



this  
week in  
**craft.  
beer**

### **BREWER'S CORNER**

Beery news from around the world.

### **TAPROOM REVIEW**

We enjoy Phantom Brewing's 5th Birthday Party.

### **FESTIVAL CALENDAR**

Plan a trip to a Craft Beer Festival.

# 238

**ISSUE TWO HUNDRED  
AND THIRTY EIGHT**

NOVEMBER 4th 2024



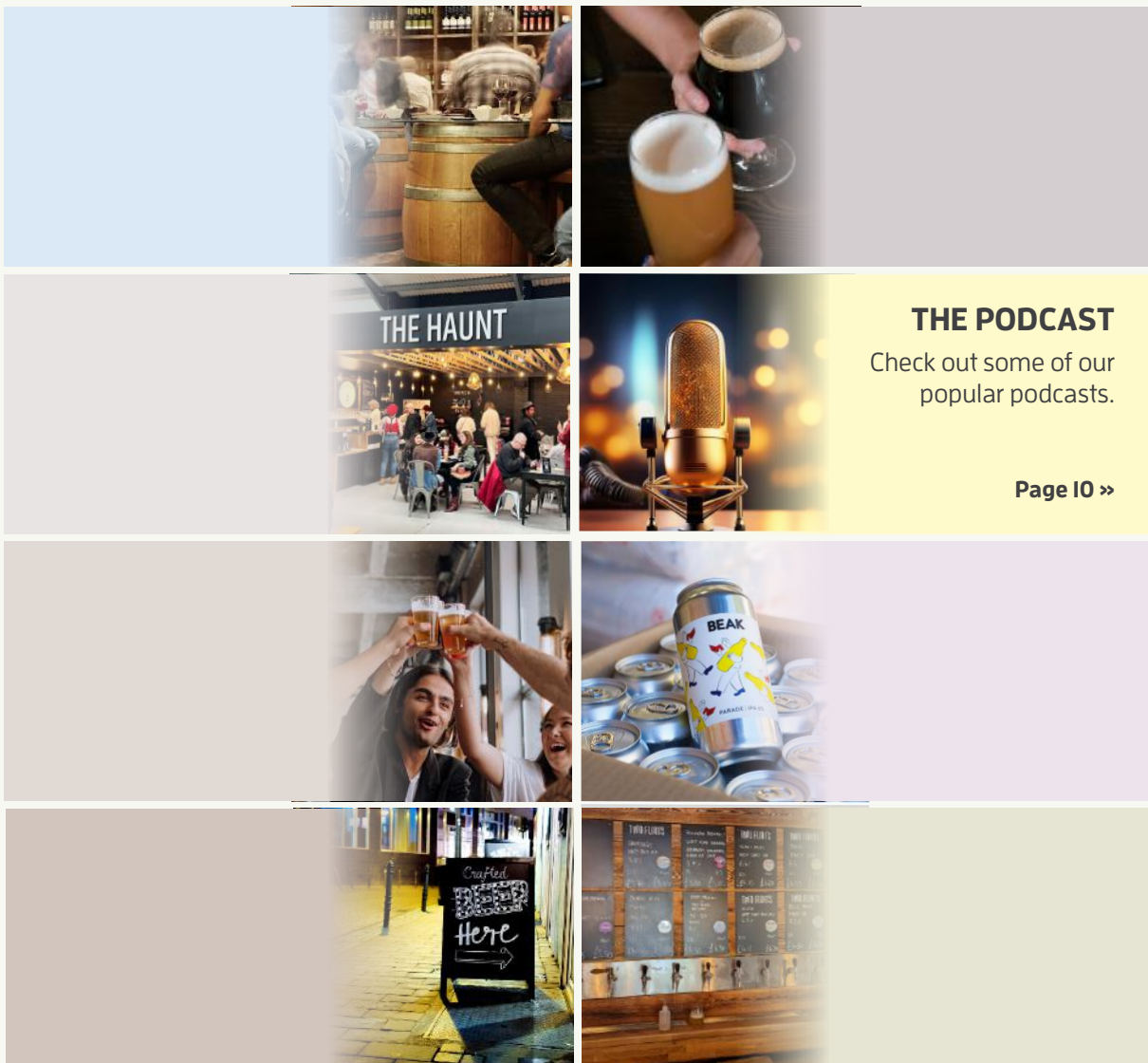
# Budget Blues

As expected, the autumn budget delivered a hammer blow to the hospitality industry, with increases in the National Insurance rate for employers and a rise in the minimum wage. Despite the reduction of draught beer tax (which will save 1p a pint and won't make a bit of difference), stronger canned and bottled beers plus wine and spirits will be hit with increases. Really tough on our beloved craft beer brewers, but I suppose it could have been worse.

On a lighter note, did you know that the budget speech gives the incumbent Chancellor of the Exchequer a very rare opportunity to imbibe in an alcoholic drink during it's delivery? In past times, Kenneth Clarke drank whisky, Geoffrey Howe was a gin and tonic man, and Benjamin Disraeli drank brandy and water. Gladstone, who delivered 12 budgets, more than any other chancellor, was known to favour sherry and beaten egg.

Somehow, I don't think Rachael Reeves was sipping a DIPA or TIPA last Wednesday. Had she done so perhaps the whole event might have been more palatable for us and most certainly for her.

Cheers!



**THE PODCAST**  
Check out some of our popular podcasts.

**Page 10 >>**



# Brewer's Corner

The latest news and views articles collated from the world of beer.



## Budget Disappointment

So the much-heralded/feared budget is now behind us, and predictably, the Hospitality sector reacted with a chorus of disappointment. It certainly seems likely that the increases in Business Rates added to the Employer's NI contribution changes will push some out of business.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)

## Ip Pint Tax Reduction Probably Won't Be Passed On?

More budget reaction from the Pub Curmudgeon, and I think it is fair to say that he is not impressed!

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)



## Beer Experts?

Here is an interesting piece by Alan McCloud who explores the question of what it means to be a beer expert.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)

## Aussie Beer Blues

Finally, from Australia, here is a remarkable piece aggregating comments from a number of staff who worked in the dying days of failing Craft Beer businesses. The names have all been changed, but the stories are depressingly real.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)



# Beer of the Week

## Vampyre Disco

10% Imperial Peanut Butter & Jelly Sour

by Neon Raptor Brewing Co.



---

Imperial Fruited Peanut Butter and Jelly Sour with Blackcurrant, Strawberry, Cherry, Redcurrant, Peanut Butter and Salt.

Dare you dance in the house of the bat?

<https://neonraptorbrewingco.com/products/vampyre-disco>

# WE'LL DO THE LABELS YOU DO THE TASTE

*The perfect partnership that tantalises the tastebuds,  
allowing our decoration to deliver the temptation.*



**OPM**  
group

[www.opmgroup.co.uk](http://www.opmgroup.co.uk) • 0113 231 1000 • [sales@opmgroup.co.uk](mailto:sales@opmgroup.co.uk)



# Taproom Review



**STEVE P**  
CO-FOUNDER

## Phantom Brewing's 5th Birthday Party

Unit 3 Meadow Rd, Reading RG1 8LB

Phantom Brewing Co.'s 5th Birthday Party was a memorable celebration that captured the vibrant, community-driven spirit the brewery has cultivated over its first five years. This sold-out event drew fans from all around, with tickets priced at just £5 which were snapped up well in advance, a testament to the excitement for this milestone. Guests were greeted by a giant inflated phantom on arrival at Meadow Road, Reading, setting the fun and festive tone of the evening.



Phantom's unique layout, spanning two spacious industrial units with interconnected access, made it an ideal party space. The brewery's taprooms, The Haunt and The Neon, offered ample room for celebration and featured 20 craft taps, with a wide selection of beers (many of which were brewed specially for the event) plus a well-stocked beer fridge offering wines, and spirits.

# Taproom Review

Phantom's large taproom area meant there was plenty of room to mingle, dance, and enjoy the night from 3 pm until 11 pm.



The event delivered a host of fun activities that kept everyone entertained. Live wrestling brought the house down, with a lively series of four choreographed bouts that saw men and women dramatically clashing in hilarious, over-the-top fights. The boisterous crowd loved every moment, cheering and laughing throughout.

Attendees also enjoyed the chance to dress up in costume and participate in karaoke—but with a unique twist. Instead of a machine, a live band accompanied the brave souls who took the mic, providing a one-of-a-kind rockstar experience that had everyone singing and dancing along.



# Taproom Review

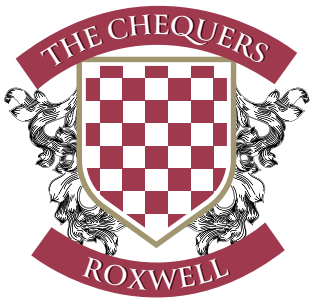
Beer was, of course, at the centre of it all, with an impressive lineup of 20 taps featuring some of Phantom's finest creations, including many brewed exclusively for this special night. And when hunger struck, 7Bone delivered—literally—with delicious street food like burgers and sides brought right to your table via a handy QR code ordering system.



Phantom's owners, Dane and Dom, truly know how to throw a spectacular event. From start to finish, the night was an amazing showcase of everything that makes Phantom Brewing so special. Here's to many more years of great beer, lively parties, and fantastic memories.

Happy Birthday, Phantom Brewing!





# EXCITING COMMUNITY-OWNED PUB TENANCY OPPORTUNITY! (FREE OF TIE)

THE CHEQUERS INN, ROXWELL, CHELMSFORD, CM1 4PD



Following the retirement of the previous operators after 24 years, a community buy-out and a six-month refurbishment programme, the Roxwell Chequers Community Benefit Society (RCCBS) is seeking the right tenant to re-establish The Chequers as the thriving pub at the heart of our community.

The Chequers is a traditional country pub located in the centre of Roxwell, four miles from Chelmsford City Centre. It is a Grade II listed building in a beautiful location a stone's throw from the village pond, church and school. It is the only traditional pub serving a wide catchment in an affluent part of the Essex countryside.

The pub offers two main bar areas, each with their own fireplace, together with a range of other well-connected and characterful spaces and snugs extending off to the rear. It can accommodate approximately 50 seated covers alongside space dedicated to drinking and socialising. It will benefit from a newly installed commercial kitchen perfect for preparing high-quality, affordable, traditional pub food.

Outside trading areas include an attractive beer garden to the rear and a courtyard at the front overlooking the village conservation area. Full disabled access and toilet facilities are provided, alongside newly installed heating and electrical systems. The private accommodation consists of a refurbished two-bedroom flat with a spacious lounge at first floor level.

RCCBS is seeking a tenant with strong business acumen and a proven track record that can engage effectively with locals and harness the groundswell of support shown for the pub through the community buy-out. We expect the tenant to offer traditional country pub services, including real ales, good food and special events through the year that will drive interest and custom. The Chequers must be welcoming of all, including families and dogs, and resume its rightful place as the hub of our community.



**FOR MORE DETAILS OF THE TENANCY OPPORTUNITY, PLEASE CONTACT RCCBS VIA THE QR CODE OR EMAIL [CONTACTUS@SAVETHECHEQUERSROXWELL.CO.UK](mailto:CONTACTUS@SAVETHECHEQUERSROXWELL.CO.UK). ALTERNATIVELY CALL SAM METSON, RCCBS CHAIR ON 07918 632483. WE WOULD WELCOME AN INITIAL CHAT WITH ANY PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS.**

**[WWW.SAVETHECHEQUERSROXWELL.CO.UK](http://WWW.SAVETHECHEQUERSROXWELL.CO.UK)**



# The Podcast

## Recent popular episodes

You can listen to the Podcast by downloading through the normal channels, including Apple and Spotify from 4am Monday.

CLICK GRAPHIC TO LISTEN ON SPOTIFY





# Beer Name of the Week

---

Brewers are always coming up with great names for their latest brews, so we thought it's about time we noticed some of them.

## Society For The Encouragement Of Virtue

12% Rum Barrel-Aged Imperial Stout

By Round Corner Brewing

This superb imperial stout pours an opaque jet black. Rich and decadent after several months maturing in freshly disgorged Planteray Rum barrels from Barbados. Roast malts bring aromas of dried fruits, liquorice, Christmas cake and molasses. The mouthfeel is velvety, with smooth oak and rum notes balanced elegantly by a firm, lingering bitterness





# Support TWICB with Patreon

[www.patreon.com/thisweekincraftbeer](http://www.patreon.com/thisweekincraftbeer)

Help support **This Week In Craft Beer** - Newsletter, Podcast and Website, by becoming a Patreon Member and enjoy additional benefits.

Our Newsletter, Podcast and website are **FREE** and always will be, however we do have increased costs to cover like all businesses. We freely give our time producing and collating the information but need help in covering our fixed costs. Becoming a Patreon member shows your support for us and will allow us to continue our work and bring additional services in the future!

The benefits of Patreon membership include advert-free podcasts, early access, name-check in the Podcast intro (optional), influence on breweries to follow, festival meet-ups, TWICB T-shirt and **INCLUDES** access to our Discount Codes Membership Scheme!

[www.patreon.com/thisweekincraftbeer](http://www.patreon.com/thisweekincraftbeer)

## **Many thanks to our recent Patreon members!...**

Bayonet Brewing Co.

Robert Baker

The Small Batch Brewing Co.

Belgian & Blues Southampton

Ken Robinson

Steve Hartley

John Stephens

Dolphin Brewery

Tim Messinger

Bettina Cassidy

Claire Coster

Craig Hatton

Sue Johnson

Berkshire Beer Box

Doug Thayer

Ade Barley

Mike Bailey

Jazz Hundal

Phantom Brewing Co.

Jon Mead

Paul Whelan

Vaux Brewery

James Cox

Craft BEERings



# UK Craft Beer Festivals

---



**8-9 NOVEMBER 2024**

## **RISING TIDE CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL**

Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, Canterbury CT1 2EH

<https://shorturl.at/GHJMY>

**8-9 NOVEMBER 2024**

## **DERBY BEER CON**

Museum and Art Gallery (aka The Library) The Strand, Derby DE1 1BS

<https://www.derbybeercon.com/>

**22-23 NOVEMBER 2024**

## **IPSWICH CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL**

The Baths, Civic Drive, Ipswich IP1 2AX

<https://wegottickets.com/f/13582>

**10-12 APRIL 2025**

## **BREW//LDN**

Between The Bridges, London SE1

<https://www.brewldn.com/>



**2-3 MAY 2025**

**AWAKENING '25**

St Johns Church, Forton Rd, Gosport PO12 4TQ

<https://shorturl.at/XfV8e>

**16-17 MAY 2025**

**MANCHESTER CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL**

Depot Mayfield, Manchester

<https://linktr.ee/manchestercraftbeerfestival>

**16-17 MAY 2025**

**HOP CITY 2025**

The Old Flax Store, Marshall St, Leeds LS11 9YJ

[TBA](#)

**6-7 JUNE 2025**

**MANCHESTER CRAFT BREW FESTIVAL**

Victoria Warehouse, Trafford Wharf Road, Manchester M17 1AB

<https://craftbrewfestival.co.uk/manchester>

**13-14 JUNE 2025**

**BRISTOL CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL**

Lloyds Amphitheatre, Harbourside Bristol

<https://linktr.ee/bcbf>

**20-21 JUNE 2025**

**NOTTINGHAM CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL**

Sneinton Market, Nottingham NG1

<https://shorturl.at/bOKxQ>

**18-19 JULY 2025**

**LONDON CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL**

Tobacco Dock, Tobacco Quay, Wapping Lane, London E1W 2SF

<https://londoncraftbeerfestival.co.uk/>

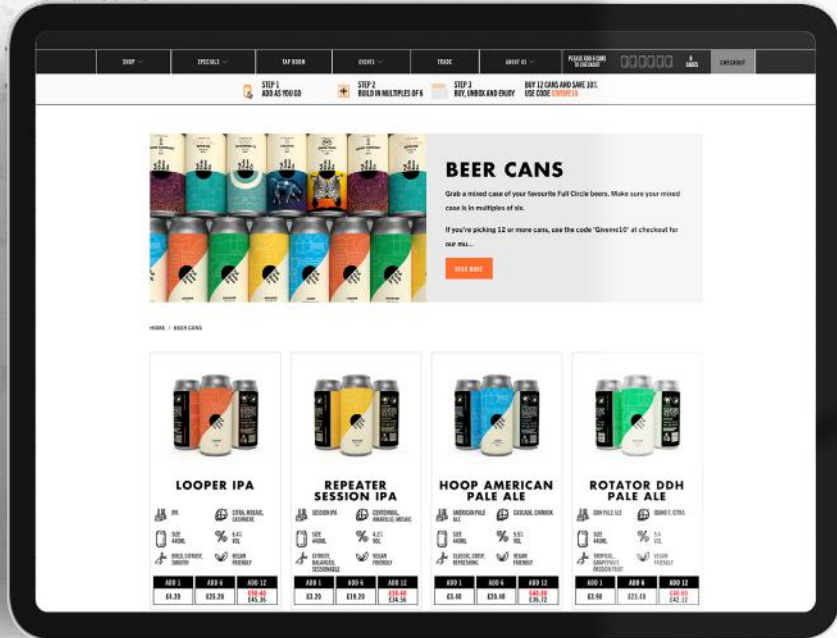






# Webshops

## FEATURED WEBSHOP



## Craft beer direct to your fridge



### Full Circle Brew Co.

Craft Brewery & Taproom

<https://www.fullcirclebrew.co.uk/collections/all-beer>

Free national delivery over £50



### Duration Brewing Beer Shop

Beers That Belong - Brewed From Nature With Purpose

<https://shop.durationbeer.com/>

Free delivery over £50



### Villages Brewery

Bringing People Together

<https://villagesbrewery.com/collections/buy-beer>

Standard shipping £6.99


# Webshop Directory...



## Little Earth Project

Fresh & Funky From the Suffolk Countryside

<https://littleearthproject.myshopify.com/>

 Free shipping for orders over £80


---



## Holy Goat Brewing

Specialising in the Production of Mixed Fermentation & Wood Aged Beers

<https://holygoat.beer/shop/>

 Free shipping for orders over £39


---



## Vault City Brewing

Modern Sour Beer With a Focus on Fruit Forward Flavours

<https://vaultcity.co.uk/collections/all-beers>

 Free shipping for orders over £50


---



## UnBarred Brewery

Made of Brighton

<https://www.unbarredbrewery.com/collections/unbarred-shop>

 Free delivery for orders over £50


---



## 52 Degrees Brewing (10% discount code: 10forTWICB)

Grasshopper & Warwickshire Beers – All flowing together

<https://52degreesbrewing.com/pages/purchase-beer>

 Standard shipping £5.99


---



## Pomona Island Brew Co.

Award Winning Brewery Based In Salford

<https://www.pomonaislandbrew.co.uk/shop>

 Standard shipping £6.00


---



## Attic Brew Co.

Forward Thinking Beers

<https://atticbrewco.com/collections/beer>

 Free delivery for orders over £35

---


# Webshop Directory...



## **Polly's Brew Co.**

Ultra Fresh, Hop-Forward, Modern Beers

<https://pollysbrew.co/shop/>

 Free shipping for orders over £60


---



## **Amity Brew Co.**

Community, Friendship and Good beer!

<https://www.amitybrew.co/shop>

 Free shipping on orders over £45


---



## **Wilderness Brewery**

Wild Little Beers From Mid Wales

<https://www.wildernessbrew.co.uk/shop>

 Standard shipping £8 or click and collect


---



## **Moot Brew Co.**

Brewing Hop Forward Beers in the Heart of Kent

<https://mootbrew.co.uk/collections/all>

 Free shipping on orders over £60


---



## **Exale Brewery**

We're Exale. Home of the Wild, Weird and Wonderful

<https://shop.exalebrew.co.uk/>

 Free shipping for orders over £30


---



## **Crossover Blendery**

Modern, Flavour-Forward Beers Rooted In Tradition

<https://crossoverblendery.co.uk/collections/beers>

 Standard shipping £8.99


---



## **Mondo Brewing Co.**

All Things Point South West

<https://shop.mondobeer.com/>

 Free shipping for orders over £75

---




# Webshop Directory...



## Anspach & Hobday

A London Brewery Making Traditional Beers in a Modern Way

<https://www.anspachandhobday.com/shop>

 Free shipping for orders over £60


---



## Bullhouse Brew Co.

Independent Craft Brewery Based in Belfast

<https://bullhousebrewco.com/collections/beer>

 Free shipping for orders over £50


---



## Neon Raptor Brewing Co.

Midlands Based Microbrewery Producing Top Quality Beers

<https://neonraptorbrewingco.com/collections/beer>

 Free shipping on orders of 12 cans or more


---



## Track Brewing Co.

Beers Born From Adventure

<https://www.trackbrewing.co/collections/buybeer>

 Free shipping for orders over £60


---



## 71 Brewing Co.

Engineers of Beers, Brewed in Scotland

<https://71brewing.com/collections/all>

 Standard shipping £5.99


---



## Hammerton Brewery

Proudly Brewing Great Beer in London N7

<https://hammertonbrewery.shop/>

 Free shipping for orders over £48


---



## Vibrant Forest Brewery

Our Passion is to Brew Modern Beers Packed With Flavour

<https://www.vibrantforest.co.uk/>

 Free shipping for orders over £60

---


# Webshop Directory...



## Sureshot Brewing

High Quality, Small Batch - From the Beating Belly of Manchester

<https://sureshotbrew.com/shop/>

 Free shipping for orders over £60


---



## Carnival Brewing Co.

Celebrating Modern Beer

<https://carnivalbrewing.me/collections/cans-bottles>

 Free shipping for orders over £50


---



## Electric Bear Brewing Co.

Craft Beer That Delivers on that 'glad-to-be-alive' Vibe

<https://electricbearbrewing.com/collections/beer>

 Free shipping for orders over £50


---



## Round Corner Brewing

Uncommonly Good Beer

<https://roundcornerbrewing.com/pages/ranges>

 Free shipping for orders over £50


---



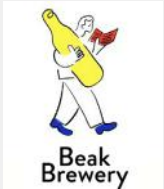
## Tartarus Beers

Brewing Small Batch Craft Beer, With a Mythical Edge

<https://www.tartarusbeers.co.uk/collections/beer>

 Free shipping for orders over £50


---



## Beak Brewery

Life-affirming Ales

<https://beakbrewery.com/>

 Free shipping for orders over £50


---



## Only With Love - 10% Discount code: TWICB-OWLove

Togetherness on Tap

<https://www.onlywithlove.co/>

 Free shipping for orders over £55

---


# Webshop Directory...



## Lost Pier Brewing

Independent Nomadic Brewer Based in Sussex

<https://www.lostpier.com/online-store>


 Free shipping for orders over £50



## Vaux Brewery

Independent Craft Brewery in Sunderland

<https://www.vaux.beer/collections/webshop>


 Free shipping for orders over £60



## Hackney Brewery

A Small, Independent Craft Brewery in London

<https://www.hackneybrewery.com/shop>


 Free shipping for orders over £50



## Bayonet Brewing

Modern, Exciting and Innovative Beers

<https://bayonet-brewing.square.site/s/shop>


 Standard shipping £6.50



## Padstow Brewing Co.

Multi Award Winning Craft Brewery

<https://www.padstowbrewing.co.uk/shop/>


 Free shipping for orders over £50



## Zapato Brewery

Add any 12 Zapato beers to your cart for an automatic 10% discount

<https://zapatobrewing.com/>


 Free shipping on orders over £60



## Time & Tide Brewing

Independent Brewery, Producing Hop Forward, Progressive Beers

<https://www.timeandtidebrewing.co.uk/shop>

 Free shipping on orders over £50




# Webshop Directory...

## Stannary Brewing Co.



Producers of Flavoured, Modern Beers in the Heart of West Devon

<https://stannarybrewing.shop/>

 Free shipping for orders over £30


---

## Wild Horse Brewing Co.



Fresh, Forward Thinking, Beer

<https://wildhorsebrewing.co.uk/collections/beer-cans>

 Free shipping for orders over £60


---

## Pastore Brewing & Blending



We Make Fresh Super-Fruited Sours & Barrel Aged Blended Wild Ales

<https://pastore-brewing.myshopify.com/collections/all>

 Standard shipping £5.99


---

## Liquid Light Brewing Co.



Vegan Craft Beers Inspired By a Love For Music

<https://liquidlightbrewco.shop/>

 Free shipping for orders over £50


---

## Merakai Brewing Co.



Crafted With Purpose

<https://www.merakaibrewing.com/shop>

 Free shipping for orders over £60


---

## Small Batch Brewing Co.



Making Good Beer For Great People

<https://www.smallbatchbrewing.co.uk/shop/>

 Standard shipping £7.20


---

## Hammerton Brewery



Proudly Brewing Great Beer in London N7

<https://hammertonbrewery.shop/>

 Free shipping on orders over £48

---


# Webshop Directory...



## Wylam Brewery

Micro Brewery - Tap Room - Events Space

<https://beerstore.wylambrewery.co.uk/>

 Standard shipping £6.99


---



## Runaway Brewery

Handmade, Modern British Beer

<https://www.therunawaybrewery.com/>

 Standard shipping £6.50


---



## Pillars Brewery

Home of Lager - Brewed in East London

<https://www.pillarsbrewery.com/collections/beer-boxes>

 Free shipping for orders over £80


---



## Pipeline Brewing

Hazy, Hop-Forward Beers

<https://pipelinebrewing.co.uk/collections/all>

 Free shipping for orders over £60


---



## State of Kind Brew Co.

Making the World Better One Beer at a Time

<https://www.stateofkindbrew.co/shop>

 Free shipping for orders over £45


---



## Bottle & Jug Dept.

Craft Beer, Traditional Cider, Spirits, Natural and Organic Wine

<https://bottleandjugdept.co.uk/>

 Free shipping for orders over £95


---



## Double-Barrelled Brewery - 10% Discount code: TWICB

A modern, independent brewery based in Reading, Berkshire

<https://doublebarrelled.co.uk/>

 Free shipping for orders over £50

---