



BEER BASICS & TASTING

BEER KNOWLEDGE & TASTING



WATER



HOPS



GRAIN



YEAST

*4 Key ingredients to
make Beer*

MALT

Barley is the preferred grain for beer. But the starch in a grain of barley isn't ready to be fermented into alcohol, so the barley is generally converted into malted barley, or "malt." The process of malting involves soaking the barley, allowing it to germinate, and then stopping germination with heat.

HOPS

Hops are the spice of beer. They provide bitterness to balance the sweetness of the malt, as well as flavors and aromas ranging from citrus and pine to earthy and spicy.

YEAST

Yeast is the microorganism that is responsible for fermentation in beer. Yeast metabolizes the sugars extracted from grains, which produces alcohol and carbon dioxide, and thereby turns wort into beer. In addition to fermenting the beer, yeast influences the character and flavor.

ABV - ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

Alcohol by volume, or ABV, is used to measure the alcohol content of beer. Beers typically fall in the 3.0 to 13.0 percent ABV range, with the majority being 4.0 to 7.0 percent ABV.

IBU - INTERNATIONAL BITTERNESS UNIT

The standard used by brewers to indicate the bitterness level of a beer. A Pils which has 30 to 40 IBU units, will have the same level of bitterness as an English Ale that is indicated with the same numbers.

BEER READY GLASSWARE



“Flat” Beer

Film or grease attack the foam, reducing the appeal

“False” Beer

Rapid loss of foam requiring refills to “top off”

“Off” Taste Beer

Odors from sanitizers, bar towels and improper storage affects quality

WATER TEST - Submerge the glass in water, when you lift it out the water should sheet off of the glass. If droplets cling that is a sign of film present.

SALT TEST - Sprinkle salt into a wet glass, it should adhere evenly to the glass vs. sinking to the bottom or sticking randomly. Salt will stick wherever a greasy film is present.

BUBBLE TEST - Beer in the glass should be clear with no bubbles rising from the bottom of the glass or clinging to the side. Bubbles indicate a dirty glass. (Exception: Sam Adams specialty glasses have an etched bottom to create release of bubbles from the bottom of the glass)

FOAM TEST - The foam or head should stay present as the guest drinks the beer. After each sip, a ring of foam should adhere to the glass. This is called lacing, and when a guest is finished you should be able to count the number of sips taken to finish the beer.



GIDEON PUTNAM: DRAFT BEER

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Fiddlehead IPA

STYLE

IPA

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Shelburne, VT

ABV

6.2%

IBU

53

COLOR

Straw colored with a hazy glow.

AROMA

Notes of orange citrus

TASTE

Fiddlehead IPA is a well-balanced American IPA with mellow bitterness and a dry, refreshing finish.

PACKAGE

DRAFT

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Frog Alley Mohop IPA

STYLE

IPA

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Schenectady, NY

ABV

7.2%

IBU

40

COLOR

Straw colored

AROMA

Mango, stone fruit and floral.

TASTE

Mint and ripe tropical notes with melon, rose, mango and apricots.

PACKAGE

DRAFT

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Modelo Especial

STYLE

Pilsner-Style Mexican Lager

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Mexico

ABV

4.4%

IBU

12

COLOR

Rich, golden yellow

AROMA

Orange blossom and honey with a hint of herb

TASTE

Well-balanced, light hop character with a crisp, clean finish.

PACKAGE

DRAFT

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Blue Moon Belgian White

STYLE

Witbier

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

United States – Denver, CO

ABV

5.0%

IBU

9

COLOR

Hazy orange gold

AROMA

Fresh coriander and bright citrus orange peel

TASTE

Nice and complex with herbal and citrus notes, finishing fairly dry

PACKAGE

DRAFT

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Samuel Adams Seasonal

STYLE

Seasonal

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Boston, MA

ABV

-

IBU

-

COLOR

Varies

AROMA


Varies

TASTE

Varies

PACKAGE

DRAFT



GIDEON PUTNAM: PACKAGED BEER

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Avenue of the Pines

STYLE

New England Pale Ale

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Queensbury, NY

ABV

7.2%

IBU

49

COLOR

Golden yellow

AROMA

Earthy pine straw followed by apricot.

TASTE

Subtle pine and tropical fruit flavors.

PACKAGE

DRAFT

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Bud Light

STYLE

American Light Lager

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

United States – St. Louis, MO

ABV

4.2%

IBU

6

COLOR

Pale yellow

AROMA

Subtle hops with delicate malt sweetness

TASTE

Light-bodied with a fresh, clean hop flavor, mild sweetness, and crisp finish

PACKAGE

DRAFT

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Budweiser

STYLE

American Lager

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

United States – St. Louis, MO

ABV

5.0%

IBU

12

COLOR

Crisp, Pale Golden

AROMA

Sweet malt with subtle hops

TASTE

A medium-bodied, flavorful crisp American-style lager brewed with the best barley malt and a blend of premium hop varieties.



PACKAGE



DRAFT

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Coors Light

STYLE

American Light Lager

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

United States – Golden, CO

ABV

4.2%

IBU

10

COLOR

Pale gold

AROMA

Floral hops, subtle grain

TASTE

Mild sweet malt with hint of bitterness and a crisp finish



PACKAGE



DRAFT

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Corona Extra

STYLE

Mexican Lager

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Mexico

ABV

4.6%

IBU

19

COLOR

Golden

AROMA

Fruit, honey aromas and a touch of malt

TASTE

Crisp, clean and well-balanced between hops and malt.

PACKAGE

DRAFT

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Heineken

STYLE

European Lager

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Holland

ABV

5.0%

IBU

19

COLOR

Pale Golden

AROMA

Fruity

TASTE

Smooth, nicely blended bitterness, clean finish.

PACKAGE

DRAFT

BEER TASTING NOTES

Michelob
ULTRA



BRAND/NAME

Michelob Ultra

STYLE

Light American Lager

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

United States – St. Louis, MO

ABV

4.2%

IBU

10

COLOR

Light gold

AROMA

Mild biscuit and subtle light citrus

TASTE

Crisp and refreshing mild, malt taste with hints of citrus and a dry finish

PACKAGE

DRAFT

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Miller Lite

STYLE

American Light Lager

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

United States – Milwaukee, WI

ABV

4.2%

IBU

10

COLOR

Deep golden

AROMA

Medium malt and hop

TASTE

Hop-forward and solid malt character, smooth medium body with a crisp, clean finish.

PACKAGE

DRAFT

BEER TASTING NOTES



BRAND/NAME

Stella Artois

STYLE

European Pilsner

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Belgium

ABV

5.0%

IBU

24

COLOR

Golden

AROMA

Floral hops with toasted malt

TASTE

Slightly sweet with a clean, crisp hop finish.



PACKAGE



DRAFT