



this
week in
**craft.
beer**



BREWER'S CORNER

Beery news from around the world.

HOP OF THE WEEK

We take an in-depth look at a different hop each week.

CRAFT PUB REVIEW

We visit The Leopard Pub in Norwich.

250

**ISSUE TWO HUNDRED
AND FIFTY**

APRIL 14th 2025

Please show consideration to our
neighbours when leaving the premises.



Unbelievable!

No, it's not the dire state of the British economy, nor Milliband's insane net zero policy, nor even the scary world outlook and fears of war escalation. Instead it's something much more pleasant - namely the weather. What an unbelievable Spring so far!

Apparently last month was the sunniest March since records began, and, as tomorrow marks the halfway point in April, this month could conceivably be even sunnier!

Let's not get carried away just yet though, as there may soon be the prospect of hosepipe bans and water shortages. For the time being however, we should just get out and about when we can and soak up some valuable vitamin D.

Remember to keep hydrated and get plenty of refreshing craft ale in the system.!

Cheers.

BREWER'S CORNER

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

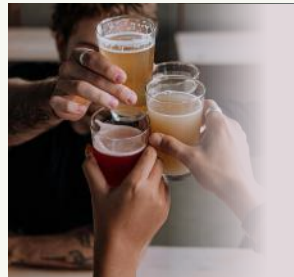
[Page 3 »](#)



BEER OF THE WEEK

The best beer we have enjoyed this week.

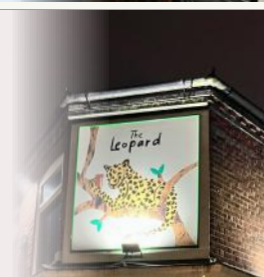
[Page 4 »](#)



CRAFT PUB REVIEW

We visit The Leopard Pub in Norwich.

[Page 5 »](#)



HOP FOCUS

We take an in-depth look at the hop: SIMCOE

[Page 8 »](#)



FESTIVAL CALENDAR

Enjoy the amazing buzz and excitement of a craft beer festival.

[Page 12 »](#)



WEBSHOPS

Fresh craft beer delivered directly to your door.

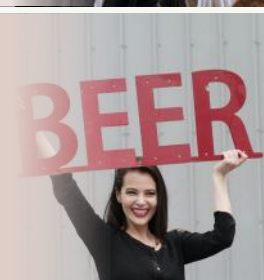
[Page 16 »](#)



ADVERTISE WITH US

Promote your company, products or events.

[Link »](#)



TAPROOM FINDER

Discover a taproom or craft beer bar near you.

[Link »](#)



Brewer's Corner

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



Dire Consequences Await

The British Institute of Innkeeping have surveyed their members and apparently 83% plan to cut staff hours or shifts to offset the NI and tax increases.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)

Cask Ale To Get UNESCO Recognition?

Meanwhile, UK Beer Media royalty Jonny and Brad at the Craft Beer Channel are lobbying to get cask ale identified by UNESCO as a cultural asset.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)



Drink Local Beer

Anyone getting depressed by the global trade turmoil inflicted on the World this week should take some comfort from the fact that it is the Evil Macros who are being hit hardest. Drink local beer!

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)

Outdoor Smoking Ban

Finally this week, a pub in Hythe in Kent has banned smoking in their beer garden, apparently because it annoys people dining outdoors!

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)



Beer of the Week

I'm Not A Sailor, I'm The Captain

6.5% Hazy IPA

by Full Circle Brew Co.



Bags of white grape and stone fruit flavour are present from the first taste – the classic NZ hop character we love so much. Abundances of peach, nectarine and apricot, concluding with a light, floral finish makes it almost too easy to drink!

[BUY HERE](#)

Craft Pub Review



STEVE P
TWICB CO FOUNDER

The Leopard

98-100 Bull Close Road, Norwich, NR3 1NQ

Tucked away in a quiet street lined with domestic housing, just north of Norwich city centre, The Leopard is a traditional pub that's anything but ordinary. With a deep-rooted love for all things beer, this place has transformed into a haven for craft lovers whilst still holding on to its proper pub soul.



Craft Pub Review

Walk through the doors and you're greeted with a warm welcome (families and dogs included—just keep the pups on a lead and the kids out after 8pm), a laid-back vibe, and some serious beer credentials. The bar boasts nine craft taps, cleverly retrofitted into old Watneys Red Barrel fonts—yes, you read that right. It turns out you can get a good beer from a Watneys font! These taps pour a rotating selection of independent craft beers, lagers, and ciders that cater to seasoned hop heads and casual sippers alike.



During our visit, we supped on a delicious pale from Weekend Project, Ampersand's Algorithm, and an intriguing peanut butter and marshmallow imperial stout from Brass Castle—a bold but surprisingly balanced treat for the adventurous palate.

If cask is more your thing, you're in luck. The Leopard keeps a minimum of five real ales on at all times, supporting the best of local and national breweries. There's a proper sense of pride here in what they pour, and it shows.

Craft Pub Review

Beer aside, the fridges are a treasure trove of UK craft beer cans, bottled gems, and five traditional box ciders. Whether you're sitting by the log fire in winter or catching the sun in their surprisingly tropical courtyard, there's a spot (and a drink) for every mood.



And then there's the food—Leopard Bites. These aren't your standard pub meals but rather a killer line-up of sandwiches, nachos, kebabs, and more—snack-style dishes that are crafted in-house and go down perfectly with a pint. Food is served Wednesday to Saturday, but if you turn up when the kitchen's closed, you're welcome to bring a takeaway or order in.



Throw in a fortnightly pub quiz on Wednesdays at 7:30pm, and you've got yourself a proper community spot that's all about good beer, good food, and good company. No booking needed—just get there early to nab a table. Open seven days a week, The Leopard nails the balance between cozy tradition and craft-forward passion. Whether you're after a quiet pint, a snack in the sun, or a fridge full of take-home treasures, this pub delivers.



Hop of the Week

Simcoe



Simcoe Hops - The Dual-Purpose Darling of Brewing

In the world of hops, few varieties have earned the cult following and widespread acclaim of **Simcoe**. First released by **Yakima Chief Ranches in 2000**, this American hop quickly became a staple in the craft brewing industry—and for good reason. Simcoe brings a powerful combination of **aromatic complexity**, **bold flavour**, and **brewing versatility**, making it a favourite among brewers and drinkers alike.

Origins and Background

Simcoe was developed by Select Botanicals Group and remains a proprietary variety, known officially as **YCR 14**. While its precise lineage is a bit of a secret, it's believed to be a cross that includes **Nugget** as one of the parents, with other unknown genetics lending to its distinct profile. It was bred to be a **dual-purpose hop**, capable of delivering both solid bitterness and vibrant aroma.

Aroma and Flavour Profile

Simcoe is often described as a "**jack-of-all-trades**" hop thanks to its wide range of flavours and aromas. On the nose and palate, expect a blend of:

Bright citrus (grapefruit, tangerine)

Piney and resinous notes

Earthy undertones

Passionfruit and berry hints

Dank and herbal characteristics

The complexity is what sets Simcoe apart—depending on how it's used (early boil vs. dry hopping), different elements of its personality emerge.

Hop of the week: SIMCOE

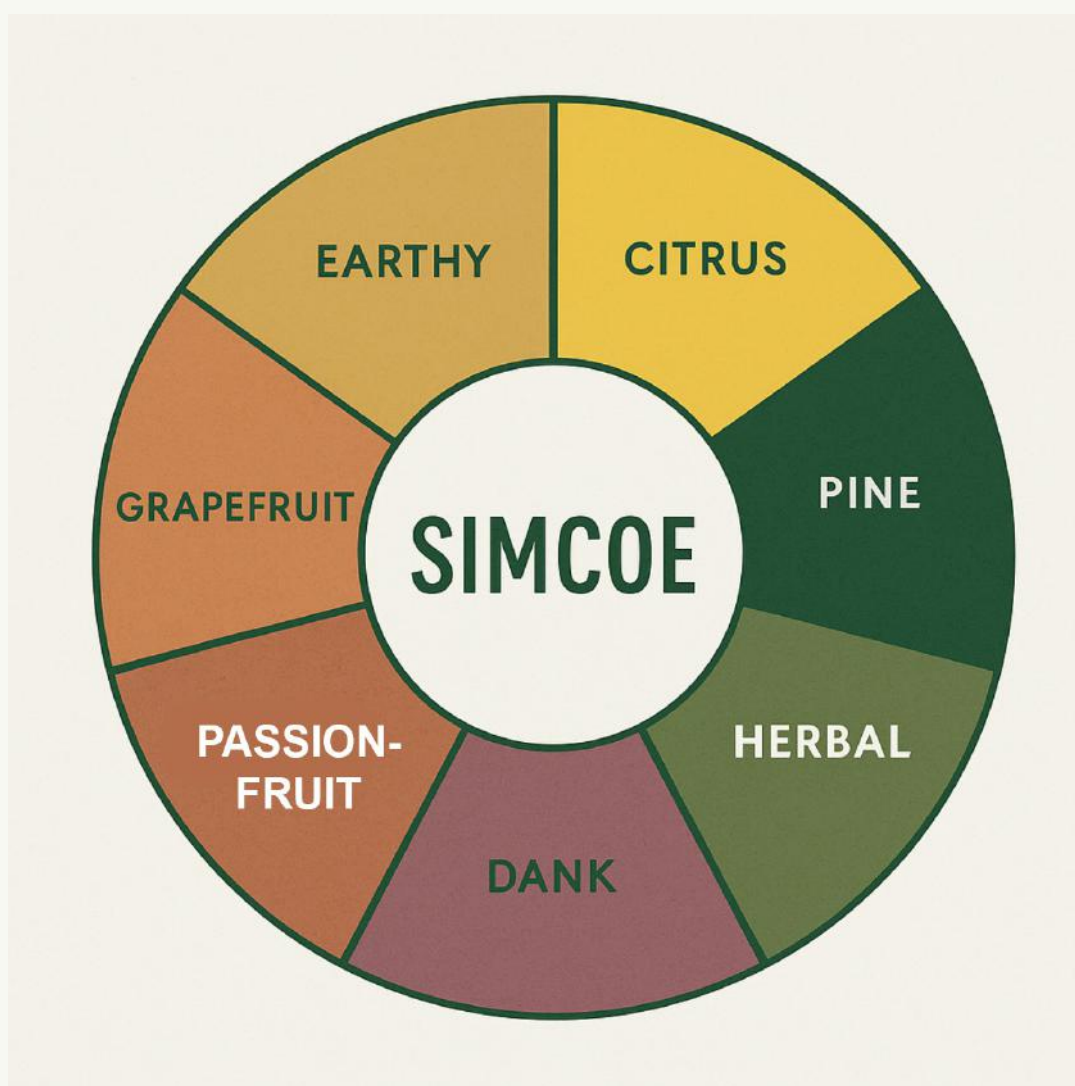
Typical Uses in Brewing

Simcoe is incredibly versatile. It shines in **IPAs, pale ales, double IPAs**, and **American-style porters or stouts**. You'll find it in everything from **West Coast IPAs** for its piney sharpness to **New England IPAs** where its fruitier side comes forward.

Bittering: With an alpha acid content typically between 12–14%, Simcoe provides clean, smooth bitterness.

Aroma/Dry Hopping: This is where Simcoe really makes its mark, adding that signature burst of citrus and dank character.

It's often paired with other superstar hops like **Citra, Amarillo, Mosaic, and Centennial** to create layered and expressive hop profiles.



Hop of the week: SIMCOE

Why Brewers Love Simcoe

Simcoe is prized not only for its flavour but also for its consistency and reliability in the brewing process. It's robust and generally easy to work with, making it a go-to for commercial breweries and homebrewers alike.

Iconic Beers Featuring Simcoe

Some legendary beers that showcase Simcoe include:

Russian River's Pliny the Elder – A double IPA known for its balanced use of Simcoe and other hops.

Dogfish Head 60/90 Minute IPA – Regularly features Simcoe in its hop bill.

Stone IPA – Often incorporates Simcoe to accentuate its West Coast profiles.



Summary

Simcoe hops are a powerhouse in the hop world. Whether you're a brewer looking to craft a well-rounded IPA or a beer enthusiast trying to understand what makes your favourite beer tick, Simcoe plays a crucial role in shaping the bold, aromatic landscape of modern craft beer.

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.

Blithering Idiot

11.1% Barley Wine

By Weyerbacher Brewing Co.

Blithering Idiot, 11.1% ABV, is brewed in the British tradition of balanced, hearty ales. It's a deep-copper ale with notes of date and fig. The finish is warm and fruity and begs for the next sip. Aging only helps a barleywine develop more complexity. This fine ale will keep for years.



UK Craft Beer Festivals



12 APRIL 2025

ABERDEEN BEER FESTIVAL

Music Hall, Union St, Aberdeen AB10 IQS

<https://shorturl.at/iWgQZ>

25-26 APRIL 2025

STAGE CRAFT FESTIVAL

21 South Street, Reading RG1 4QU

<https://shorturl.at/SO3uD>

2-3 MAY 2025

AWAKENING '25

St Johns Church, Forton Rd, Gosport PO12 4TQ

<https://shorturl.at/XfV8e>

3-4 MAY 2025

FROM THE LAND BEER FESTIVAL

Acklington Park Farm, Northumberland NE65 9AA

<https://shorturl.at/A3sda>

3-4 MAY 2025

NORWICH CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

The Waterfront, Norwich

<https://shorturl.at/jXo7v>

15-17 MAY 2025

BEHIND BARS - CRAFT BEER FEST

A Wing, Lancaster Castle,, Castle Hill, Lancaster LA1 1YN

<https://shorturl.at/NWb24>

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

<https://www.universe.com/events/hop-city-2025-tickets-6FNG7B>

29-31 MAY 2025

CRAFT BEER EXPO 2025

Black Lodge Brewery, 3 Kings Dock Street, Liverpool L1 8JU

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/craft-beer-expo-ltd-3248880072>

30-31 MAY 2025

FYNEFEST 2025

Fyne Ales, Achadunan, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BJ

<https://fynefest.com/tickets/>

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>

26-29 JUNE 2025

NEXT GEN BEER FESTIVAL

St Mary's Works, St Marys Plain, Norwich NR3 3AF

[Cancelled](#)

4-5 JULY 2025

LITTLE EARTH FEST 2025

Little Earth Project Mill Green, Edwardstone, Sudbury CO10 5PX

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

5 JULY 2025

DUMMER DOWN BREWERY BEER FESTIVAL

Dummer Down Farm, Dummer Hampshire RG25 2AR

<https://shorturl.at/UphkV>

11-12 JULY 2025

SALISBURY CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

The Arts Centre, Salisbury

<https://shorturl.at/FajUs>

18-19 JULY 2025

LONDON CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

Magazine London, 11 Ordnance Cres, London SE10 0JH

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

26 JULY 2025

LITTLE SUMMER BEER BASH

Verdant, Unit 30 Parkengue, Kernick Industrial Estate, Penryn TR10 9EP

<https://tinyurl.com/3p3tv7kb>

9-10 AUGUST 2025

THESE HILLS 2025

Glynde Place, Lewes, East Sussex, BN8 6SX

<https://tinyurl.com/28msnc5p>





15-16 AUGUST 2025

NORTHALLERTON CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

The Golden Lion Hotel, Northallerton DL7 8PP

www.buytickets.at/ncbf

22-24 AUGUST 2025

SUNDERLAND CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

The Fire Station, Sunderland SRI 3HA

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

28-30 AUGUST 2025

FARM TRIP 2025

Home Farm, Horrobin Lane Rivington, PR6 9HE

[TICKETS ON SALE 28 MARCH](#)

24-25 OCTOBER 2025

RISING TIDE CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, Canterbury, Kent

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

25 OCTOBER 2025

THE BIG SWALLY

O2 Academy, Edinburgh

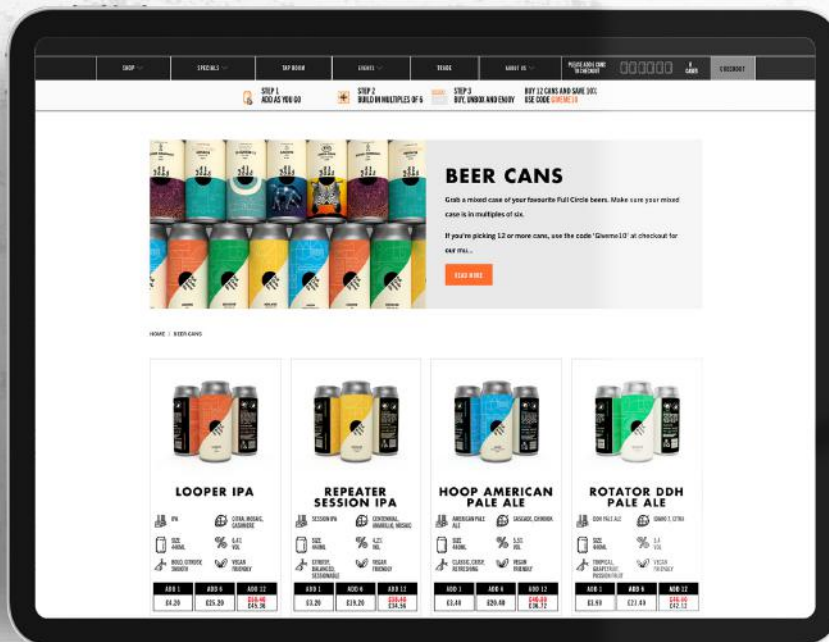
[TBA](#)





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
