1-1.5), Straw (2-3 SRM), Pale (4), Gold (5-6), Light Amber (7), Amber (8), Medium Amber (9), Copper/Garnet (10-12), Light Brown (13-15), Brown/Reddish Brown/Chestnut Brown (16-17), Dark Brown (18-24), Very Dark (25-39), Black (40+)

- **Volumes of CO2 (v/v):** Volumes of CO2 commonly vary from 1-3+ v/v (volumes of dissolved gas per volume of liquid) with 2.5-2.7 volumes being the most common in the U.S. market. Beer's carbonation comes from carbon dioxide gas, which is a naturally occurring byproduct created during fermentation by yeast and a variety of microorganisms. The amount of carbonation is expressed in terms of "volumes" of CO2. A volume is the space the CO2 gas would occupy at standard temperature and pressure, compared to the volume of beer in which it's dissolved. So one keg of beer at 2.5 volumes of CO2 contains enough gas to fill 2.5 kegs with CO2.
- **Apparent Attenuation (AA):** A simple measure of the extent of fermentation wort has undergone in the process of becoming beer, Apparent Attenuation reflects the amount of malt sugar that is converted to ethanol during fermentation. The result is expressed as a percentage and equals 65% to 80% for most beers. Or said more simply: Above 80% is very high attenuation with little residual sugar. Below 60% is low attenuation with more residual sugar remaining. Formula: $AA = [(OG-FG) / (OG-1)] \times 100$

Example: OG = 1.080, FG = 1.020

$AA = [(1.080 - 1.020) / (1.080 - 1)] \times 100$

$AA = (0.060 / 0.080) \times 100$

$AA = 0.75 \times 100$

$AA = 75\%$

- **Commercial Examples:** List some U.S. brewery produced examples of this style.

The A-Z of Beer Styles

Use this alphabetical list of triggers as a guide to help you when describing possible characteristics of a specific beer style.

- **Alcohol**
 - Ranges: not detectible, mild, noticeable, harsh
 - A synonym for ethyl alcohol or ethanol, the colorless primary alcohol component of beer.
 - Alcohol ranges for beer vary from less than 3.2% to greater than 14% ABV. Sensed in aroma, flavor and palate of beer
 - Fusel alcohol can also exist in beer
- **Brewing and Conditioning Process**
 - Brewers use a wide variety of techniques to modify the brewing process. Some of the variables they play with might include: Variable mashing, steeping, unique fermentation temperatures, multiple yeast additions, barrel aging and blending, dry hopping and bottle conditioned.
- **Carbonation (CO2): Visual**
 - Ranges: none, slow, medium, fast rising bubbles
 - Carbonation is a main ingredient in beer. It lends body or weight on the tongue and stimulates the trigeminal nerves, which sense temperature, texture and pain in the face. Carbonation can be detected as an aroma (carbonic acid). It also affects appearance and is what creates the collar of foam common to most beer styles.
 - Carbonation can be naturally occurring (produced by yeast during fermentation) or added to beer under pressure. Nitrogen can also be added to beer, providing smaller bubbles and a softer mouthfeel compared to CO2.
- **Clarity:** Solids in suspension (different from color and brightness).
 - Ranges: brilliant, clear, slight haze, hazy, opaque
 - Solids can include unfermented sugars, proteins, yeast sediments and more.
- **Collar of Foam**
 - Head Retention/Texture
 - Retention Ranges: none, poor (up to 15 seconds), moderate (15 to 60 seconds), good (more than 60 seconds)
 - Texture Ranges: thin, interrupted, foamy, fluffy, rocky, mousse-like
- **Color (SRM):** See SRM under Quantitative above.
- **Country of Origin**
 - Which country did the style originate in?
- **Food Pairing:** Cheese, Entree, Dessert
- **Glass**
- **Hops**

- Flavor and aroma ranges: citrus, tropical, fruity, floral, herbal, onion-garlic, sweaty, spicy, woody, green, pine, spruce, resinous
- Bitterness ranges: restrained, moderate, aggressive, harsh
- Hops deliver resins and essential oils that influence beer's aroma, flavor, bitterness, head retention, astringency, and perceived sweetness. They also increase beer's stability and shelf life.
- Brewers today use well over one hundred different varieties of hops worldwide. Hops grown in the U.S. contribute an estimated 30% to the global supply.
- **Malt**
 - Flavor and aroma ranges: bread flour, grainy, biscuit, bready, toast, caramel, pruny, roast, chocolate, coffee, smoky, acrid
 - Malt has been called the soul of beer. It is the main fermentable ingredient, providing the sugars that yeast use to create alcohol and carbonation.
 - Malt is converted barley or other grains that have been steeped, germinated, heated, kilned (or roasted in a drum), cooled, dried and then rested.
 - A wide variety of barley and other malts are used to make beer, including pale malt (pilsner and pale two-row), higher temperature kilned malt (munich and vienna), roasted/specialty malt (chocolate and black) and unmalted barley. Wheat malt is commonly used as well.
 - Malt provides fermentable and non-fermentable sugars and proteins that influence beer's aroma, alcohol, body, color, flavor and head retention.
- **Other Ingredients**
 - Adjuncts are ingredients that have typically not been malted, but are a source of fermentable sugars.
 - Common adjuncts include: candy sugar, honey, molasses, refined sugar, treacle, maple syrup
 - Unmalted starchy adjuncts: oats, rye, wheat, corn/maize, rice
 - Note: Many of these grains can be malted to create unique flavors compared to their unmalted counterparts.
 - Other: fruit, herbs, roasted (unmalted) barley or wheat, spices, wood
- **Oxidative/Aged Qualities**
 - Can come from hops, malt or yeast. Only listed where appropriate for the specific style.
 - Aroma/Flavor: almond, blackcurrant, E-2-nonenal (papery/cardboard), honey, metallic, sherry, sweat socks, others
 - Color: Beer darkens over time due to oxygen ingress.
- **Palate**
 - Palate refers to the non-taste sensations felt on the mouth and tongue when tasting a beer. The palate of a beer can be sensed as:
 - Astringency
 - Ranges: low, medium(-), medium, medium(+), high
 - Body
 - Ranges: drying, soft, mouth-coating, sticky
 - Palate Carbonation
 - Ranges: low, medium, high
 - Length/Finish
 - Ranges: short (less than 15 seconds), medium (up to sixty seconds), long (more than sixty seconds)
- **Water**
 - Common taste descriptors: chalk, flint, sulfur and more
 - Beer is mostly water, which makes water quite an important ingredient. Some brewers make their beer without altering the chemistry of their water sources. Many do modify the water to make it most suitable to deliver the beer characteristics they hope to highlight. It provides minerals and ions that add various qualities to beer.
 - Common minerals: carbonate, calcium, magnesium, sulfate
- **Yeast, Microorganisms and Fermentation Byproducts**
 - Yeast eats sugars from malted barley and other fermentables, producing carbonation, alcohol and aromatic compounds. The flavor of yeast differs based on yeast strain, temperature, time exposed to the beer, oxygen and other variables.
 - Types of Yeast:
 - Ale: *Saccharomyces Cerevesia* (ester driven). Commonly referred to as top fermenting yeast, it most often ferments at warmer temperatures (60-70F).
 - Lager: *Saccharomyces Pastorianus* (often lends sulfuric compounds). Commonly referred to as bottom fermenting yeast, it most often ferments at cooler temperatures (45-55F).
 - Weizen Yeast: Common to some German-style wheat beers and is considered an ale yeast.
 - *Brettanomyces*: A wild yeast with flavors like barnyard, tropical fruit, and more.
 - Microorganisms: (bacteria) *Acetobacter* (produces acetic acid), *Lactobacillus/Pediococcus* (produce lactic acid), others
- **Byproducts of Fermentation**
 - For a robust spreadsheet on many byproducts or agents in beer see Flavor Components in Beer (http://www.craftbeer.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Flavor_Components.pdf) (PDF)
 - To sample ten common byproducts order the following tasting kit: Aroxa Beer Flavor Standards: Beer Uno Kit
 - Common byproducts of yeast fermentation:
 - Esters:
 - Aromas (volatiles): apple, apricot, banana, blackcurrant, cherry, fig, grapefruit, kiwi, peach, pear, pineapple, plum, raisin, raspberry, strawberry, others
 - Common esters include:
 - Isoamyl acetate (common from weizen ale yeast): banana, pear
 - Ethyl Acetate: nail polish remover, solvent

- Ethyl Hexanote: red apple, fennel
- Phenols
 - Common phenols include:
 - 4-vinyl guaiacol: clove, cinnamon, vanilla
 - Chlorophenols: antiseptic, mouthwash
 - Syringol: smoky, campfire
 - Tannins/Polyphenols: velvet, astringent, sandpaper
- Other fermentation byproducts
 - Common byproducts include (when acceptable to style):
 - 4-ethyl-phenol: barnyard, mice
 - 4-ethyl-guaiacol: smoked meat, clove
 - 3-methyl-2-butene-1-thiol: lightstruck
 - 2,3-butanedione (Diacetyl)
 - Acetaldehyde
 - Dimethyl sulphide (DMS)
 - Hydrogen sulphide

What is Craft Beer? What is a Craft Brewer?

Today is the best time in U.S. history to be a beer lover. The average American lives within 10 miles of a brewery, and the U.S. has more beer styles and brands to choose from than any other beer market in the world.

The definition of "craft beer" is difficult, as it means many different things to many different beer lovers. Thus, craft beer is not defined by CraftBeer.com. However, our parent organization, the Brewers Association, does define what it means to be an American craft brewer: A U.S. craft brewer is a smaller producer (making less than six million barrels of beer a year) and is independently owned. This definition allows the Brewers Association to provide statistics on the growing craft brewery community, which accounts for 99 percent of America's 3,000-plus breweries.

Visit BrewersAssociation.org for the complete craft brewer definition and details on the craft beer industry market segments: brewpubs, microbreweries and regional craft breweries.

Why Craft Beer?

Craft beer is enjoyed during everyday celebrations, and is viewed by many as one of life's special pleasures. Each glass displays the creativity and passion of its maker and the complexity of its ingredients. Craft beer is treasured by millions who see it as not merely a fermented beverage, but something to be shared, revered and enjoyed in moderation (see Savor the Flavor).

In the food arts world, craft beer is a versatile beverage that not only enhances food when expertly paired with a dish, but is also often brought into the kitchen as a cooking ingredient. Because of this, you will see suggested food pairings for each style in this guide. If you would like to geek out even further on beer and food pairing, check out CraftBeer.com's Beer & Food Course (a free download).

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AMERICAN AMBER LAGER

Style Family: Dark Lagers

A widely available, sessionable craft beer style that showcases both malt and hops. Amber Lagers are a medium bodied lager with a toasty or caramel-like malt character. Hop bitterness can range from very low to medium-high. Brewers may use decoction mash and dry-hopping to achieve advanced flavors.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.042 - 1.056
FG	1.010 - 1.018
ABV	4.8% - 5.4%
IBU	18 - 30
BU:GU	0.43 - 0.54
SRM	6 - 14
CO2 Volumes	2.5 approximately
Apparent Attenuation	68 - 76

U.S. Commercial Examples

Sam Adams Boston Lager	Boston Beer Co.
Lager	Brooklyn Brewery
Lager	Yuengling Brewery

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Can use decoction mash and dry-hopping to achieve advanced flavors.
Color	Gold to Copper
Clarity	Clear to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	White Cheddar
Entrée	Grilled Meats and Vegetables
Dessert	Fruit Desserts
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor and aroma are very low to medium-high. Hop bitterness is very low to medium-high.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Low to medium-low caramel-type or toasted malt aromas are often present.
Malt Ingredients	Two-row, Munich, Vienna, Caramel
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Not common to style.

GERMAN-STYLE DUNKEL

Style Family: Dark Lagers

A German-style dunkel, sometimes referred to as a Munchner dunkel, should have chocolate-like, roast malt, bread-like or biscuit-like aromas that comes from the use of Munich dark malt. This beer does not offer an overly sweet impression, but rather a mild balance between malt sweetness and hop character.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.048 - 1.056
FG	1.014 - 1.018
ABV	4.8% - 5.3%
IBU	16 - 25
BU:GU	0.33 - 0.45
SRM	15 - 20
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	68 - 71

U.S. Commercial Examples

Munich Dunkel	Carver Brewing Co.
Knight Ryder Munich Dunkel	Equinox Brewing
Dunkel	Chuckanut Brewery

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	A decoction mash is commonly used.
Color	Light Brown to Dark Brown
Clarity	Clear to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Mousse-like
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Washed-Rind Munster
Entrée	Sausages, Roasted Vegetables
Dessert	Candied Ginger Beer Cake
Glass	Vase
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived. Hop bitterness is low.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Malt aroma is low to medium, with chocolate-like, roasted malt, bread-like or biscuit-like notes.
Malt Ingredients	Munich, Carafa Special II
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	Moderate carbonate water
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Not common to style.

GERMAN-STYLE MARZEN/OKTOBERFEST

Style Family: Dark Lagers

A beer rich in malt with a balance of clean, hop bitterness. Bread or biscuit-like malt aroma and flavor is common. Originating in Germany, this style used to be seasonally available in the spring ('Marzen' meaning "March"), with the fest-style versions tapped in October.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.050 - 1.060
FG	1.012 - 1.020
ABV	5.1% - 6.0%
IBU	18 - 25
BU:GU	0.36 - 0.42
SRM	4 - 15
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	67 - 76

U.S. Commercial Examples

Rhinofest	Lost Rhino Brewing Co.
Shiner Oktoberfest	Spoetzl Brewery
Festbier	Victory Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	A decoction mash is commonly used.
Color	Pale to Reddish Brown
Clarity	Brilliant
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Jalapeno Jack
Entrée	Kielbasa
Dessert	Coconut Flan
Glass	Flute
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are very low to low. Hop bitterness is medium low to medium.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Toast
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Vienna, Munich
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Not common to style.

GERMAN-STYLE SCHWARZBIER

Style Family: Dark Lagers

Sometimes called black lagers, they may remind some of German-style dunkels; but schwarzbiers are drier, darker and more roast-oriented. These very dark brown to black beers have a surprisingly pale-colored foam head (not excessively brown) with good cling quality. They have a mild roasted malt character without the associated bitterness. Malt flavor and aroma is at low to medium levels of sweetness. Sometimes called black lagers, they may remind some of German-style dunkels; but schwarzbiers are drier, darker and more roast-oriented.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.044 - 1.052
FG	1.010 - 1.016
ABV	3.8% - 4.9%
IBU	22 - 30
BU:GU	0.50 - 0.58
SRM	25 - 30
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	69 - 77

U.S. Commercial Examples

Shiner Bohemian Black Lager	Spoetzl Brewery
Black Bavarian	Sprecher Brewing Co.
Sam Adams Black Lager	Boston Beer

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Color	Very Dark Brown to Black
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Munster-Style Cheese
Entrée	Mushroom Strudel
Dessert	Fruit Tart
Glass	Flute
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are very low to low, deriving from noble-type hops. Hop bitterness is low to medium.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Reminiscent of bitter chocolate or coffee. Malt sweetness is low to medium, and incorporates mild roasted malt character without the associated bitterness.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Munich, Crystal, Chocolate Malt, Black Roasted Barley, Carafa Special II
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Not common to style.

VIENNA-STYLE LAGER

Style Family: Dark Lagers

Ranges from copper to reddish brown in color. The beer is characterized by malty aroma and slight malt sweetness. The malt aroma and flavor should have a notable degree of toasted and/or slightly roasted malt character. Hop bitterness is low to medium-low.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.046 - 1.056
FG	1.012 - 1.018
ABV	4.8% - 5.4%
IBU	22 - 28
BU:GU	0.48 - 0.50
SRM	12 - 26
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	68 - 74

U.S. Commercial Examples

Eliot Ness	Great Lakes Brewing Co.
Vienna Lager	Gordon Biersch Brewery Restaurant
Vienna Lager	Chuckanut Brewery

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Mild
Color	Copper to Reddish Brown
Clarity	Brilliant to Clear
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Mild Cheeses
Entrée	Grilled Meats and Vegetables
Dessert	Almond Biscotti
Glass	Flute
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma, flavor and bitterness are very low to low.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Aroma should have a notable degree of toasted and/or slightly roasted malt character. Malt flavor is slightly sweet.
Malt Ingredients	Vienna
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Hard carbonate water
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Not common to style.



AMERICAN CREAM ALE

Style Family: Hybrid Beers

This is a mild, pale, light-bodied ale, made using a warm fermentation (top or bottom fermenting yeast) and cold lagering. Despite being called an ale, when being judged in competitions it is acceptable for brewers to use lager yeast.

Quantitative Style Statistics

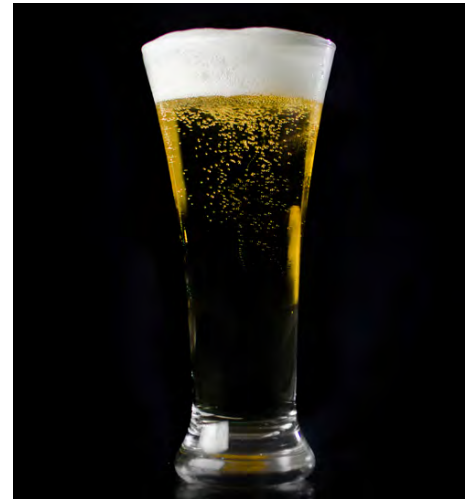
OG	1.044 - 1.052
FG	1.004 - 1.010
ABV	4.3% - 5.7%
IBU	10 - 22
BU:GU	0.23 - 0.42
SRM	2 - 5
CO2 Volumes	2.5 approximately
Apparent Attenuation	81 - 91

U.S. Commercial Examples

Summer Solstice	Anderson Valley Brewing Co.
Spotted Cow	New Glarus Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Sometimes krausened for carbonation.
Color	Straw to Gold
Clarity	Brilliant
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor to Moderate
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin to Interrupted
Carbonation (Visual)	Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Monterey Jack
Entrée	Salads, Mild Shellfish
Dessert	Lemon Custard Tart
Glass	Flute
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma is usually absent, and hop flavor is very low to low. Hop bitterness is very low to low.
Hop Ingredients	Liberty
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Grainy
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner
Other ingredients	Simple Sugar, Maize
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	High
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Not common to style.
Fermentation Byproducts	Fermentation-derived sulfur character and/or DMS flavor should be extremely low or absent from this style of beer. Diacetyl flavor should not be perceived.



FRENCH-STYLE BIERE DE GARDE

Style Family: Hybrid Beers

The name translates as “beer for keeping.” This style is popping up more and more from U.S. producers. Blond, amber and brown versions exist. Bier de garde examples are light amber to chestnut brown or red in color. This style is characterized by a toasted malt aroma and slight malt sweetness. Flavor of alcohol is evident. Often bottle-conditioned, with some yeast character. The name translates as “beer for keeping.” This style is popping up more and more from U.S. producers. Blond, amber and brown versions exist.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.060 - 1.080
FG	1.012 - 1.024
ABV	4.4% - 8.0%
IBU	20 - 30
BU:GU	0.33 - 0.38
SRM	7 - 16
CO2 Volumes	2.5 - 3
Apparent Attenuation	70 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

Domaine DuPage	Two Brothers Brewing Co.
Biere De Garde	Schlafly Beer, The Saint Louis Brewery
Avant Garde	The Lost Abbey

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Color	Light Amber to Chestnut Brown or Red
Clarity	Clear to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	France
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy to Rocky
Carbonation (Visual)	Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Soft Ripened Cheeses
Entrée	Roasted Lamb with Mint
Dessert	Pecan Pie
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are low to medium, from noble-type hops. Hop bitterness is low to medium.
Hop Ingredients	Fuggle
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Toast, Caramel, Toffee
Malt Ingredients	CaraVienna, Pilsner, Munich, Black Patent
Other ingredients	Sugar (occasionally)
Palate Body	Soft to Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	High
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Soft Water
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-ester flavors can be low to medium in intensity.
Fermentation Byproducts	Diacetyl flavor should not be perceived. May have Brettanomyces yeast-derived aromas that are slightly acidic, fruity, horsey, goaty and/or leather-like. Earthy, cellar-like and/or musty aromas are acceptable.

CALIFORNIA COMMON

Style Family: Hybrid Beers

This beer style is brewed with lager yeasts but fermented at ale fermentation temperatures. There is a noticeable degree of caramel-like malt character in flavor and often in aroma. Often referred to as 'steam beer' and made famous by San Francisco's Anchor Brewing Company. Seek out woody and mint flavor from the Northern Brewer hops.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.045 - 1.056
FG	1.010 - 1.018
ABV	4.6% - 5.7%
IBU	35 - 45
BU:GU	0.78 - 0.80
SRM	8 - 15
CO2 Volumes	2.5 - 3
Apparent Attenuation	68 - 78

U.S. Commercial Examples

Anchor Steam	Anchor Brewing Co.
2x Steam	Southern Tier Brewing Co.
Old Scratch Amber Lager	Flying Dog Brewery

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Cool ale fermentation temperatures used to ferment this lager beer.
Color	Light Amber to Medium Amber
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Moderate
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Feta
Entrée	Pork Loin
Dessert	Bread Pudding
Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor is low to medium-low and may present as Woody, Rustic, or Minty. Hop bitterness is medium to medium-high.
Hop Ingredients	Northern Brewer
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Noticeable caramel-type malt flavor should be present.
Malt Ingredients	Pale, Munich, Crystal, Victory, Pale Chocolate
Palate Body	Drying
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-ester aromas, if present, should be low to medium-low.

GERMAN-STYLE BROWN/ALTBIER

Style Family: Hybrid Beers

Originally from the Düsseldorf area of Germany, these ales strike a balance between hop and malt flavors and aromas, but can have low fruity esters and some peppery and floral hop aromas. Before Germany had lager beer, it had ales. Alt, meaning "old," pays homage to one rebel region in Germany which did not lean into lagering. U.S. producers celebrate the ale revolution beautifully with this top-fermented German beer style.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.044 - 1.052
FG	1.008 - 1.014
ABV	4.6% - 5.6%
IBU	25 - 52
BU:GU	0.57 - 1.00
SRM	11 - 19
CO2 Volumes	1.5 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	73 - 82

U.S. Commercial Examples

Tree Hugger	Terrapin Beer Co.
Little Red Cap	Grimm Brothers Brewhouse
Alt	Southampton Public House

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	A decoction mash is sometimes used. Cooler ale fermentation and lagering is common.
Color	Copper to Dark Brown
Clarity	Brilliant
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Mousse-like
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Emmental
Entrée	Grilled Salmon
Dessert	Apple Pie
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor is low to medium. Hop bitterness is medium to very high (although the 25 to 35 IBU range is more normal for the majority of Altbiers from Düsseldorf).
Hop Ingredients	Spalt, Magnum, Tettnang
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Sweet malt character that may have a rich, biscuity, and/or light caramel flavor.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Munich, CaraMunich, Carafo Special II, Aromatic
Other ingredients	Wheat (occasionally)
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	Moderate carbonate water
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-ester flavors, if present, can be low.

source: CraftBeer.com

GERMAN-STYLE KOLSCH

Style Family: Hybrid Beers

Light in color and malt character, this style's fermentation process yields a light vinous character which is accompanied by a slightly dry, crisp finish. Ale yeast is used for fermentation, though lager yeast is sometimes used in the bottle or final cold-conditioning process.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.042 - 1.048
FG	1.006 - 1.010
ABV	4.8% - 5.3%
IBU	18 - 28
BU:GU	0.43 - 0.58
SRM	3 - 6
CO2 Volumes	2.5 approximately
Apparent Attenuation	79 - 86

U.S. Commercial Examples

Fancy Lawnmower	St. Arnold Brewing Co.
Capital City Kolsch	Blind Tiger Brewery & Restaurant
Summer Ale	Alaskan Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Commonly conditioned at colder temperatures (known as 'lagering').
Color	Straw to Gold
Clarity	Brilliant
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Nutty Cheeses
Entrée	Bratwurst
Dessert	Light Apricot Cake
Glass	Flute
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor is low and, if evident, should express noble hop character. Hop bitterness is medium.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Malt character is a very low to low with a soft sweetness.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Vienna
Other ingredients	Wheat (occasionally)
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Light pear, apple or Riesling wine-like fruitiness may be apparent.
Fermentation Byproducts	Low-level sulfur notes are acceptable.

IRISH-STYLE RED

Style Family: Hybrid Beers

This is a balanced beer that uses a moderate amount of kilned malts and roasted barley to give the color for which it's named. With a medium hop characteristic on the palate, this typically amber-colored beer is brewed as a lager or ale and can have a medium candy-like caramel malt sweetness. This style may contain adjuncts such as corn, rice and sugar, which help dry out the finish and lessen the body. It also often contains roasted barley, lending low roasted notes, darker color and possibly creating a tan collar of foam. With notes of caramel, toffee and sometimes low-level diacetyl (butter), think of this beer style as a cousin to lightly-toasted and buttered bread.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.040 - 1.048
FG	1.010 - 1.014
ABV	4.1% - 4.6%
IBU	20 - 28
BU:GU	0.50 - 0.58
SRM	11 - 18
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	71 - 75

U.S. Commercial Examples

Irish Red	Glenwood Canyon Brewpub
Conway's Irish Ale	Great Lakes Brewing Co.
Brian Boru Old Irish Ale	Three Floyds Brewing

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Color	Copper-Red to Reddish Brown
Clarity	Clear to Hazy
Country of Origin	Ireland
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor to Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin to Interrupted
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Cheddar
Entrée	Roasted Vegetables
Dessert	Poached Pears
Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma is not perceived or low. Hop flavor and bitterness are medium.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Low to medium candy-like caramel malt sweetness is present. May have a subtle degree of roasted barley or roasted malt character and complexity.
Malt Ingredients	Pale, Crystal, Roasted Barley
Other ingredients	May contain corn, rice or sugar adjuncts.
Palate Body	Soft to Moderate
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Low levels of fruity-ester flavor are acceptable.
Fermentation Byproducts	Diacetyl should be absent or at very low levels.



source: CraftBeer.com

AMERICAN-STYLE WHEAT WINE ALE

Style Family: Wheat Beers

Part of the "strong ale" category, this ale is not derived from grapes as its name might suggest. Made with at least 50 percent wheat malt, this full-bodied beer features bready and candy flavors, and finishes with a great deal of malty sweetness. These beers may be oak-aged and sometimes have small amounts of darker malts added.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.088 - 1.120
FG	1.024 - 1.032
ABV	8.5% - 12.2%
IBU	45 - 85
BU:GU	0.51 - 0.71
SRM	5 - 15
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	73 - 73

U.S. Commercial Examples

Wheat Wine	Smuttynose Brewing Co.
Winter Wheat Wine	Rubicon Brewing Co.
Wheat Wine	The Portsmouth Brewery

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Noticeable to Harsh
Color	Gold to Light Brown
Clarity	Slight Haze
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin to Interrupted
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Asiago
Entrée	Smoked Trout
Dessert	Peach Sorbet
Glass	Snifter
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are low to medium. Hop bitterness is medium to medium-high.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Bready, wheat, honey-like and/or caramel malt aromas are often present.
Malt Ingredients	At least 50 percent Malted Wheat
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-ester aroma is often high and counterbalanced with complex alcohol character.

AMERICAN WHEAT

Style Family: Wheat Beers

Color is pale to light amber. This beer can be made using either ale or lager yeast. Generally brewed with at least 30 percent malted wheat. These beers are typically served with the yeast in the bottle, and pour cloudy. Traditionally more hoppy than a German hefeweizen, American wheat beer differs in that it should not offer flavors of banana or clove. It is a refreshing summer style. Darker versions of this style also exist but are not as common.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.036 - 1.056
FG	1.004 - 1.018
ABV	3.5% - 5.6%
IBU	10 - 35
BU:GU	0.28 - 0.63
SRM	2 - 10
CO2 Volumes	2.5 approximately
Apparent Attenuation	68 - 89

U.S. Commercial Examples

Wheat Beer	Boulevard Brewing Co.
Oberon	Bell's Brewery Inc.
Unfiltered Wheat Beer	Sierra Nevada Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Brewed with wheat malt.
Color	Straw to Light Amber
Clarity	Brilliant to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Mousse-like
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Chèvre
Entrée	Salads, Seafood
Dessert	Fruit Desserts
Glass	Flute
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma, flavor and bitterness are low to medium.
Hop Ingredients	Willamette, Centennial
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Grainy Wheat
Malt Ingredients	Malted Wheat, American Two-Row
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.
Fermentation Byproducts	Very low levels of diacetyl may be acceptable.



BELGIAN-STYLE WIT

Style Family: Wheat Beers

Belgian-style wits are brewed using unmalted wheat, sometimes oats and malted barley. Witbiers are spiced with coriander and orange peel. A style that dates back hundreds of years, it fell into relative obscurity until it was revived by Belgian brewer Pierre Celis in the 1960s. This style is currently enjoying a renaissance, especially in the American market. 'Wit' means "white."

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.044 - 1.050
FG	1.006 - 1.010
ABV	4.8% - 5.6%
IBU	10 - 17
BU:GU	0.23 - 0.34
SRM	2 - 4
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	80 - 86

U.S. Commercial Examples

Optimal Wit	Port City Brewing Co.
ZON	Boulevard Brewing Co.
White	Allagash Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Often bottle-conditioned.
Color	Straw to Pale
Clarity	Hazy
Country of Origin	Belgium
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Mousse-like
Carbonation (Visual)	Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Mascarpone
Entrée	Moules and Frites
Dessert	Panna Cotta
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor and aroma are not perceived to low. Hop bitterness is low, achieved traditionally by the use of noble-type hops.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Malt aroma and flavor are very low to low.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Flaked Wheat, Unmalted Wheat, and occasionally oats and malted barley
Other ingredients	Orange Peel, Coriander Seed
Palate Body	Drying
Palate Carbonation	High
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Spicy, Pepper
Esters	Orange, Citrus
Fermentation Byproducts	Unfiltered starch and yeast haze should be part of the appearance. Wits are traditionally bottle-conditioned and served cloudy.



source: CraftBeer.com

BERLINER-STYLE WEISSE

Style Family: Wheat Beers

Low in alcohol and refreshingly tart, and often served with a flavored syrup like Woodruff or raspberry, this German-style wheat ale presents a harmony between yeast and lactic acid. These beers are very pale in color, and may be cloudy as they are often unfiltered. Hops are not a feature of this style, but these beers often do showcase esters. Traditional versions often showcase *Brettanomyces* yeast. Growing in popularity in the U.S., where many brewers are now adding traditional and exotic fruits to the recipe, resulting in flavorful finishes with striking, colorful hues. These beers are incredible when pairing. Bitterness, alcohol and residual sugar are very low, allowing the beer's acidity, white bread and graham cracker malt flavors to shine. Carbonation is very high, adding to the refreshment factor this style delivers. Many examples of this style contain no hops and thus no bitterness at all.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.028 - 1.032
FG	1.004 - 1.006
ABV	2.8% - 3.4%
IBU	3 - 6
BU:GU	0.11 - 0.19
SRM	2 - 4
CO2 Volumes	3.5 - 4
Apparent Attenuation	81 - 86

U.S. Commercial Examples

Berliner Weisse	Nodding Head Brewery & Restaurant
Berliner Weisse Wollnitzer	Southampton Public House
Hottenroth Berliner Weisse	The Bruery

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Hops often not boiled and instead added to a decoction mash. Acidity may be introduced from a sour mash, lactic acid additions or acidulated malt.
Color	Straw to Pale
Clarity	Clear to Hazy
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy to Rocky
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Havarti
Entrée	Aged Ham on Pretzel Bread
Dessert	Cheesecake with Raspberries
Glass	Goblet
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived. Hop bitterness is not perceived to very low.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Not Perceived
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Malted Wheat
Palate Body	Drying
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-ester flavors will be evident.
Microorganisms	Lactobacillus



source: CraftBeer.com

GERMAN-STYLE DUNKELWEIZEN

Style Family: Wheat Beers

Could be considered a cross between a German-style dunkel and a hefeweizen. Distinguished by its sweet maltiness and chocolate-like character, it can also have banana and clove (and occasionally vanilla or bubblegum) esters from weizen ale yeast.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.048 - 1.056
FG	1.008 - 1.016
ABV	4.8% - 5.4%
IBU	10 - 15
BU:GU	0.21 - 0.27
SRM	10 - 25
CO2 Volumes	2.5 - 3
Apparent Attenuation	71 - 83

U.S. Commercial Examples

Samuel Adams Dunkelweizen	Boston Beer Co.
Shiner Dunkelweizen	Spoetzl Brewery

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	A decoction mash is commonly used.
Color	Copper-Brown to Very Dark
Clarity	Slight Haze to Hazy
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Mousse-like
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Gouda
Entrée	Roasted Chicken
Dessert	Banana Cream Pie
Glass	Vase
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived. Hop bitterness is low.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Bready or grainy, with a distinct sweet maltiness and a chocolate-like character from roasted malt.
Malt Ingredients	At least 50 percent Malted Wheat, plus Munich, Special "B", Crystal, Carafo Special II
Palate Body	Moderate to Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	The phenolic flavors of Dunkel Weissbier should be evident but subdued.
Esters	The ester flavors of Dunkel Weissbier should be evident but subdued.



GERMAN-STYLE HEFEWEIZEN

Style Family: Wheat Beers

German-style hefeweizens are straw to amber in color and made with at least 50 percent malted wheat. The aroma and flavor of a weissbier comes largely from the yeast and is decidedly fruity (banana) and phenolic (clove). 'Weizen' means "wheat" and 'hefe' means "yeast." There are multiple variations to this style. Filtered versions are known as 'kristal weizen' and darker versions are referred to as 'dunkels,' with a stronger, bock-like version called 'weizenbock. This is commonly a very highly carbonated style with a long-lasting collar of foam.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.047 - 1.056
FG	1.008 - 1.016
ABV	4.9% - 5.6%
IBU	10 - 15
BU:GU	0.21 - 0.27
SRM	3 - 9
CO2 Volumes	2.5 - 3
Apparent Attenuation	71 - 83

U.S. Commercial Examples

DreamWeaver Wheat	Troegs Brewing Co.
Big Horn Hefeweizen	CB and Potts Restaurant & Brewery
Ebel's Weiss	Two Brothers Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	A decoction mash is sometimes used.
Color	Straw to Amber
Clarity	Hazy
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Mousse-like
Carbonation (Visual)	Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Chèvre
Entrée	Seafood
Dessert	Key Lime Pie
Glass	Vase
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor is not perceived to very low. Hop bitterness is very low.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Malt sweetness is very low to medium-low.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Malted Wheat
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	High
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Clove
Esters	Banana

BOHEMIAN-STYLE PILSENER

Style Family: Pilseners and Pale Lagers

Bohemian-style pilseners have a slightly sweet and evident malt character and a toasted, biscuit-like, bready malt character. Hop bitterness is perceived as medium with a low to medium-low level of noble-type hop aroma and flavor. This style originated in 1842, with 'pilsener' originally indicating an appellation in the Czech Republic. Classic examples of this style used to be conditioned in wooden tanks and had a less sharp hop bitterness despite the similar IBU ranges to German-style pilsener. Low-level diacetyl is acceptable. Bohemian-style pilseners are darker in color and bigger in final gravity than their German counterparts.

Quantitative Style Statistics

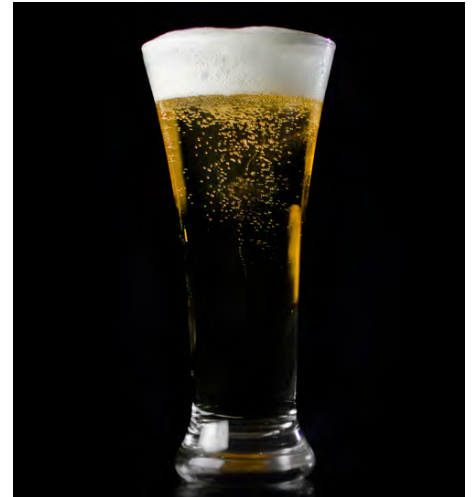
OG	1.044 - 1.056
FG	1.014 - 1.020
ABV	4.1% - 5.1%
IBU	30 - 45
BU:GU	0.68 - 0.80
SRM	3 - 7
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	64 - 68

U.S. Commercial Examples

Bohemian Pilsener	Ninkasi Brewing Co.
Pilsener	McCoy's Public House
Bohemian Pilsener	Dock Street Brewing

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Decoction mash provides a rich malt character.
Color	Straw to Light Amber
Clarity	Clear to Brilliant
Country of Origin	Czech Republic
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Mild White Cheddar
Entrée	Shellfish, Chicken, Salads
Dessert	Shortbread Cookies
Glass	Flute
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are low to medium-low, deriving from noble-type hops. Hop bitterness is medium.
Hop Ingredients	Czech Saaz
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Toasted, biscuit-like, and/or bready malt flavors along with low levels of fermented-malt-derived sulfur compounds may be evident.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, CaraPils
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	Low mineral content
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Not common to style.
Fermentation Byproducts	Low levels of fermentation-derived sulfur compounds may be evident. Very low levels of diacetyl and DMS flavors may be perceived.



source: CraftBeer.com

EUROPEAN-STYLE EXPORT

Style Family: Pilseners and Pale Lagers

Sometimes referred to as a 'Dortmunder export,' this beer has the malt-forward flavor and sweetness of a German-style helles, but the bitter base of a German-style pilsener. This lager is all about balance, with medium hop character and firm but low malt sweetness. Look for toasted malt flavors and spicy floral hop aromas.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.048 - 1.056
FG	1.010 - 1.014
ABV	5.1% - 6.1%
IBU	23 - 29
BU:GU	0.48 - 0.52
SRM	3 - 6
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	75 - 79

U.S. Commercial Examples

Dortmunder Gold	Great Lakes Brewing Co.
Lager	Bell's Brewery Inc.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Color	Straw to Deep Golden
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Chèvre
Entrée	Grilled Steak
Dessert	Bread Pudding

Glass	Flute
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor and aroma are very low to low, deriving from noble-type hops. Hop bitterness is medium.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Sweet malt flavor can be low and should not be caramel-like.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Munich
Palate Body	Moderate
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Gypsum, Chalk

YEAST

Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Not common to style.



source: CraftBeer.com

GERMAN-STYLE HELLES

Style Family: Pilseners and Pale Lagers

Helles' means "pale in color," as these beers are often golden. They are similar in flavor to adjunct-influenced lagers, but possess more advanced pilsner malt flavor and have a touch more sweetness, and are less dry in the finish. A full-bodied lager that puts pilsner malt flavors forward and can be perceived as bready. A slight sweetness permeates with just a hint of hop spiciness. Clean and crisp, this is a refreshing beer with substance. Low levels of yeast-produced sulfur aromas and flavors may be common. 'Helles' means "pale in color," as these beers are often golden.

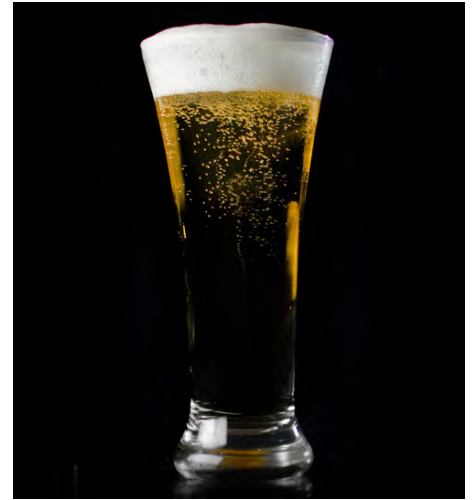
Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.044 - 1.050
FG	1.008 - 1.012
ABV	4.8% - 5.6%
IBU	18 - 25
BU:GU	0.41 - 0.50
SRM	4 - 5.5
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	76 - 82

U.S. Commercial Examples

Summer Pils	Saint Arnold Brewing Co.
Session Premium Lager	Full Sail Brewing Co.
Helles Festbier	Hoppers Grill & Brewery

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Color	Pale to Golden
Clarity	Clear to Brilliant
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Colby
Entrée	Samosas
Dessert	Baklava

Glass	Flute
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma is not perceived to low. Hop flavor and bitterness are very low to low, deriving from European noble-type hops.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Malt character is sometimes bread-like, yet always reminiscent of freshly and very lightly toasted malted barley.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Munich
Palate Body	Moderate
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Varies

YEAST

Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Not common to style.

GERMAN-STYLE PILSENER

Style Family: Pilseners and Pale Lagers

A classic German-style pilsener is straw to pale in color. A malty residual sweetness can be perceived in aroma and flavor. Perception of hop bitterness is medium to high. Noble-type hop aroma and flavor are moderate and quite obvious. Distinctly different from Bohemian-style pilsener, this style is lighter in color and body and has a lower perceived hop bitterness.

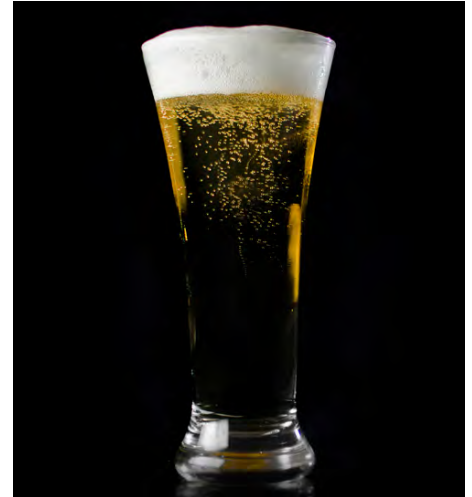
Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.044 - 1.055
FG	1.006 - 1.012
ABV	4.6% - 5.3%
IBU	25 - 40
BU:GU	0.57 - 0.73
SRM	3 - 4
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	78 - 86

U.S. Commercial Examples

Pivo Pils	Firestone Walker Brewing Co.
Paintbrush Pilsener	Snake River Brewing Co.
Prima Pils	Victory Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable
Color	Straw to Pale
Clarity	Brilliant
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	White Cheddar
Entrée	Shellfish, Chicken, Salads
Dessert	Shortbread Cookies

Glass	Flute
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor is moderate and quite obvious, deriving from late hopping (not dry-hopping) with noble-type hops. Hop bitterness is medium to high.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	A sweet, malty residual aroma can be perceived.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	Varies

YEAST

Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Not common to style.
Fermentation Byproducts	Very low levels of DMS aroma may be present, usually below most beer drinkers' taste thresholds and not detectable except to the trained or sensitive palate.

AMERICAN AMBER ALE

Style Family: Pale Ales

American-style amber ales have medium-high to high maltiness with medium to low caramel character. They are characterized by American-variety hops, which produce medium hop bitterness, flavor and aroma. American ambers are usually darker in color, have more caramel flavor and less hop aromatics, and may have more body. This style was first made popular by brewers from California and the Pacific Northwest.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.048 - 1.058
FG	1.012 - 1.018
ABV	4.4% - 6.1%
IBU	30 - 45
BU:GU	0.63 - 0.78
SRM	11 - 18
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	69 - 75

U.S. Commercial Examples

HopBack Amber Ale	Troegs Brewing Co.
Boont Amber	Anderson Valley Brewing Co.
Red Seal	North Coast Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Color	Copper to Reddish Brown
Clarity	Clear to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Medium Cheddar
Entrée	Barbecue
Dessert	Banana Pound Cake
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Citrus-like character is acceptable.
Hop Ingredients	Horizon, Cascade, Centennial
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Caramel
Malt Ingredients	English Pale Ale or American Two-Row, Crystal, Victory
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	There may be low levels of fruity-ester flavor.

AMERICAN PALE ALE

Style Family: Pale Ales

An American interpretation of a classic English style. Characterized by fruity, floral and citrus-like American-variety hop character, producing medium to medium-high hop bitterness, flavor and aroma. American-style pale ales have medium body and low to medium maltiness that may include low caramel malt character.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.044 - 1.050
FG	1.008 - 1.014
ABV	4.4% - 5.4%
IBU	30 - 50
BU:GU	0.68 - 1.00
SRM	6 - 14
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	72 - 82

U.S. Commercial Examples

Pale Ale	Sierra Nevada Brewing Co.
Pale	Lumberyard Brewing Co.
Mirror Pond	Deschutes Brewery

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Dry-hopping or late hop additions to the kettle are common.
Color	Deep Golden to Copper or Light Brown
Clarity	Clear to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Mild or Medium Cheddar
Entrée	Roasted or Grilled Meats
Dessert	Apple Pie

Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are medium to medium-high, exhibiting fruity, floral, and citrus-like American-variety hop aromas. Hop bitterness is medium to medium-high.
Hop Ingredients	Horizon, Cascade, Centennial
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Biscuit, Bready, Caramel
Malt Ingredients	Pale, Caramel, Munich
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Sulfite content may vary, but carbonate content should be relatively low.

YEAST

Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Citrus, Tropical Fruit, Pine

ENGLISH-STYLE BITTER

Style Family: Pale Ales

A very sessionable, lower-alcohol, malt-driven style. Broad style description commonly associated with cask-conditioned beers. The light- to medium-bodied ordinary bitter is gold to copper in color, with a low residual malt sweetness. Hop bitterness is medium.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.033 - 1.038
FG	1.006 - 1.012
ABV	3.0% - 4.2%
IBU	20 - 35
BU:GU	0.61 - 0.92
SRM	5 - 12
CO2 Volumes	1 - 1.5
Apparent Attenuation	68 - 82

U.S. Commercial Examples

Sawtooth	Left Hand Brewing Co.
Pale Ale	Rio Blanco Brewing Co.
Cutthroat Ale	Uinta Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Color	Gold to Copper
Clarity	Clear to Brilliant
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Firm English Cheeses
Entrée	Roasted Chicken, Fish and Chips
Dessert	Oatmeal Raisin Walnut Cookies
Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma may be evident at the brewer's discretion.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Low to medium residual malt sweetness is present.
Malt Ingredients	British Pale Ale, Aromatic, Crystal, Special Roast
Palate Body	Drying to Soft
Palate Carbonation	Low
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity esters are common.
Fermentation Byproducts	Low-level diacetyl aromas and flavor are acceptable.

BLONDE ALE

Style Family: Pale Ales

One of the most approachable styles, a golden or blonde ale is an easy-drinking beer that is visually appealing and has no particularly dominating malt or hop characteristics. Rounded and smooth, it is an American classic known for its simplicity. Sometimes referred to as 'golden ale.' These beers can have honey, spices and fruit added, and may be fermented with lager or ale yeast.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.045 - 1.056
FG	1.008 - 1.016
ABV	4.1% - 5.1%
IBU	15 - 25
BU:GU	0.33 - 0.45
SRM	3 - 7
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	71 - 82

U.S. Commercial Examples

True Blonde Ale	Ska Brewing Co.
Foam Top	Beachwood Brewery & BBQ

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Color	Straw to Light Amber
Clarity	Brilliant to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin to Interrupted
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Pepper Jack
Entrée	Spaghetti and Meatballs
Dessert	Sugar Cookies
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma is low to medium-low, present but not dominant. Hop bitterness is low to medium-low.
Hop Ingredients	Williamette
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Light malt sweetness is present in the flavor. Bread, toast, biscuit and wheat flavors are common.
Malt Ingredients	American Two-Row, Crystal
Other ingredients	May include up to 25 percent Malted Wheat and sugar adjuncts.
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity esters may be perceived but not predominant.

ENGLISH-STYLE PALE ALE/ESB

Style Family: Pale Ales

ESB stands for “extra special bitter.” This style is known for its balance and the interplay between malt and hop bitterness. English pale ales display earthy, herbal English-variety hop character. Medium to high hop bitterness, flavor and aroma should be evident. The yeast strains used in these beers lend a fruitiness to their aromatics and flavor, referred to as esters. The residual malt and defining sweetness of this richly flavored, full-bodied bitter is medium to medium-high.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.040 - 1.056
FG	1.008 - 1.016
ABV	4.4% - 5.3%
IBU	20 - 40
BU:GU	0.50 - 0.71
SRM	5 - 12
CO2 Volumes	1.5 - 2
Apparent Attenuation	71 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

5 Barrel Pale Ale	Odell Brewing Co.
Royal Scandal	Peticolas Brewing Co.
Moondog Ale	Great Lakes Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild
Color	Gold to Copper
Clarity	Clear to Brilliant
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	English-Style Cheeses
Entrée	Roasted Chicken, Fish and Chips
Dessert	Maple Bread Pudding
Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor is medium to medium-high. Hop bitterness is medium to medium-high.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Residual malt and defining sweetness is medium to medium-high.
Malt Ingredients	British Pale Ale, Crystal
Other ingredients	Some versions use sugar, corn or wheat.
Palate Body	Moderate
Palate Carbonation	Low
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	Some versions use medium to high sulfate.
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-ester and very low diacetyl flavors are acceptable, but should be minimized in this form of bitter.

AMERICAN INDIA PALE ALE/IPA

Style Family: India Pale Ales

Characterized by floral, fruity, citrus-like, piney or resinous American-variety hop character, this style is all about hop flavor, aroma and bitterness. This has been the most-entered category at the Great American Beer Festival for more than a decade, and is the top-selling craft beer style in supermarkets and liquor stores across the U.S.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.060 - 1.075
FG	1.012 - 1.018
ABV	6.3% - 7.6%
IBU	50 - 70
BU:GU	0.83 - 0.93
SRM	6 - 14
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	76 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

Pallet Jack IPA	Barley Brown Beer
IPA	Tap It Brewing Co.
Union Jack	Firestone Walker Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Dry-hopping is common.
Color	Gold to Copper, Red or Brown
Clarity	Clear to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Blue Cheeses
Entrée	Spicy Tuna Roll
Dessert	Persimmon Rice Pudding
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma is high and hop flavor is strong both with floral qualities and citrus-like, piney, resinous or sulfur-like American-variety hop character. Hop bitterness is medium-high to very high.
Hop Ingredients	Centennial, Simcoe, Amarillo
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Biscuit, Bready, Caramel
Malt Ingredients	American Two-Row
Palate Body	Soft to Sticky
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Medium to Long
Water	High mineral content
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Citrus, Tropical Fruit, Pine



source: CraftBeer.com

ENGLISH-STYLE INDIA PALE ALE/IPA

Style Family: India Pale Ales

Steeped in lore (and extra hops), the IPA is a stronger version of a pale ale. Characterized by stiff English-style hop character (earthy, floral) and increased alcohol content. English yeast lends a fruity flavor and aroma. Different from its American counterparts, this style strikes a balance between malt and hops for a more rounded flavor. There is also a lot of mythology surrounding the creation of this style, which is still debated today.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.050 - 1.064
FG	1.012 - 1.018
ABV	5.1% - 7.1%
IBU	35 - 63
BU:GU	0.70 - 0.98
SRM	6 - 14
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	72 - 76

U.S. Commercial Examples

Taproom IPA	Firestone Walker Brewing Co.
Sam Adams Latitude 48	Hallertau Mittelfrueh
Boston Beer Co.	
East India IPA	Brooklyn Brewery

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Noticeable
Color	Gold to Copper
Clarity	Clear to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Aged Cheddar
Entrée	Fettuccine Alfredo
Dessert	Ginger Spice Cake
Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma is medium to high, often flowery. Hop flavor and bitterness are medium to high. Earthy and herbal English-variety hop character is perceived, but may be a result of the skillful use of hops of other national origins.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Bready, Biscuit, Toast, Caramel, Toffee
Malt Ingredients	British Pale Ale, Crystal, Biscuit
Palate Body	Moderate
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	High mineral content. May include subtle sulfur content.
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity ester aromas are moderate to very strong.
Fermentation Byproducts	Diacetyl can be absent or may be perceived at very low levels.



IMPERIAL INDIA PALE ALE

Style Family: India Pale Ales

High hop bitterness, flavor and aroma. Hop character is fresh and lively from utilization of any variety of hops. Alcohol content is medium-high to high and notably evident with a medium-high to full body. The intention of this style is to exhibit the fresh and bright character of hops.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.075 - 1.100
FG	1.012 - 1.020
ABV	7.6% - 10.6%
IBU	65 - 100
BU:GU	0.87 - 1.00
SRM	5 - 16
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	80 - 84

U.S. Commercial Examples

Hop JuJu	Fat Heads Brewery
2x4	Thai Me Up Brewery
Furious	Surly Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Dry-hopping is common.
Color	Gold to Chestnut Red or Brown
Clarity	Clear to Hazy
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Rich Cheeses
Entrée	Bone-In Pork Chops, Miso Salmon
Dessert	Carrot Cake
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor and aroma are very high, should be fresh and lively and should not be harsh in quality, deriving from any variety of hops. Hop bitterness is very high but not harsh.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Malt character is medium to high.
Malt Ingredients	American Two-Row, Crystal, Malted Wheat
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Long
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity ester aroma and flavor are high.



AMERICAN BROWN ALE

Style Family: Brown Ales

Roasted malt, caramel-like and chocolate-like characters should be of medium intensity in both flavor and aroma. American-style brown ales have evident low to medium hop flavor and aroma and medium to high hop bitterness. The history of this style dates back to U.S. homebrewers who were inspired by English-style brown ales and porters. It sits in flavor between those British styles and is more bitter than both.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.040 - 1.060
FG	1.010 - 1.018
ABV	4.2% - 6.3%
IBU	25 - 45
BU:GU	0.63 - 0.75
SRM	15 - 26
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	70 - 75

U.S. Commercial Examples

Face Down Brown	Telluride Brewing Co.
Brown	Brooklyn Brewery
Moose Drool	Big Sky Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	May be dry-hopped.
Color	Deep Copper to Very Dark Brown
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor to Moderate
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin to Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Aged Gouda
Entrée	Grilled Meats and Vegetables
Dessert	Pear Fritters
Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are low to medium. Hop bitterness is medium to high.
Hop Ingredients	U.S., U.K., Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Caramel, Chocolate, Toast
Malt Ingredients	Pale, Crystal, Chocolate, Victory
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-ester flavors, if present, should be subdued.



source: CraftBeer.com

ENGLISH-STYLE BROWN ALE

Style Family: Brown Ales

English-style brown ales range from dryer (Northern English) to sweeter (Southern English) maltiness. Roast malt tones (chocolate, nutty) may sometimes contribute to the flavor and aroma profile. Hop bitterness is very low to low, with very little hop flavor and aroma. Known for rich and advanced malt aroma and flavor without centering too much on hops, this style is extremely sessionable and food-friendly.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.040 - 1.050
FG	1.008 - 1.014
ABV	4.2% - 6.0%
IBU	15 - 25
BU:GU	0.38 - 0.50
SRM	12 - 25
CO2 Volumes	1 - 1.5
Apparent Attenuation	72 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

Bandit Brown	City Star Brewing
Nautical Nut Brown	AleSmith Brewing Co.
Ellie's Brown	Avery Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Color	Copper to Very Dark
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Aged Gouda
Entrée	Roasted Pork, Steak, Nuts
Dessert	Pear Fritters
Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor is very low. Hop bitterness is very low to low.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Balance ranges from dry to sweet maltiness. Roast malt tones of toffee, nuts and caramel sometimes contribute to the flavor profile.
Malt Ingredients	Pale Ale, Special Roast, Victory, Crystal, Pale Chocolate
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Moderate carbonate water
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruit (varies)
Fermentation Byproducts	Diacetyl should be very low, if evident.

ENGLISH-STYLE MILD

Style Family: Brown Ales

Malt and caramel are part of the flavor and aroma profile, while licorice and roast malt tones may sometimes contribute as well. Hop bitterness is very low to low. U.S. brewers are known to make lighter-colored versions as well as the more common 'dark mild.' These beers are very low in alcohol, yet often are still medium-bodied due to increased dextrin malts.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.030 - 1.036
FG	1.004 - 1.008
ABV	3.4% - 4.4%
IBU	10 - 24
BU:GU	0.33 - 0.67
SRM	17 - 34
CO2 Volumes	1 - 1.5
Apparent Attenuation	78 - 87

U.S. Commercial Examples

SS Minnow Mild	Dry Dock Brewing Co.
Bristlecone	Uinta Brewing Co.
Ghetto Blaster	Motor City Brewing Works

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable
Color	Reddish Brown to Very Dark
Clarity	Clear to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Mild Cheddar
Entrée	Mushrooms and Wild Game
Dessert	Dark Fruit Tart
Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor is low to very low.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Caramel, Chocolate, Coffee, Licorice, Raisin, Molasses. Malt flavors dominate the flavor profile.
Malt Ingredients	British Pale Ale, Crystal, Pale Chocolate, Black Patent
Other ingredients	Sugar (occasionally)
Palate Body	Soft to Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-ester flavors, if present, are very low to medium-low.
Fermentation Byproducts	Diacyl at low levels is common.

SCOTCH ALE/WEE HEAVY

Style Family: Scottish-Style Ales

Scotch ales are overwhelmingly malty, with a rich and dominant sweet malt flavor and aroma. A caramel character is often part of the profile. Some examples feature a light smoked peat flavor. This style could be considered the Scottish version of an English-style barley wine. Overly smoked versions would be considered speciality examples.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.072 - 1.085
FG	1.016 - 1.028
ABV	6.6% - 8.5%
IBU	25 - 35
BU:GU	0.35 - 0.41
SRM	15 - 30
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	67 - 78

U.S. Commercial Examples

Wee Heavy	Dry Dock Brewing Co.
Way Heavy	Pizza Port Brewing Co.
Dirty Bastard	Founders Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Noticeable to Hot
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Traditionally, cooler ale fermentation temperatures were common.
Color	Light Reddish Brown to Very Dark
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	Scotland / United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Moderate
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Pungent Cheeses
Entrée	Variety of Meats and Game
Dessert	Creamy Desserts with Fruit
Glass	Thistle
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived. Hop bitterness is low but perceptible.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Dominated by a smooth, balanced sweet maltiness. Will also have a medium degree of malty, caramel-like aroma and flavor.
Malt Ingredients	British Pale Ale, Crystal, Honey, Pale Chocolate, Munich and even Roasted Barley
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	Soft Water (occasionally)
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Plums, Raisin, Dried Fruit. A peaty/smoky character may be evident at low levels.
Fermentation Byproducts	Yeast characters such as diacetyl and sulfur are acceptable at very low levels.

SCOTTISH-STYLE ALE

Style Family: Scottish-Style Ales

Scottish-style ales vary depending on strength and flavor, but in general retain a malt-forward character with some degree of caramel-like malt flavors and a soft and chewy mouthfeel. Some examples feature a light smoked peat flavor. Hops do not play a huge role in this style. The numbers commonly associated with brands of this style (60/70/80 and others) reflect the Scottish tradition of listing the cost, in shillings, of a hogshead (large cask) of beer. Overly smoked versions would be considered speciality examples. Smoke or peat should be restrained. The numbers commonly associated with brands of this style (60/70/80 and others) reflect the Scottish tradition of listing the cost, in shillings, of a hogshead (large cask) of beer. Overly smoked versions would be considered speciality examples. Smoke or peat should be restrained.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.030 - 1.050
FG	1.006 - 1.018
ABV	2.8% - 5.3%
IBU	9 - 25
BU:GU	0.30 - 0.50
SRM	6 - 15
CO2 Volumes	1.5 - 2
Apparent Attenuation	64 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

Scottish Ale	Campbell Brewing Co.
Wee Heavy	Maui Brewing Co.
Kilt Lifter	Four Peaks Brewery

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	High-temperature mash is common to emphasize a more dextrinous wort, lending bigger body and mouthfeel and decreasing fermentable sugars. Traditionally, cooler ale fermentation temperatures were common.
Color	Golden to Dark Chestnut or Brown
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	Scotland / United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Moderate
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Pungent Cheeses
Entrée	Variety of Meats and Game
Dessert	Creamy Desserts with Fruit
Glass	Thistle
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived. Hop bitterness is low.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Caramel, Toffee
Malt Ingredients	British Pale Ale, Crystal, Honey, Pale Chocolate, Munich and even Roasted Barley
Other ingredients	Wheat Malt, Sugar (occasionally)
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	High carbonate water
YEAST	
Phenols	Peaty, Earthy, Smoky
Esters	Not common to style.
Fermentation Byproducts	Diacetyl and sulfur are acceptable at very low levels.



source: CraftBeer.com

GERMAN-STYLE BOCK

Style Family: Bocks

Traditional bocks are all-malt brews and are high in malt sweetness. Malt character should be a balance of sweetness and toasted or nut-like malt. 'Bock' translates as "goat!"

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.066 - 1.074
FG	1.018 - 1.024
ABV	6.3% - 7.6%
IBU	20 - 30
BU:GU	0.30 - 0.41
SRM	20 - 30
CO2 Volumes	2.5 approximately
Apparent Attenuation	68 - 73

U.S. Commercial Examples

Troegenator Double Bock	Troegs Brewing Co.
Butt Head Bock	Tommyknocker Brewery & Pub
Rockefeller Bock	Great Lakes Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	A decoction mash is commonly used.
Color	Dark Brown to Very Dark
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Aged Swiss
Entrée	Grilled Rib-Eye
Dessert	Chocolate
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor is low. Hop bitterness is perceived as medium, increasing proportionately with starting gravity.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	High malt character with aromas of toasted or nut-like malt, but not caramel.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Munich, CaraMunich, Meussdoerffer Rost, Melanoidin
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Moderate carbonate water
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-ester aromas should be minimal, if present.



GERMAN-STYLE DOPPELBOCK

Style Family: Bocks

Doppel' meaning "double," this style is a bigger and stronger version of the lower-gravity German-style bock beers. Originally made by monks in Munich, this style is very food-friendly and rich in melanoidins reminiscent of toasted bread. Color is copper to dark brown. Malty sweetness is dominant but should not be cloying. Malt character is more reminiscent of fresh and lightly toasted Munich-style malt, more so than caramel or toffee malt. Doppelbocks are full-bodied, and alcoholic strength is on the higher end.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.074 - 1.080
FG	1.014 - 1.020
ABV	6.6% - 7.9%
IBU	17 - 27
BU:GU	0.23 - 0.34
SRM	12 - 30
CO2 Volumes	2.5 approximately
Apparent Attenuation	75 - 81

U.S. Commercial Examples

Samuel Adams Double Bock	Boston Beer Co.
Uber Bock	Great Dane Pub & Brewing Co.
Consecrator	Bell's Brewery, Inc.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	A decoction mash is commonly used.
Color	Copper to Dark Brown
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Strong Cheeses
Entrée	Pork or Ham
Dessert	German Chocolate Cake
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma should be absent. Hop flavor and bitterness are low.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Dominant aromas are reminiscent of fresh and lightly toasted Munich-style malt, more so than caramel or toffee. Some elements of caramel and toffee can be evident in aroma and contribute to complexity, but the predominant malt aroma is an expression of toasted barley.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Munich, Vienna, CaraMunich
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Prune, Plum, Grape



source: CraftBeer.com

GERMAN-STYLE MAIBOCK

Style Family: Bocks

Sometimes also called 'heller bock' (meaning "pale bock"), this style is paler in color and more hop-centric than traditional bock beers. A lightly toasted and/or bready malt character is often evident. Sometimes also called 'heller bock' meaning "pale bock."

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.066 - 1.074
FG	1.012 - 1.020
ABV	6.3% - 8.1%
IBU	20 - 38
BU:GU	0.30 - 0.51
SRM	4 - 9
CO2 Volumes	2.5 approximately
Apparent Attenuation	73 - 82

U.S. Commercial Examples

Elixir Maibock	Abita Brewery
Maibock	Mad Fox Brewing Co.
Maibock	Smuttynose Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	A decoction mash is commonly used.
Color	Pale to Light Amber
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Swiss
Entrée	Ham
Dessert	White Chocolate Cheesecake
Glass	Goblet
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are low to medium low, deriving from noble-type hops. Hop bitterness is low.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	A lightly toasted and/or bready malt aroma is often evident. Roasted or heavy toast/caramel malt aromas should be absent.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Munich, Vienna
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-ester flavors may be low, if present.



GERMAN-STYLE WEIZENBOCK

Style Family: Bocks

This beer is a wheat version of a German-style bock, or a bigger and beefier dunkelweizen. Malt melanoidins and weizen ale yeast are the star ingredients. If served with yeast, the appearance may appropriately be very cloudy. With flavors of bready malt and dark fruits like plum, raisin, and grape, this style is low on bitterness and high on carbonation. Balanced clove-like phenols and fruity, banana-like esters produce a well-rounded aroma.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.066 - 1.080
FG	1.016 - 1.028
ABV	7.0% - 9.5%
IBU	15 - 35
BU:GU	0.23 - 0.44
SRM	4.5 - 30
CO2 Volumes	2.5 - 3
Apparent Attenuation	65 - 76

U.S. Commercial Examples

Weizenbock	Sierra Nevada Brewing Co.
Moonglow	Victory Brewing Co.
Weizenbock	AleSmith Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	A decoction mash is commonly used. Unfiltered and yeasty.
Color	Gold to Very Dark
Clarity	Hazy
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Mousse-like
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Manchego
Entrée	Chicken and Dumplings
Dessert	Banana Bread

Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma is not perceived. Hop bitterness is low.
Hop Ingredients	German Noble
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Nutmeg, vanilla, caramel, plums, prunes, raisins, grapes and cocoa, with rum and brandy flavors to boot. Medium malty sweetness is present. If dark, a mild roasted malt aroma and flavor should emerge.
Malt Ingredients	Malted Wheat, Munich, Special "B", Crystal, Pale Chocolate
Palate Body	Moderate to Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium to Long
Water	Varies

YEAST

Phenols	Clove
Esters	Fruity-ester and banana-like elements
Fermentation Byproducts	If served with yeast, appearance may appropriately be very cloudy.

AMERICAN IMPERIAL PORTER

Style Family: Porters

Definitively American, these porters should have no roasted barley flavors or strong burnt/black malt character. Medium caramel and cocoa-like sweetness is present, with complementing hop character and malt-derived sweetness.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.080 - 1.100
FG	1.020 - 1.030
ABV	7.0% - 12.0%
IBU	35 - 50
BU:GU	0.44 - 0.50
SRM	40+
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	70 - 75

U.S. Commercial Examples

Gonzo Imperial Porter	Flying Dog Brewery
Northstar Imperial Porter	Twisted Pine Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Noticeable
Color	Black
Clarity	Opaque
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium Rising Bubbles

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Smoked Gouda
Entrée	Chicken Mole Enchiladas
Dessert	Blondie Butterscotch Brownies

Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are low to medium-high. Hop bitterness is medium-low to medium.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	No roasted barley or strong burnt/black malt character should be perceived. Medium malt, caramel and cocoa-like sweetness is present.
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium to Long
Water	Varies

YEAST

Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Ale-like fruity ester flavors should be evident but not overpowering, complementing hop character and malt-derived sweetness.

Fermentation Byproducts	Diacetyl should be absent.
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BALTIC-STYLE PORTER

Style Family: Porters

A smooth, cold-fermented and cold-lagered beer brewed with lager yeast. Because of its alcoholic strength, it may include very low to low complex alcohol flavors and/or lager fruitiness such as berries, grapes and plums (but not banana; ale-like fruitiness from warm-temperature fermentation is not appropriate). This style has the malt flavors of a brown porter and the roast of a schwarzbier, but is bigger in alcohol and body.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.072 - 1.085
FG	1.016 - 1.022
ABV	7.6% - 9.1%
IBU	35 - 40
BU:GU	0.47 - 0.49
SRM	40+
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	74 - 78

U.S. Commercial Examples

Black Eagle Baltic Porter	Black Tooth Brewing Co.
Battle Axe Baltic Porter	Fat Head's Brewery

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Brewed with lager yeast and cold-fermented.
Color	Very Deep Ruby or Garnet to Black.
Clarity	Clear to Opaque
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Aged Gouda
Entrée	Prime Rib
Dessert	Deconstructed S'mores
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are very low. Hop bitterness is low to medium-low.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Distinctive malt aromas of caramelized sugars, licorice, and chocolate-like notes of roasted malts and dark sugars are present. Roasted dark malts sometimes contribute a coffee-like roasted barley aroma. Low smoky aroma from malt may be evident. Debittered roasted malts are best used for this style.
Malt Ingredients	Munich, Vienna, Pilsner, Crystal, Special "B", Carafo Special II, Chocolate
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium to Long
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	May include very low to low complex alcohol flavors and/or lager fruitiness such as berries, grapes, plums, but not banana; ale-like fruitiness from warm temperature fermentation is not appropriate.
Fermentation Byproducts	Diacetyl and DMS flavors should not be apparent.



source: CraftBeer.com

ENGLISH-STYLE BROWN PORTER

Style Family: Porters

Brown porters have no roasted barley or strong burnt/black malt character. Low to medium malt sweetness, caramel and chocolate is acceptable. Hop bitterness is medium. Softer, sweeter and more caramel-like than a robust porter, with less alcohol and body. Porters are the precursor style to stouts.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.040 - 1.050
FG	1.006 - 1.014
ABV	4.4% - 6.0%
IBU	20 - 30
BU:GU	0.50 - 0.60
SRM	30 - 35
CO2 Volumes	1.5 - 2
Apparent Attenuation	72 - 85

U.S. Commercial Examples

Old Tom Porter	Piney River Brewing Co.
Pluff Mud Porter	Holy City Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild
Color	Dark Brown (may have red tint) to Very Dark
Clarity	Opaque
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Moderate
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Gruyere
Entrée	Roasted or Grilled Meats
Dessert	Chocolate Peanut Butter Cookies
Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived to medium. Hop bitterness is medium.
Hop Ingredients	Fuggles
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Nutty, Chocolate, Caramel, Bready, Toffee
Malt Ingredients	British Pale Ale, Brown, Crystal, Chocolate
Other ingredients	May contain additional sugar sources.
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Medium to Long
Water	Moderate carbonate water
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity esters may be present.

ROBUST PORTER

Style Family: Porters

Often features more bitter and roasted malt flavor than a brown porter, but not quite as much as a stout. Robust porters have a roast malt flavor, often reminiscent of cocoa, but no roast barley flavor. Their caramel and malty sweetness is in harmony with the sharp bitterness of black malt. Hop bitterness is evident. With U.S. craft brewers doing so much experimentation in beer styles and ingredients, the lines between certain stouts and porters are often blurred. Yet many deliberate examples of these styles do exist. Diacetyl is acceptable at very low levels.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.045 - 1.060
FG	1.008 - 1.016
ABV	5.1% - 6.6%
IBU	25 - 40
BU:GU	0.56 - 0.67
SRM	30+
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	73 - 82

U.S. Commercial Examples

Pig Iron Porter	Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant
Moonlight Porter	Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewery
Black Butte Porter	Deschutes Brewery

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild
Color	Very Dark to Black
Clarity	Opaque
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Gruyere
Entrée	Roasted or Grilled Meats
Dessert	Chocolate Peanut Butter Cookies
Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are very low to medium. Hop bitterness is medium to high.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings, Fuggles
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Grainy, Bready, Toffee, Caramel, Chocolate, Coffee. Caramel and other malty sweetness is in harmony with the sharp bitterness of black malt, without a highly burnt/charcoal flavor.
Malt Ingredients	Munich, Crystal, Chocolate, Black Patent
Other ingredients	May contain roasted barley.
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity esters should be evident, balanced with all other characters.
Fermentation Byproducts	Diacetyl is acceptable at very low levels.

source: CraftBeer.com

SMOKE PORTER

Style Family: Porters

Typically the base for this style is a robust porter that is given smoky depth thanks to wood-smoked malt. Traditionally, brewers will cite the specific wood used to smoke the malt, and different woods will lend different flavors to the finished product. Smoke flavors dissipate over time.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.040 - 1.050
FG	1.006 - 1.014
ABV	5.1% - 8.9%
IBU	20 - 40
BU:GU	0.50 - 0.80
SRM	20+
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	72 - 85

U.S. Commercial Examples

Smoked Porter	Alaskan Brewing Co.
Smoked Porter	Stone Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Varies
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Use of smoked malts is common.
Color	Dark Brown to Black
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	Undetermined
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Red Dragon Cheddar
Entrée	Grilled Sausage
Dessert	S'mores
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived to medium. Hop bitterness is medium to medium-high.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings, Willamette
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Black malt character can be perceived in some porters, while others may be absent of strong roasted character. Medium to high malt sweetness, caramel and chocolate are acceptable.
Malt Ingredients	Crystal, Chocolate, Black Patent
Other ingredients	Common woods used by U.S. craft brewers to smoke a variety of malts: Apple, Alder, Beech, Cherry, Hickory, Mesquite, Oak.
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Medium to Long
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style
Esters	Fruity-ester aroma is acceptable. A mild to assertive smoke malt aroma will be in balance with other aroma characters.



AMERICAN IMPERIAL STOUT

Style Family: Stouts

American-style imperial stouts are the strongest in alcohol and body of the stouts. Black in color, these beers typically have an extremely rich malty flavor and aroma with full, sweet malt character. Bitterness can come from roasted malts or hop additions.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.080 - 1.100
FG	1.020 - 1.030
ABV	7.0% - 12.0%
IBU	50 - 80
BU:GU	0.63 - 0.80
SRM	40+
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	70 - 75

U.S. Commercial Examples

Epeteios	Left Coast Brewing
Anastasia Russian Imperial Stout	Weasel Boy Brewing Co.
Yeti	Great Divide Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Noticeable
Color	Black
Clarity	Opaque
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Moderate
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Aged Cheeses
Entrée	Foie Gras
Dessert	Flour-less Chocolate Cake
Glass	Snifter
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are medium-high to high, with floral, citrus and/or herbal hop aromas. Hop bitterness is medium-high to very high and balanced with the malt character.
Hop Ingredients	Horizon, Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Bittersweet Chocolate, Cocoa, Coffee
Malt Ingredients	Pale, Black Roasted Barley, Special "B", CaraMunich, Chocolate, Pale Chocolate
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Long
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity esters are generally high.

AMERICAN STOUT

Style Family: Stouts

A coffee- and chocolate-forward ale, but with a hop aroma and flavor, often from a citrus-forward variety. American stouts are bold, with a distinctive dry-roasted bitterness in the finish. Fruity esters should be low, but head retention high. The addition of oatmeal is acceptable in this style and lends to the body and head retention.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.050 - 1.075
FG	1.010 - 1.022
ABV	5.7% - 8.9%
IBU	35 - 60
BU:GU	0.70 - 0.80
SRM	40+
CO2 Volumes	2.5 - 3
Apparent Attenuation	71 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

Shakespeare Stout	Rogue Ales
Obsidian Stout	Deschutes Brewery

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Additional ingredients such as coffee, chocolate, vanilla beans, cherries are common, as is oak aging.
Color	Black
Clarity	Clear to Opaque
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Sharp Cheddar
Entrée	Grilled Lamb
Dessert	Coffee Cake
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are medium to high, often with American citrus-type and/or resiny hop aromas. Hop bitterness is medium to high.
Hop Ingredients	Horizon, Centennial
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Low to medium malt sweetness with low to medium caramel, chocolate, and/or roasted coffee flavor is present, with a distinctive dry-roasted bitterness in the finish. The contribution of roasted barley and roasted malt to astringency is low and not excessive. Slight roasted malt acidity is acceptable.
Malt Ingredients	Pale, Black Roasted Barley, Chocolate, Crystal
Other ingredients	Oats (occasionally)
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium to Long
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-esters flavors are low, if present.



ENGLISH-STYLE OATMEAL STOUT

Style Family: Stouts

The addition of oatmeal adds a smooth, rich body to these beers. Oatmeal stouts are dark brown to black in color. Roasted malt character is caramel-like and chocolate-like, and should be smooth and not bitter. Coffee-like roasted barley and malt aromas are prominent. This low- to medium-alcohol style is packed with darker malt flavors and a rich and oily body from oatmeal.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.038 - 1.056
FG	1.008 - 1.020
ABV	3.8% - 6.1%
IBU	20 - 40
BU:GU	0.53 - 0.71
SRM	20+
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	64 - 79

U.S. Commercial Examples

Stagecoach Stout	Figueroa Mountain Brewing Co.
Back Road Stout	Millstream Brewing Co.
Velvet Merlin	Firestone Walker Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild
Color	Dark Brown to Black
Clarity	Opaque
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Aged Cheddar
Entrée	Chicken in Mole Sauce
Dessert	Sweet Potato Cheesecake

Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are optional, but should not overpower the overall balance if present. Hop bitterness is medium.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Coffee-like roasted barley and roasted malt aromas are prominent. Caramel-like and chocolate-like roasted malt aroma should be evident.
Malt Ingredients	Pale, Flaked Oats, Chocolate, Victory, Crystal, Black Roasted Barley
Other ingredients	Oats
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	Varies

YEAST

Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity ester flavors are very low.
Fermentation Byproducts	Diacetyl should be absent or at extremely low levels.

ENGLISH-STYLE SWEET STOUT (MILK STOUT)

Style Family: Stouts

Sweet stout, also referred to as cream stout or milk stout, is black in color. Malt sweetness, chocolate and caramel should dominate the flavor profile and contribute to the aroma. It also should have a low to medium-low roasted malt/barley-derived bitterness. Milk sugar (lactose) lends the style more body. This beer does use lactose sugar, so people with an intolerance should probably avoid this style.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.045 - 1.056
FG	1.012 - 1.020
ABV	3.2% - 6.3%
IBU	15 - 25
BU:GU	0.33 - 0.45
SRM	40+
CO2 Volumes	1.5 - 2
Apparent Attenuation	64 - 73

U.S. Commercial Examples

Milk Stout	Left Hand Brewing Co.
Udder Love	Beachwood Brewery & BBQ
Samuel Adams Cream Stout	Boston Beer Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild
Color	Black
Clarity	Opaque
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Buttery Cheddar
Entrée	Mexican Mole, Spicy BBQ
Dessert	Chocolate Cake, Ice Cream

Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived. Hop bitterness is low to medium-low and serves to balance and suppress some of the sweetness without contributing apparent flavor nor aroma.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Malt sweetness, chocolate, and caramel should dominate the flavor profile. Malt bitterness is low to medium-low and derived from roasted malt or barley.
Malt Ingredients	British Pale Ale, Black Patent, Pale Chocolate, Crystal
Other ingredients	Lactose
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	High carbonate water
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity ester flavors are low, if present.

IRISH-STYLE DRY STOUT

Style Family: Stouts

Dry stouts are black. These beers achieve a dry-roasted character through the use of roasted barley. The emphasis on coffee-like roasted barley and a moderate degree of roasted malt aromas define much of the character. Hop bitterness is medium to medium high. This beer is often dispensed via nitrogen gas taps that lend a smooth, creamy body to the palate.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.038 - 1.048
FG	1.008 - 1.012
ABV	4.2% - 5.3%
IBU	30 - 40
BU:GU	0.79 - 0.83
SRM	40+
CO2 Volumes	1 - 1.5
Apparent Attenuation	75 - 79

U.S. Commercial Examples

Blarney Sisters Dry Irish Stout	Third Street Brewhouse
Seaside Stout	Pizza Port Brewing Co.
O.V.L. Stout	Russian River Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable
Color	Black
Clarity	Clear to Opaque
Country of Origin	Ireland
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Irish Cheddar
Entrée	Seafood (Oysters), Ham
Dessert	Chocolate Desserts
Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived to low, from European-type hops. Hop bitterness is medium to medium high.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Dry stouts achieve a dry-roasted character through the use of roasted barley. Initial malt and light caramel flavors give way to a distinctive dry-roasted bitterness in the finish. Emphasis of coffee-like roasted barley and a moderate degree of roasted malt flavors define much of the character.
Malt Ingredients	British Pale Ale, Flaked Barley, Black Roasted Barley
Palate Body	Soft to Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Moderate carbonate water
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity esters are minimal and overshadowed by malt, high hop bitterness and roasted barley character.
Fermentation Byproducts	Diacetyl should be very low, if evident.

BELGIAN-STYLE BLONDE ALE

Style Family: Belgian Styles

Typically easy-drinking, with a low but pleasing hop bitterness. This is a light- to medium-bodied ale, with a low malt aroma that has a spiced and sometimes fruity-ester character. Sugar is sometimes added to lighten the perceived body. This style is medium in sweetness and not as bitter as Belgian-style tripels or golden strong ales. It is usually brilliantly clear. The overall impression is balance between light sweetness, spice and low to medium fruity ester flavors.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.054 - 1.068
FG	1.008 - 1.014
ABV	6.3% - 7.9%
IBU	15 - 30
BU:GU	0.28 - 0.44
SRM	4 - 7
CO2 Volumes	3 - 4
Apparent Attenuation	79 - 85

U.S. Commercial Examples

Blonde	Allagash Brewing Co.
Tiburon Blonde	Marin Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Color	Pale to Light Amber
Clarity	Clear to Brilliant
Country of Origin	Belgium
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Brie
Entrée	Sweet and Sour Chicken
Dessert	Angel Food Cake
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor and aroma are not perceived to low. Hop bitterness is very low to low.
Hop Ingredients	Hallertau
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Malt aroma and flavor are low.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Malted Wheat, Aromatic
Other ingredients	Belgian Candi Sugar (occasionally)
Palate Body	Soft to Moderate
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Spicy
Esters	Low to medium fruity-ester aromas may be present and balanced with light malt and spice aromas.

BELGIAN-STYLE DUBBEL

Style Family: Belgian Styles

Belgian-style dubbels range from brown to very dark in color. They have a malty sweetness and can have chocolate-like caramel aroma and flavor. Hop bitterness is medium-low to medium. Yeast-generated fruity esters (especially banana) can be apparent. Often bottle-conditioned, a slight yeast haze and flavor may be evident. 'Dubbel' meaning "double," this beer is still not so big in intensity as to surpass the Belgian-style quadrupel that is often considered its sibling.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.060 - 1.075
FG	1.012 - 1.016
ABV	6.3% - 7.6%
IBU	20 - 30
BU:GU	0.33 - 0.40
SRM	16 - 36
CO2 Volumes	3 - 4
Apparent Attenuation	79 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

Brother David's Double	Anderson Valley Brewing Co.
Abbey	New Belgium Brewing Co.
Double	Allagash Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Sometimes extended boiling time results in kettle caramelization. Usually bottle conditioned.
Color	Brown to Very Dark
Clarity	Clear to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	Belgium
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Washed-Rind Cheeses
Entrée	Apple-Smoked Sausage
Dessert	Milk Chocolate
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived to low. Hop bitterness is medium-low to medium.
Hop Ingredients	Tettnang
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Chocolate, Caramel, Toast
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, CaraMunich, Special "B"
Other ingredients	Belgian Candi Sugar, Other Sugars
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Spicy, Pepper, Rose-like, Perfumy
Esters	Fruit (Banana)
Fermentation Byproducts	Slight yeast haze is often evident when bottle-conditioned.

BELGIAN-STYLE GOLDEN STRONG ALE

Style Family: Belgian Styles

These beers are fruity, complex and often on the higher end of the ABV spectrum, yet are approachable to many different palates. Look for a characteristic spiciness from Belgian yeast and a highly attenuated dry finish. This style is traditionally drier and lighter in color than a Belgian-style tripel.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.064 - 1.096
FG	1.008 - 1.024
ABV	7.1% - 11.2%
IBU	20 - 50
BU:GU	0.31 - 0.52
SRM	3.5 - 10
CO2 Volumes	4 approximately
Apparent Attenuation	75 - 88

U.S. Commercial Examples

Pranqster	North Coast Brewing Co.
Brooklyn Local 1	Brooklyn Brewery
Hades	Great Divide Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Bottle-conditioned.
Color	Pale to Copper
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	Belgium
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Rocky
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Triple Creme
Entrée	Beer Battered Fried Shrimp
Dessert	Baklava
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are medium-low to medium-high. Hop bitterness is medium-low to medium-high.
Hop Ingredients	Czech Saaz
Malt Aroma/Flavor	These beers can be malty in overall impression, or dry and highly attenuated.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner
Other ingredients	Cane Sugar. Herbs and spices are sometimes used to delicately flavor these strong ales.
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Spicy, Pepper
Esters	Fruit (Pear, Orange, Apple)
Fermentation Byproducts	Diacetyl should be very low, if evident.



source: CraftBeer.com

BELGIAN-STYLE LAMBIC/GUEUZE

Style Family: Wild/Sour Beers

Naturally and spontaneously fermented beers with high to very high levels of esters, plus bacterial and yeast-derived sourness that sometimes includes acetic flavors. Lambics are not blended, while the gueuze style blends old and new lambics which are re-fermented in the bottle. Historically, they are dry and completely attenuated, exhibiting no residual sweetness either from malt, sugar or artificial sweeteners. Sweet versions may be created through the addition of sugars or artificial sweeteners. Many examples of this style are made to resemble the the gueuze lambic beers of the Brussels area, where it originated.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.044 - 1.056
FG	1.000 - 1.010
ABV	6.3% - 8.9%
IBU	9 - 23
BU:GU	0.20 - 0.41
SRM	6 - 13
CO2 Volumes	1 - 1.5
Apparent Attenuation	82 - 100

U.S. Commercial Examples

American Blackberry Sour	New Glarus Brewing
Sour Reserve	Upland Brewing Co.
Supplication	Russian River Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Old lambic is blended with newly-fermented young lambic. These beers are aged in oak.
Color	Gold to Medium Amber
Clarity	Brilliant (but haze may exist from yeast sediment from bottle fermentation)
Country of Origin	Belgium
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Mousse-like
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Mascarpone with Fruit
Entrée	Shellfish (Mussels)
Dessert	Rich Chocolate Cake

Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma, flavor and bitterness are not perceived to very low, and can include cheesy or floral lavender notes.
Hop Ingredients	Aged, stale hops
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Sweet malt characters are not perceived.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Flaked Wheat
Other ingredients	Unmalted Wheat
Palate Body	Drying to Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	Varies

YEAST

Esters	High to very high fruity ester aromas are present.
Microorganisms	Lactobacillus and Pediococcus
Fermentation Byproducts	Characteristic horsey, goaty, leathery and phenolic aromas derived from Brettanomyces yeast are often present at moderate levels.



source: CraftBeer.com

BELGIAN-STYLE PALE ALE

Style Family: Belgian Styles

These pale ales are gold to copper in color and can have low caramel or toasted malt flavor. The style is characterized by low but noticeable hop bitterness, flavor and aroma. These beers were inspired by British pale ales. They are very sessionable.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.044 - 1.054
FG	1.008 - 1.014
ABV	4.1% - 6.3%
IBU	20 - 30
BU:GU	0.45 - 0.56
SRM	6 - 12
CO2 Volumes	2.5 approximately
Apparent Attenuation	74 - 82

U.S. Commercial Examples

Rare Vos	Brewery Ommegang
Saints Devotion	The Lost Abbey
Perdition	Russian River Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Color	Gold to Copper
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	Belgium
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor to Moderate
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Rocky
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Taleggio
Entrée	Tempura Fried Fish and Chips
Dessert	Savory Bread Pudding
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are low but noticeable; noble-type hops are commonly used. Hop bitterness is low but noticeable.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Caramel, Toast
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, CaraMunich, Biscuit
Other ingredients	Belgian Candi Sugar (occasionally)
Palate Body	Moderate
Palate Carbonation	Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Spicy
Esters	Fruit (Pear, Orange)

BELGIAN-STYLE QUADRUPEL

Style Family: Belgian Styles

These beers are amber to dark brown in color. Caramel, dark sugar and malty sweet flavors dominate, with medium-low to medium-high hop bitterness. Quads have a relatively light body compared to their alcoholic strength. If aged, oxidative qualities should be mild and not distracting. Sometimes referred to as Belgian strong dark.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.084 - 1.120
FG	1.014 - 1.020
ABV	9.1% - 14.2%
IBU	25 - 50
BU:GU	0.30 - 0.42
SRM	8 - 20
CO2 Volumes	2.5 - 3
Apparent Attenuation	83 - 83

U.S. Commercial Examples

Four	Allagash Brewing Co.
The Reverend	Avery Brewing Co.
Salvation	Russian River Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Noticeable to Hot
Color	Amber to Dark Brown
Clarity	Slight Haze
Country of Origin	Belgium
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Mousse-like
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Aged Gouda
Entrée	Roasted Duck
Dessert	Bread Pudding
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived to very low. Hop bitterness is low to medium-low.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Caramel, dark sugar and malty sweet flavors and aromas can be intense, not cloying, while complementing fruitiness.
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium to Long
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Clove-like phenolic flavor and aroma should not be evident.
Esters	Complex fruity flavors reminiscent of raisins, dates, figs, grapes and/or plums emerge, often accompanied with a hint of wine-like character. Perception of alcohol can be extreme.

BELGIAN-STYLE SAISON

Style Family: Belgian Styles

Beers in this category are pale to deep light brown in color. Often bottle-conditioned, with some yeast character and high carbonation. Belgian-style saison may have Brettanomyces or lactic character, and fruity, horsey, goaty and/or leather-like aromas and flavors. Specialty ingredients, including spices, may contribute a unique and signature character. Commonly called 'farmhouse ales' and originating as summertime beers in Belgium, these are not just warm-weather treats. U.S. craft brewers brew them year-round and have taken to adding a variety of additional ingredients.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.055 - 1.080
FG	1.004 - 1.016
ABV	4.4% - 8.4%
IBU	20 - 40
BU:GU	0.36 - 0.50
SRM	4 - 14
CO2 Volumes	3 - 3.5
Apparent Attenuation	80 - 93

U.S. Commercial Examples

Saison	Funkwerks
Red Barn	The Lost Abbey
Hennepin	Brewery Ommegang

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Often bottle-conditioned, sometimes dry-hopped and fermented at higher temperatures.
Color	Pale to Light Brown
Clarity	Slight Haze
Country of Origin	Belgium
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Rocky
Carbonation (Visual)	Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Brie
Entrée	Seafood (Mussels)
Dessert	Lemon Ginger Sorbet
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma is low to medium. Hop bitterness is medium to medium-high.
Hop Ingredients	Noble, Styrian, East Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Malt flavor is low but provides foundation for the overall balance.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Munich, Malted Wheat
Other ingredients	Simple Sugar, Honey, Spelt. Specialty ingredients (spices, herbs, flowers, fruits, vegetables, fermentable sugars and carbohydrates, special yeasts of all types, wood aging, etc.) may contribute unique and signature character.
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	High
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	High sulfate content
YEAST	
Phenols	Pepper
Esters	Fruit (Orange, Lemon)
Microorganisms	Lactobacillus possible
Fermentation Byproducts	A small amount of sour or acidic flavor is acceptable when in balance with other components. These beers are often bottle-conditioned, with some yeast character and high carbonation.



source: CraftBeer.com

BELGIAN-STYLE TRIPEL

Style Family: Belgian Styles

Complex, sometimes mild spicy flavor characterizes this style. Yeast-driven complexity is common. Tripels are often on the higher end of the ABV spectrum, yet are approachable to many different palates. These beers are commonly bottle-conditioned and finish dry. Tripels are similar to Belgian-style golden strong ales, but are generally darker and have a more noticeable malt sweetness.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.070 - 1.092
FG	1.008 - 1.018
ABV	7.1% - 10.1%
IBU	20 - 45
BU:GU	0.29 - 0.49
SRM	4 - 9
CO2 Volumes	3 - 4
Apparent Attenuation	80 - 89

U.S. Commercial Examples

Exit 4	Flying Fish Brewing Co.
Tripel	Green Flash Brewing Co.
Tripel	New Belgium Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Mild
Color	Pale to Medium Amber
Clarity	Clear
Country of Origin	Belgium
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Rocky
Carbonation (Visual)	Fast Rising Bubbles

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Triple Creme
Entrée	Roasted Turkey
Dessert	Caramelized Banana Creme Brulee

Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived to low. Hop bitterness is medium to medium-high.
Hop Ingredients	Tetnang, Czech Saaz
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Low sweetness from very pale malts is present.
Malt Ingredients	Belgian Pilsner
Other ingredients	Brewing Sugar (occasionally)
Palate Body	Soft to Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	High
Palate Length/Finish	Short to Medium
Water	Soft Water

YEAST

Phenols	Complex, sometimes mild spicy flavor. Clove-like phenolic flavor may be evident at very low levels.
Esters	Fruit (Orange, Banana)
Fermentation Byproducts	Traditional tripels are bottle-conditioned and may exhibit slight yeast haze, but the yeast should not be intentionally roused.

AMERICAN BARLEY WINE

Style Family: Strong Ales

These ales range from amber to deep red/copper-garnet in color. A caramel and/or toffee aroma and flavor are often part of the malt character along with high residual malty sweetness. Complexity of alcohols is evident. Fruity-ester character is often high. As with many American versions of a style, this barley wine ale is typically more hop-forward and bitter than its U.K. counterpart. Low levels of age-induced oxidation can harmonize with other flavors and enhance the overall experience. Sometimes sold as vintage releases.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.090 - 1.120
FG	1.024 - 1.028
ABV	8.5% - 12.2%
IBU	60 - 100
BU:GU	0.67 - 0.83
SRM	11 - 18
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	73 - 77

U.S. Commercial Examples

Bigfoot	Sierra Nevada Brewing Co.
Old Foghorn	Anchor Brewing Co.
Old Crustacean	Rogue Ales

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Noticeable to Hot
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Dry-hopping and aging are common.
Color	Amber to Deep Red or Copper-Garnet
Clarity	Clear to Brilliant
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Strong Blue Cheeses
Entrée	Beef Cheek
Dessert	Rich Desserts
Glass	Snifter
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are medium to very high. Hop bitterness is high. American-type hops are often used, but not necessary for this style.
Hop Ingredients	Magnum, Chinook, Centennial, Amarillo
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Caramel, Toffee, Bready, Sweet
Malt Ingredients	Pale, Crystal, Pale Chocolate, Special "B"
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating to Sticky
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium to Long
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-ester flavors are often high.
Fermentation Byproducts	Very low levels of diacetyl may be acceptable.



AMERICAN IMPERIAL RED ALE

Style Family: Strong Ales

The use of American hops in this ale lends to the perception of medium hop bitterness, flavor and aroma. Coupled with a solid malt profile, this should be a beer with balance between hop bitterness and malt sweetness. Some breweries will choose to bottle-condition this style, leading to possible fruity esters and some haze in their appearance. This is another example of modern American brewers taking an established style and boosting the flavor. California brewers are credited with creating this innovative style.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.080 - 1.100
FG	1.020 - 1.028
ABV	8.0% - 10.6%
IBU	55 - 85
BU:GU	0.69 - 0.85
SRM	10 - 17
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	72 - 75

U.S. Commercial Examples

Rino Chaser	Pizza Port Brewing Co.
Big Hoppy Monster Imperial Red Ale	Terrapin Beer Co.
Believer	Ninkasi Brewing

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Dry-hopping is common.
Color	Deep Amber to Dark Copper or Reddish Brown
Clarity	Slight Haze to Clear. Unfiltered versions: Hazy to Very Cloudy.
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor to Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin to Fluffy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Mozzarella
Entrée	Corned Beef Hash
Dessert	Toffee Pudding
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma, flavor and bitterness are very high but balanced, arising from any variety of hops.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Medium to high caramel malt character is present.
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Varies
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium to Long
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity ester flavors are medium.



BRITISH-STYLE BARLEY WINE ALE

Style Family: Strong Ales

A strong ale that leans heavily on malt characteristics for flavor. With a wide color range and typically high in alcohol, this is a style that is often aged and will evolve well over time. As they advance in age, these beers develop oxidative characteristics including honey and toffee flavors and aromas, darker colors, lessened bitterness and more.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.085 - 1.120
FG	1.024 - 1.028
ABV	8.5% - 12.0%
IBU	40 - 60
BU:GU	0.47 - 0.50
SRM	14 - 22
CO2 Volumes	1.5 - 2
Apparent Attenuation	72 - 77

U.S. Commercial Examples

Old Numbskull	AleSmith Brewing Co.
Old Stock Ale	North Coast Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Noticeable to Hot
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Aging is common.
Color	Tawny Copper to Deep Red or Copper-Garnet
Clarity	Brilliant to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin to Interrupted
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	English Stilton
Entrée	Moroccan Duck
Dessert	Dark Chocolate
Glass	Snifter
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor and aroma are very low to medium. Hop bitterness is low to medium. English-type hops are often used, but not necessary for this style.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings, Horizon
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Nutty, Caramel, Biscuit
Malt Ingredients	English Pale, CaraMunich, Crystal
Palate Body	Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruity-ester characters are often high and balanced with the high alcohol content.
Fermentation Byproducts	Low levels of diacetyl may be acceptable.



source: CraftBeer.com

ENGLISH-STYLE OLD ALE

Style Family: Strong Ales

A distinctive quality of these ales is that their yeast undergoes an aging process (often for years) in bulk storage or through bottle conditioning, which contributes to a rich, wine-like and often sweet oxidation character. Old ales are copper-red to very dark in color. Complex estery character may emerge.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.058 - 1.088
FG	1.014 - 1.030
ABV	6.3% - 9.1%
IBU	30 - 65
BU:GU	0.52 - 0.74
SRM	12 - 30
CO2 Volumes	2 approximately
Apparent Attenuation	66 - 76

U.S. Commercial Examples

Irish Walker	Olde Hickory Brewing
Heini's Hooch	The Church Brew Works
Curmudgeon	Founders Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Noticeable to Hot
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Typically mashed at higher temperatures to reduce attenuation. Wood-aged notes such as vanillin are acceptable.
Color	Copper-Red to Very Dark
Clarity	Opaque
Country of Origin	United Kingdom
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Poor to Moderate
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Thin to Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Slow to Medium Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Double Gloucester
Entrée	Roast Beef and Lamb
Dessert	Spiced Plum Walnut Tart
Glass	Snifter
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived to medium. Hop bitterness is minimal but evident.
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	A malty and sometimes caramel-like sweetness may be evident.
Malt Ingredients	Pale, Chocolate, Black Patent
Other ingredients	Molasses, Treacle, Invert Sugar, Dark Sugar
Palate Body	Moderate to Mouth-Coating
Palate Carbonation	Low to Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Long
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruit (Varies)
Microorganisms	Lactobacillus possible. Horsey, goaty, leathery and phenolic character evolved from Brettanomyces organisms and acidity may be present but should be at low levels and balanced with other flavors.
Fermentation Byproducts	Diacetyl is acceptable at very low levels.

AMERICAN BRETT

Style Family: Wild/Sour Beers

These unique beers vary in color and can take on the hues of added fruits or other ingredients. The evolution of natural acidity develops balanced complexity. Horsey, goaty, leathery, phenolic and some fruity acidic character derived from *Brettanomyces* organisms may be evident, but in balance with other components of the beer. Brett beer and sour beer are not synonymous. Brett beer may contain acidic components as the result of acetic acid (vinegar-like flavors), but the presence of acidity in all *Brettanomyces* beers should not be assumed. Horsey, goaty, leathery, and phenolic characteristics derived from *Brettanomyces* organisms may be evident, not dominant and in balance with other character.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	Varies
FG	Varies
ABV	Varies
IBU	Varies
BU:GU	Varies
SRM	Varies
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	Varies

U.S. Commercial Examples

Serenity	Wicked Weed Brewing
Seizoen Brett	Logsdon Farmhouse Ales
Sanctification	Russian River Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Varies
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Wood vessels may be used during the fermentation and aging process. Blending is also common.
Color	Varies
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Earthy Farmhouse Cheeses
Entrée	Grilled or Roasted Game
Dessert	Fruit-Filled Pastries
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma, flavor and bitterness are evident over a full range from low to high.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Varies
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Fruit (occasionally)
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.
Microorganisms	<i>Brettanomyces</i> possible



AMERICAN SOUR

Style Family: Wild/Sour Beers

The acidity present in these beers is usually in the form of lactic, acetic and other organic acids naturally developed with acidified malt in the mash, or produced during fermentation by the use of various microorganisms. These beers may derive their sour flavor from pure cultured forms of souring agents or from the influence of barrel aging.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	Varies
FG	Varies
ABV	Varies
IBU	Varies
BU:GU	Varies
SRM	Varies
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	Varies

U.S. Commercial Examples

Ching Ching	Bend Brewing Co.
Barrel Select Gold	Captain Lawrence Brewing Co.
Love Child No. 3	Boulevard Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Varies
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Wood vessels may be used during the fermentation and aging process, but wood-derived flavors such as vanillin must not be present.
Color	Any range of color, and may take on the color of other ingredients.
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Strongly Flavored Cheeses
Entrée	Varies
Dessert	Creamy Desserts with Fruit
Glass	Goblet
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma, flavor and bitterness are evident over a full range from low to high.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	In darker versions, roasted malt, caramel-like and chocolate-like aromas are subtly present.
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Varies
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Moderate to intense, yet balanced, fruity ester aromas are evident.
Microorganisms	Lactobacillus
Fermentation Byproducts	Bacteria- and yeast-induced haze are acceptable at any temperature.



source: CraftBeer.com

BELGIAN-STYLE FLANDERS

Style Family: Wild/Sour Beers

An ale with character and balance, thanks to lactic sourness and acetic acid. Cherry-like flavors are acceptable, as is malt sweetness that can lend bitterness and a cocoa-like character. Oak or other wood-like flavors may be present, even if the beer was not aged in barrels. Overall, the style is characterized by slight to strong lactic sourness, and Flanders "reds" sometimes include a balanced degree of acetic acid. Brettanomyces-produced flavors may be absent or very low. This style is a marvel in flavor complexity, combining malt, yeast, microorganisms, acidity and low astringency from barrel aging.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.044 - 1.056
FG	1.008 - 1.016
ABV	4.8% - 6.6%
IBU	8 - 25
BU:GU	0.18 - 0.45
SRM	12 - 25
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	71 - 82

U.S. Commercial Examples

Enigma	New Glarus Brewing
Oud Tart	The Bruery
La Folie	New Belgium Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Blending is common. Oak-like or woody characters may be pleasantly integrated into the overall palate when aged in oak barrels.
Color	Copper to Very Dark
Clarity	Brilliant to Slight Haze
Country of Origin	Belgium
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Mimolette
Entrée	Beef Carbonnade
Dessert	Pumpkin Pie
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma and flavor are not perceived. Hop bitterness is perceived to be very low to medium-low
Hop Ingredients	Kent Goldings
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Roasted malt aromas including a cocoa-like character are acceptable at low levels. A very low degree of malt sweetness may be present.
Malt Ingredients	Vienna, Munich Special "B", Aromatic
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Medium to Long
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Fruit-ester aromas, which are often cherry-like, are apparent. May also have notes of raisins, plums, figs and prunes.
Microorganisms	Lactobacillus possible
Fermentation Byproducts	Some versions may be more highly carbonated and, when bottle-conditioned, may appear cloudy when served.

source: CraftBeer.com

BELGIAN-STYLE FRUIT LAMBIC

Style Family: Wild/Sour Beers

Often known as cassis, framboise, kriek, or peche, a fruit lambic takes on the color and flavor of the fruit it is brewed with. It can be dry or sweet, clear or cloudy, depending on the ingredients. Notes of *Brettanomyces* yeast are often present at varied levels. Sourness is an important part of the flavor profile, though sweetness may compromise the intensity. These flavored lambic beers may be very dry or mildly sweet.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.040 - 1.072
FG	1.008 - 1.016
ABV	5.7% - 8.9%
IBU	15 - 21
BU:GU	0.29 - 0.38
SRM	Varies
CO2 Volumes	4 approximately
Apparent Attenuation	78 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

Cherry Lambic	Upland Brewing Co.
Coolship Red	Allagash Brewing Co.
Transatlantique Kriek	New Belgium Brewing Co.

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Varies
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Old lambic is blended with newly fermenting young lambic to create this style. Fruit is added as well. These beers are aged in oak.
Color	Hued with color reflecting the choice of fruit.
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	Belgium
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Rocky to Mousse-like
Carbonation (Visual)	Fast Rising Bubbles
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Chèvre
Entrée	Pineapple Ceviche
Dessert	Chocolate Creme Caramel
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma, flavor and bitterness are not perceived to very low, and can include cheesy or floral lavender notes.
Hop Ingredients	Aged, stale hops
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Sweet malt characters are not perceived.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Flaked Wheat
Other ingredients	Unmalted Wheat, Fruit
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.
Microorganisms	Lactobacillus and Pediococcus
Fermentation Byproducts	Cloudiness is acceptable.

BELGIAN-STYLE LAMBIC/GUEUZE

Style Family: Wild/Sour Beers

Naturally and spontaneously fermented beers with high to very high levels of esters, plus bacterial and yeast-derived sourness that sometimes includes acetic flavors. Lambics are not blended, while the gueuze style blends old and new lambics which are re-fermented in the bottle. Historically, they are dry and completely attenuated, exhibiting no residual sweetness either from malt, sugar or artificial sweeteners. Sweet versions may be created through the addition of sugars or artificial sweeteners. Many examples of this style are made to resemble the the gueuze lambic beers of the Brussels area, where it originated.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.044 - 1.056
FG	1.000 - 1.010
ABV	6.3% - 8.9%
IBU	9 - 23
BU:GU	0.20 - 0.41
SRM	6 - 13
CO2 Volumes	1 - 1.5
Apparent Attenuation	82 - 100

U.S. Commercial Examples

American Blackberry Sour	New Glarus Brewing
Sour Reserve	Upland Brewing Co.
Supplication	Russian River Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Old lambic is blended with newly-fermented young lambic. These beers are aged in oak.
Color	Gold to Medium Amber
Clarity	Brilliant (but haze may exist from yeast sediment from bottle fermentation)
Country of Origin	Belgium
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Mousse-like
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium to Fast Rising Bubbles

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Mascarpone with Fruit
Entrée	Shellfish (Mussels)
Dessert	Rich Chocolate Cake

Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma, flavor and bitterness are not perceived to very low, and can include cheesy or floral lavender notes.
Hop Ingredients	Aged, stale hops
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Sweet malt characters are not perceived.
Malt Ingredients	Pilsner, Flaked Wheat
Other ingredients	Unmalted Wheat
Palate Body	Drying to Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium to High
Palate Length/Finish	Medium
Water	Varies

YEAST

Esters	High to very high fruity ester aromas are present.
Microorganisms	Lactobacillus and Pediococcus
Fermentation Byproducts	Characteristic horsey, goaty, leathery and phenolic aromas derived from Brettanomyces yeast are often present at moderate levels.



source: CraftBeer.com

AMERICAN BLACK ALE

Style Family: Specialty Beers

Characterized by the perception of caramel malt and dark roasted malt flavor and aroma. Hop bitterness is perceived to be medium-high to high. Hop flavor and aroma are medium-high. Fruity, floral and herbal character from hops of all origins may contribute to the overall experience. This beer is often called a black IPA or Cascadian dark ale.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.056 - 1.075
FG	1.012 - 1.018
ABV	6.3% - 7.6%
IBU	50 - 70
BU:GU	0.89 - 0.93
SRM	35+
CO2 Volumes	2 - 2.5
Apparent Attenuation	76 - 79

U.S. Commercial Examples

Wookey Jack	Firestone Walker Brewing Co.
Blacktop IPA	New Glarus Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Mild to Noticeable
Color	Very Dark to Black
Clarity	Clear to Opaque
Country of Origin	United States
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Good
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Foamy
Carbonation (Visual)	Medium Rising Bubbles

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Blue Cheeses, Aged Gouda
Entrée	Grilled Shrimp and Grits
Dessert	Chocolate Truffles

Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma is medium-high to high, with hops of all origins contributing fruity, floral, herbal or other notes.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Medium caramel malt and dark roasted malt aromas are evident.
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Palate Body	Soft
Palate Carbonation	Medium
Palate Length/Finish	Medium to Long
Water	Varies

YEAST

Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Can be present.



BARREL-AGED BEER

Style Family: Specialty Beers

A wood- or barrel-aged beer is any lager, ale or hybrid beer, either a traditional style or a unique experimental beer, that has been aged for a period of time in a wooden barrel or in contact with wood. This beer is aged with the intention of imparting the unique character of the wood and/or the flavor of what has previously been in the barrel. Today's craft brewers are using wood (mostly oak) to influence flavor, and aromatics. Beer may be aged in wooden barrels (new or previously used to age wine or spirits), or chips, spirals and cubes may be added to the conditioning tanks that normally house beer. A variety of types of wood are used including oak, apple, alder, hickory and more. The interior of most barrels is charred or toasted to further enhance the flavor of the wood.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	Varies
FG	Varies
ABV	Varies
IBU	Varies
BU:GU	Varies
SRM	Varies
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	Varies

U.S. Commercial Examples

Hellshire III	Oakshire Brewing Co.
Barrel Aged Sump Coffee Stout	Perennial Beer Co.
DBA	Firestone Walker Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Varies
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Aging in wood barrels necessary.
Color	Varies
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	Undetermined
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Varies
Entrée	Varies
Dessert	Varies

Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Varies
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Varies
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Wood Aging
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies

YEAST

Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.



CHOCOLATE BEER

Style Family: Specialty Beers

This is an ale or lager that benefits from the addition of dark chocolate or cocoa. More common in porters, stouts and brown ales, where the grain bill better complements the confectionery ingredient, it can be added to other styles as well. Overt bitterness is not acceptable in this style. Little hop character is desired and the chocolate flavor does not need to be overwhelming. The style can vary greatly in approach and flavor profile depending on the brewer.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.030 - 1.110
FG	1.006 - 1.030
ABV	2.5% - 12.0%
IBU	15 - 40
BU:GU	0.36 - 0.50
SRM	15 - 50
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	73 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

Chocolate Oak Aged Imperial Yeti Stout

Great Divide Brewing Co.

The Fix Elysian Brewing

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Varies
Color	Light Brown to Black
Clarity	Brilliant to Opaque
Country of Origin	Undetermined
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Aged Goat Cheeses
Entrée	Venison Mole
Dessert	Raspberry Torte

Glass	Snifter
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor and aroma are lower than might be expected for the style. Under-hopping allows chocolate to contribute to the flavor profile while not becoming excessively bitter. Hop bitterness is very low to medium-low.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Medium-low to medium-high malt sweetness helps accent cocoa flavors and aromas.
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Chocolate
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies

YEAST

Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.

COFFEE BEER

Style Family: Specialty Beers

As the name suggests, this can be either a lager or ale with coffee added to boost flavor. While stouts and porters are popular base styles for coffee beer, many craft breweries are experimenting with other styles, like cream ales and India pale ales. Brewers may steep the beans in either water or beer to impart java flavor without adding acidity. While stouts and porters are popular base styles for coffee beer, many craft breweries are experimenting with other styles, like cream ales and India pale ales. Barrel-aged or wood-influenced versions may show signs of oxidation, including sherry notes and other advanced flavors.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.030 - 1.110
FG	1.006 - 1.030
ABV	2.5% - 12.0%
IBU	15 - 70
BU:GU	0.50 - 0.64
SRM	4 - 50
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	73 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

Panama Joe's Coffee Stout	Il Vicino Brewing Co.
Barrel Aged Sump Coffee Stout	Perennial Artisan Ales

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Varies
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Coffee is used in any of its forms to create a distinct (ranging from subtle to intense) character.
Color	Pale to Black
Clarity	Brilliant to Opaque
Country of Origin	Undetermined
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Aged Semi-Hard Cheeses
Entrée	Pork Tenderloin
Dessert	Vanilla Ice Cream
Glass	Nonic Pint
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor is reflective of aroma and can be low to high depending on the intent of the underlying style. Hop bitterness is very low to medium-high.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Medium-low to medium malt sweetness helps accent coffee flavors and aromas.
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Coffee
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.



source: CraftBeer.com

FRUIT AND FIELD BEER

Style Family: Specialty Beers

Fruit beers are made with fruit, or fruit extracts are added during any portion of the brewing process, providing obvious yet harmonious fruit qualities. This idea is expanded to 'field beers' that utilize vegetables and herbs.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.030 - 1.110
FG	1.006 - 1.030
ABV	2.5% - 13.3%
IBU	5 - 70
BU:GU	0.17 - 0.64
SRM	5 - 50
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	73 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

Panama Joe's Coffee Stout	Il Vicino Brewing Co.
Ruby Raspberry Wheat	Mad Anthony Brewing Co.
Elektrik Cukumbah	Trinity Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Varies
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Varies
Color	Pale to Very Dark
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	Undetermined
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Creamy Cheeses
Entrée	Salads
Dessert	Vanilla Ice Cream

Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop bitterness is very low to medium-high.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Malt sweetness is very low to medium-high.
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Fruit, Vegetables
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies

YEAST

Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.



GLUTEN FREE

Style Family: Specialty Beers

Barley, wheat, oats, rye and spelt commonly contain gluten, so look for other fermentables to be featured in these beers. A beer (lager, ale or other) that is made from fermentable sugars, grains and converted carbohydrates. Ingredients do not contain gluten.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	Varies
FG	Varies
ABV	Varies
IBU	Varies
BU:GU	Varies
SRM	Varies
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	Varies

U.S. Commercial Examples

Gluten Free	Deschutes Brewing Co.
Nikki's Gluten Free Honey Pale Ale	Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewery

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Varies
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Typically brewed without malt.
Color	Varies
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	Undetermined
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Varies
Entrée	Varies
Dessert	Varies
Glass	Flute
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Varies
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Malted barley, wheat and other gluten-rich grains should not be perceived
Malt Ingredients	N/A
Other ingredients	Fermentable sugars, grains and converted carbohydrates that do not contain gluten.
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.
Microorganisms	Lactobacillus and Pediococcus



HERB AND SPICE BEER

Style Family: Specialty Beers

This is a lager or ale that contains flavors derived from flowers, roots, seeds or certain fruits or vegetables. Typically the hop character is low, allowing the added ingredient to shine through. The appearance, mouthfeel and aromas vary depending on the herb or spice used. This beer style encompasses innovative examples as well as traditional holiday and winter ales.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.030 - 1.110
FG	1.006 - 1.030
ABV	2.5% - 12.0%
IBU	5 - 40
BU:GU	0.17 - 0.36
SRM	5 - 50
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	73 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

Bitterama	Namaste Brewery
Midas Touch	Dogfish Head Brewing Co.
Good Juju	Left Hand Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Varies
Color	Any range of color depending on the underlying style.
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	Undetermined
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Varies
Entrée	Varies
Dessert	Varies
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop aroma is not essential, but may be evident at low levels and should not dominate over the herb or spice character.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Varies
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Herbs, Spices
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.



HONEY BEER

Style Family: Specialty Beers

Both lagers and ales can be brewed with honey. Some brewers will choose to experiment with ingredients, while others will add honey to traditional styles. Overall the character of honey should be evident but not totally overwhelming. A wide variety of honey beers are available. U.S. brewers may add honey to the boil kettle (as a sugar source) or post-boil (to preserve more volatile aromatics).

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.030 - 1.110
FG	1.006 - 1.030
ABV	2.5% - 12.0%
IBU	1 - 100
BU:GU	0.03 - 0.91
SRM	Varies
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	73 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

Buzzed Bee Honey Ale	High Sierra Brewing Co.
Westbound Braggot	Twisted Pine Brewing Co.
Midas Touch	Dogfish Head Craft Brewery

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Varies
Color	Varies
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	Undetermined
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Ricotta
Entrée	Bruschetta
Dessert	Lemon Basil Gelato

Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop bitterness is very low to very high, and may be used for highlighting desired characteristics.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Varies
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Honey
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies

YEAST

Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.



PUMPKIN BEER

Style Family: Specialty Beers

One of the most popular seasonal beers, this is a lager or ale that is brewed with fresh or processed pumpkin or winter squash. Since the fruit does not have much of a taste by itself, many craft brewers have taken to adding spices typically found in pumpkin pie, like cinnamon and clove. However, these flavors should not overpower the final product. Pumpkin can be found in everything from stouts, to pale ales and pilseners.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.030 - 1.110
FG	1.006 - 1.030
ABV	2.3% - 12.0%
IBU	5 - 70
BU:GU	0.17 - 0.64
SRM	5 - 50
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	73 - 80

U.S. Commercial Examples

The Great Pumpkin	Elysian Brewing Co.
Pumking	Southern Tier Brewing Co.
Punkin	Dogfish Head Craft Brewery

Style A-Z



Alcohol	Varies
Brewing & Conditioning Process	Beer brewed with pumpkins (Cucurbita pepo) or winter squash as an adjunct in either the mash, kettle or primary or secondary fermentation, providing obvious (ranging from subtle to intense) yet harmonious qualities.
Color	Any range of color depending on the underlying style.
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	Undetermined
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Camembert
Entrée	Roasted Turkey
Dessert	Coffee Ice Cream
Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop bitterness is low to medium-low.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Malt sweetness is low to medium-high.
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Pumpkin, Squash
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.

RYE BEER

Style Family: Specialty Beers

In darker versions, malt flavor can optionally include low roasted malt characters (evident as cocoa/chocolate or caramel) and/or aromatic toffee-like, caramel, or biscuit-like characters. Low-level roasted malt astringency is acceptable when balanced with low to medium malt sweetness. Hop flavor is low to medium-high. Hop bitterness is low to medium. These beers can be made using either ale or lager yeast. The addition of rye to a beer can add a spicy or pumpernickel character to the flavor and finish. Color can also be enhanced and may become more red from the use of rye. The ingredient has come into vogue in recent years in everything from stouts to lagers, but is especially popular with craft brewers in India pale ales. To be considered an example of the style, the grain bill should include sufficient rye such that rye character is evident in the beer.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	Varies
FG	Varies
ABV	Varies
IBU	Varies
BU:GU	Varies
SRM	Varies
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	Varies

U.S. Commercial Examples

LowRYEder	SweetWater Brewing Co.
Hoss	Great Divide Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Varies
Color	Inclusion of rye can create a wide range of color. Lighter versions: Straw to Copper. Darker versions: Dark Amber to Dark Brown.
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Wensleydale
Entrée	Jerk Chicken
Dessert	Savory Bread Pudding
Glass	Vase
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Hop flavor and aroma are low to medium-high. Hop bitterness is low to medium.
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	In darker versions, malt aromas can optionally include low roasted malt characters evident as cocoa/chocolate or caramel, and/or aromatic toffee-like, caramel, or biscuit-like characters.
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Grist should include sufficient rye such that rye character is evident in the beer.
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Not common to style.
Esters	Low level fruity-ester flavors are typical.
Fermentation Byproducts	In versions served with yeast, appearance may range from hazy to very cloudy.



source: CraftBeer.com

SESSION BEER

Style Family: Specialty Beers

This beer style is not defined by flavors or aromas, which can place it in almost any style category. Instead, what makes a session beer is primarily refreshment and drinkability. Any style of beer can be made lower in strength than described in the classic style guidelines. The goal should be to reach a balance between the style's character and the lower alcohol content. Drinkability is a factor in the overall balance of these beers. Beer should not exceed 5 percent ABV.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.034 - 1.040
FG	1.004 - 1.010
ABV	4.0% - 5.0%
IBU	10 - 30
BU:GU	0.29 - 0.75
SRM	2+
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	75 - 88

U.S. Commercial Examples

Provo Girl	Utah Brewers Co-op
Twerp	Pizza Port Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Not Detectable to Mild
Color	Varies
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	Undetermined
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies
FOOD PAIRINGS	
Cheese	Varies
Entrée	Varies
Dessert	Varies
Glass	Varies
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Varies
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Varies
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Varies
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.



source: CraftBeer.com

SMOKE BEER

Style Family: Specialty Beers

When malt is kilned over an open flame, the smoke flavor becomes infused into the beer, leaving a taste that can vary from dense campfire, to slight wisps of smoke. This style is open to interpretation by individual brewers. Any style of beer can be smoked; the goal is to reach a balance between the style's character and the smoky properties. Originating in Germany as rauchbier, this style is open to interpretation by U.S. craft brewers. Classic base styles include German-style Marzen/Oktobfest, German-style bock, German-style dunkel, Vienna-style lager and more. Smoke flavors dissipate over time.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	Varies
FG	Varies
ABV	Varies
IBU	Varies
BU:GU	Varies
SRM	Varies
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	Varies

U.S. Commercial Examples

Smoke Jumper Smoked Imperial Porter Left Hand Brewing Co.
Smoked Porter Stone Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Varies
Color	Varies
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	Germany
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Parmesan
Entrée	Grilled Vegetables
Dessert	Gingerbread Cookies

Glass	Vase
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Varies
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Varies
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Common woods used by U.S. craft brewers to smoke a variety of malts: Apple, Alder, Beech, Cherry, Hickory, Mesquite, Oak.
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies

YEAST

Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.



source: CraftBeer.com

SPECIALTY BEER

Style Family: Specialty Beers

Special ingredients used in this style should be distinctive and evident in either the aroma, flavor or overall balance of the beer. This style category is a catch-all. Any speciality beer that does not fit other speciality beer styles would be appropriately considered here. Examples can include sahti, roggenbier, steinbier, white IPA, session IPA and more.

Quantitative Style Statistics

OG	1.030 - 1.140
FG	1.006 - 1.030
ABV	2.5% - 25.0+%
IBU	1 - 100
BU:GU	Varies
SRM	Varies
CO2 Volumes	Varies
Apparent Attenuation	Varies

U.S. Commercial Examples

Chainbreaker White IPA	Deschutes Brewery
Sam Adams Norse Legend Sahti	Boston Beer Co.
All Day IPA	Founders Brewing Co.

Style A-Z

Alcohol	Varies
Color	Varies
Clarity	Varies
Country of Origin	Undetermined
Collar of Foam (Head Retention)	Varies
Collar of Foam (Texture)	Varies
Carbonation (Visual)	Varies

FOOD PAIRINGS

Cheese	Varies
Entrée	Varies
Dessert	Varies

Glass	Tulip
Hop Aroma/Flavor	Varies
Hop Ingredients	Varies
Malt Aroma/Flavor	Varies
Malt Ingredients	Varies
Other ingredients	Special or unusual ingredients or a combination of ingredients that bump a beer out of the other styles. For example, a "White IPA" is a combination of a Belgian-Style Wit and American IPA. Examples of specialty or unusual ingredients include maple syrup, potatoes, nuts, etc. Some beers use ingredients in unusual ways, such as a chili-flavored beer that emphasize heat rather than chili flavor, or a juniper berry beer in which the juniper is expressed more as herbal or spice qualities than as a berry or fruity character.
Palate Body	Varies
Palate Carbonation	Low to High
Palate Length/Finish	Varies
Water	Varies
YEAST	
Phenols	Can be present.
Esters	Can be present.



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