



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 the Amarillo hop.

### **FESTIVAL REVIEW**

The TWICB Team visits Stage Craft Festival in Reading.

# 253

**ISSUE TWO HUNDRED  
AND FIFTY THREE**  
MAY 5th 2025





# Please Tell Me This a Joke

It is reported that British scientists are about to experiment with techniques to block sunlight as part of a £50 million government funded scheme to combat global warming.

This mind boggling project is set to be given the go-ahead within weeks and could see scientists explore techniques including launching clouds of reflective particles into the atmosphere, using seawater sprays to make clouds brighter and thinning natural cirrus clouds which trap the heat. If successful, less sunlight will reach the earth's surface and in turn temporarily cool the surface of earth. Just what we in Britain need!

Critics however have warned it could cause catastrophic weather pattern disruptions and even shift rain from areas that are vital for food production. And what about Miliband's solar panels! Absolute madness in my humble opinion, and enough to drive you to drink!

Make mine a strong IPA please

Cheers.

## BREWER'S CORNER

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

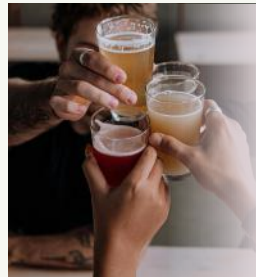
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## BEER OF THE WEEK

The best beer we have enjoyed this week.

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## FESTIVAL REVIEW

We visit Stage Craft Festival in Reading.

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## HOP FOCUS

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

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## FESTIVAL CALENDAR

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

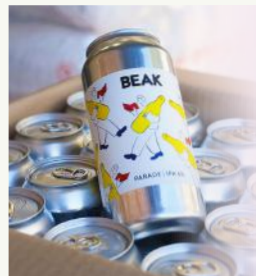
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## WEBSHOPS

Fresh craft beer delivered directly to your door.

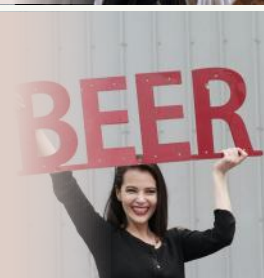
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## TAPROOM FINDER

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[Link »](#)



# Brewer's Corner

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



## Breweries in Survival Mode

This week SIBA published their Independent Beer Report, which showed that an alarming 46% of Breweries report themselves to be in "Survival" mode, with almost one in three expecting to see a decrease in turnover in the coming year.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)

## A Special Case?

In his well-written Beer Diary, Phil Cook has eloquently summarised a point of view that has been in our minds for a while. Phil is tired of hearing calls for direct and targeted intervention from the Government for Brewers and Hospitality, as though they are a special case deserving of prioritised support ahead of, say, the NHS, or pensioners, or welfare.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)



## Craft Beer Drinkers Increase Slightly

This week at Beervana, Jeff reflected on the Craft Beer Conference which, amongst all the gloom and doom in the US at the moment, noted that the percentage of legal drinking age adults who drank craft beer in the past 30 days continues to rise from 9.1% in 2023 to 9.8% in 2024. Not the 20% that we were hoping for a few years back, which would destroy the Evil Macro's supply chains; but still cautiously good news.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)

## Off-Flavour Detection App

Finally, in Science Corner, research in the Philippines has found that smartphone colorimetry can be used to detect the concentration of Dimethyl Sulphide (DMS) in beer, which is an "off-flavour" in high concentrations. It won't be long before sending your pint back at the bar will be app-supported!

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)



# Beer of the Week

## Break Me Into Bigger Pieces

6.5% IPA

by DEYA Brewing Co.



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Like alcoholic lilt, Break Me brings forth all sorts of citrus goodness with lemon and lime very much to the fore. Choice Motueka, Citra and HBC 1019 provide the base for a melange of tropical, lime and coconut goodness, backed up with the addition of lemon and lime zest in the dry hop.

[BUY HERE](#)



# Festival Review



**STEVE P**  
TWICB CO FOUNDER

## Stage Craft Festival

South Street Arts Centre, South Street, Reading

The Stage Craft Festival made a triumphant return this year under new stewardship, with Andy from Dolphin Brewery taking the reins and delivering a vibrant, well-curated celebration of craft beer at the ever-charming South Street Arts Studio in Reading. While this wasn't the venue's first brush with beer festivals, the rebranded Stage Craft Festival stood out as a polished and passionate showcase of the independent brewing scene.



Spread across three sessions (Friday evening and two on Saturday), the festival made smart use of the venue's layout. The main theatre space hosted the majority of the breweries, with taps flowing and brewers chatting enthusiastically with guests. A smaller studio space acted as a chill-out area with plenty of seating, while the arts centre's usual bar was also in operation, providing yet another space to savour the beer and soak in the atmosphere.

# Festival Review

The TWICB team arrived for the Saturday evening session already well-lubricated from a pre-festival visit to Two Flints Taproom in Windsor—and we weren't alone in our enthusiasm. The place was buzzing. Music filled the space, laughter flowed freely, and the sense of community that defines the UK's craft beer scene was on full display.



The festival's brewery line-up was nothing short of impressive. From national favourites like Pomona Island, Rivington Brewing Co, Little Earth Project, and Sureshot Brewing, to newer names like Makemake and Bang The Elephant, alongside local legends Dolphin Brewery, Siren Craft, Phantom Brewing, and Foible Barrelled, there was no shortage of quality.

This was a pay-as-you-go event (cashless only), and the £16 entry fee included a well-designed branded glass—an ideal souvenir and vessel for the night's discoveries. The beer list leaned traditional in some areas—especially with a noticeable tilt toward sours—but there was still an excellent selection of IPAs, stouts, DIPAs, and even a few GF and AF options for those who needed them.

Among the highlights: Phantom Brewing's P is for Peacherine, a juicy, fruit-forward DIPa that impressed with both balance and punch, and Rivington's OED, a brooding, complex whisky barrel-aged imperial stout that stole the show for many. Both were perfect examples of UK craft at its finest.

Two food vendors outside kept hunger at bay—one dishing up satisfyingly indulgent Detroit-style square pizzas, and the other serving wraps and loaded fries. Both were ideal beer companions and kept punters happily fuelled for the evening.



## Festival Review

In all, Stage Craft Festival was a well-executed, well-attended, and well-enjoyed event.

Friendly faces, great beer, and a thoughtful venue layout made this a standout on the craft beer calendar. We hope it becomes a staple fixture in Reading's festival scene—and judging by this year's success, it certainly deserves to be.





# Hop of the Week

## Amarillo



### Amarillo Hops: A Burst of Citrus and Versatility in Brewing

Amarillo hops, known for their distinctive citrus-forward character and versatility, have become a staple in modern craft brewing. Originally discovered as a wild hop by Virgil Gamache Farms in Washington State, Amarillo quickly rose to prominence thanks to its bold aroma, unique flavor profile, and ability to shine in a wide variety of beer styles.

### Origins and Characteristics

Unlike many cultivated varieties bred for specific traits, Amarillo was found growing naturally and was later propagated commercially due to its standout qualities. It's a dual-purpose hop, meaning it works well for both bittering and aroma, although most brewers favor it for its aromatic qualities.

Amarillo is often described as delivering:

**Aroma:** Bright orange citrus, floral, tropical fruit (especially mango and pineapple), with subtle herbal and spice notes.

**Flavour:** Sweet citrus (notably orange and tangerine), grapefruit zest, melon, and occasionally apricot.

**Alpha Acids:** Typically between 8% and 11%, providing moderate bitterness.

**Beta Acids:** Around 6% to 7%, contributing to a rounded hop profile.

Its oil content is notably high, especially myrcene, which contributes to its intense floral and citrus aroma.



# Hop of the week: AMARILLO

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## Brewing Applications

Thanks to its aromatic intensity, Amarillo is often used in:

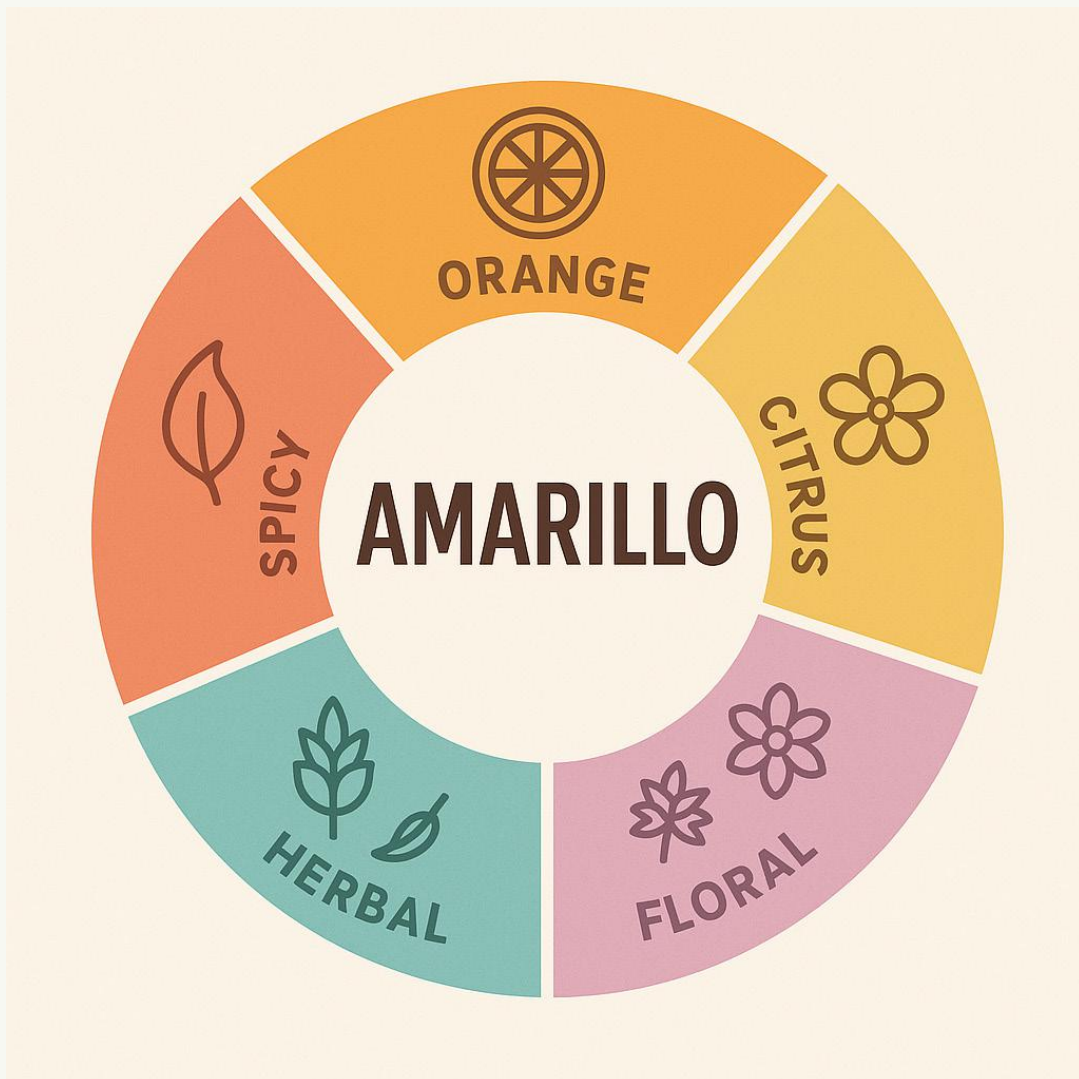
**Pale Ales and IPAs** – Especially in American-style versions where a hop-forward profile is key.

**Hazy or New England IPAs** – Amarillo's juicy and fruity notes complement other hops like Citra, Mosaic, and Simcoe.

**Wheat Beers and Belgian-style Ales** – Adds a bright citrus layer without overwhelming the malt.

**Saison or Farmhouse Styles** – Pairs well with spicy yeast esters, enhancing complexity.

Amarillo works well both as a standalone hop or in a blend. It's often added late in the boil, in whirlpool additions, or as a dry hop to maximise its aromatic impact.



# Hop of the week: AMARILLO

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## Substitutes and Pairings

While Amarillo is unique, brewers seeking substitutes can look to:

**Cascade** – Offers a similar grapefruit citrus character.

**Citra** – More tropical, but aligns well with Amarillo in hazy IPAs.

**Centennial** – Shares some floral and citrus notes, though typically more bitter.

For hop pairings, Amarillo blends beautifully with:

**Simcoe** – Earthy and piney tones complement Amarillo's brightness.

**Mosaic** – Enhances tropical and stone fruit aromas.

**Galaxy** – Adds passionfruit and peach to the mix.



## Conclusion

Amarillo remains a beloved hop for its approachable bitterness and dynamic aroma profile. Whether used solo to showcase its juicy character or blended for complexity, it adds a vibrant layer to any brew. For both homebrewers and commercial operations, Amarillo continues to be a go-to ingredient in creating aromatic, citrusy beers that appeal to modern palates.



# Beer Name of the Week

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

## Morning Wood

11.2% Imperial Stout

By Funky Buddha Brewery

This Imperial version of Maple Bacon Coffee Porter is aged in High West Whiskey barrels for months, lending smoothness to the smokey, salty, rich combo of maple syrup, fresh roasted coffee, and bacon-like flavour.



# UK Craft Beer Festivals

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**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>

**23-24 MAY 2025**

## **BEACH STREET BEER FESTIVAL**

Beach Street, Felixstowe, Suffolk

<https://myhopsters.com/beach-street-beer-fest>



**29-31 MAY 2025**

**CRAFT BEER EXPO 2025**

Black Lodge Brewery, 3 Kings Dock Street, Liverpool LI 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**

**PENNINE CRAFT BEER FEST**

Marsden Mechanics, Marsden, HD7 6BW

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/marsden-mechanics/e-vxpgoj>

**20-21 JUNE 2025**

**NOTTINGHAM CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL**

Sneinton Market, Nottingham NG1

<https://shorturl.at/bOKxQ>

**3-6 JULY 2025**

**RETFORD ALE TRAIL**

Retford Craft House, 10 Beardsalls Row, Retford, DN22 6JX

<https://northnotts.camra.org.uk/diary>

**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](http://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

<https://www.rivingtonbrewing.co.uk/farmtrip2025>





**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

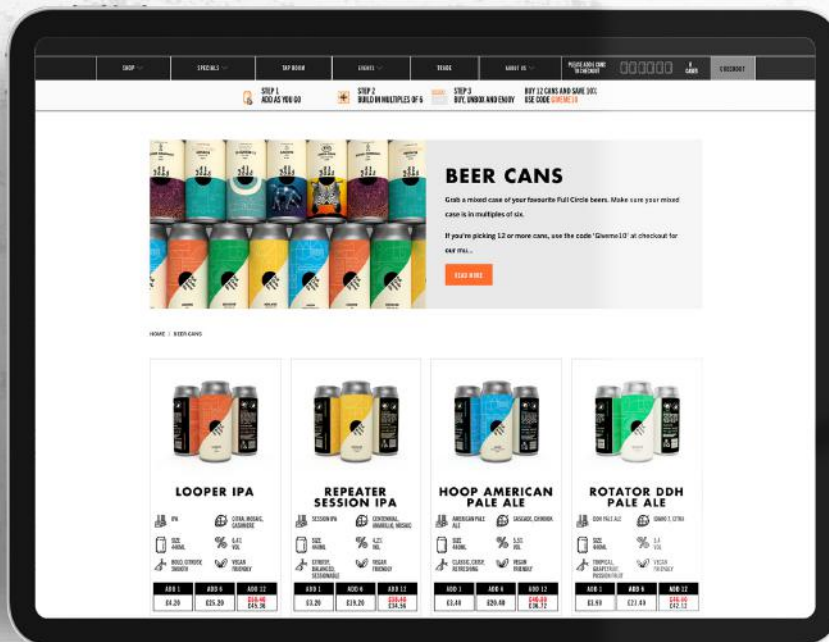
<https://www.ticketebo.co.uk/the-ccbm/the-big-swally-edinburgh>





# 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


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## Holy Goat Brewing

Specialising in the Production of Mixed Fermentation & Wood Aged Beers

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

 Free shipping for orders over £39


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## 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


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## UnBarred Brewery

Made of Brighton

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

 Free delivery for orders over £50


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

Grasshopper & Warwickshire Beers – All flowing together

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

 Standard shipping £5.99


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## Pomona Island Brew Co.

Award Winning Brewery Based In Salford

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

 Standard shipping £6.00


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## Attic Brew Co.

Forward Thinking Beers

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

 Free delivery for orders over £35

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# Webshop Directory...



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

Ultra Fresh, Hop-Forward, Modern Beers

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

 Free shipping for orders over £60


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## **Amity Brew Co.**

Community, Friendship and Good beer!

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

 Free shipping on orders over £45


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## **Wilderness Brewery**

Wild Little Beers From Mid Wales

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

 Standard shipping £8 or click and collect


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## **Moot Brew Co.**

Brewing Hop Forward Beers in the Heart of Kent

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

 Free shipping on orders over £60


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## **Exale Brewery**

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

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

 Free shipping for orders over £30


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## **Crossover Blendery**

Modern, Flavour-Forward Beers Rooted In Tradition

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

 Standard shipping £8.99


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## **Mondo Brewing Co.**

All Things Point South West

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

 Free shipping for orders over £75

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# 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


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## **Bullhouse Brew Co.**

Independent Craft Brewery Based in Belfast

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

 Free shipping for orders over £50


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## **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


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## **Track Brewing Co.**

Beers Born From Adventure

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

 Free shipping for orders over £60


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## **71 Brewing Co.**

Engineers of Beers, Brewed in Scotland

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

 Standard shipping £5.99


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## **Hammerton Brewery**

Proudly Brewing Great Beer in London N7

<https://hammertonbrewery.shop/>

 Free shipping for orders over £48


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## **Vibrant Forest Brewery**

Our Passion is to Brew Modern Beers Packed With Flavour

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

 Free shipping for orders over £60

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# Webshop Directory...



## Sureshot Brewing

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

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

 Free shipping for orders over £60


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## Carnival Brewing Co.

Celebrating Modern Beer

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

 Free shipping for orders over £50


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## 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


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## Round Corner Brewing

Uncommonly Good Beer

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

 Free shipping for orders over £50


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## Tartarus Beers

Brewing Small Batch Craft Beer, With a Mythical Edge

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

 Free shipping for orders over £50


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## Beak Brewery

Life-affirming Ales

<https://beakbrewery.com/>

 Free shipping for orders over £50


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

Togetherness on Tap

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

 Free shipping for orders over £55

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# 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...



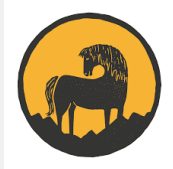
## Stannary Brewing Co.

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

<https://stannarybrewing.shop/>

 Free shipping for orders over £30


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## Wild Horse Brewing Co.

Fresh, Forward Thinking, Beer

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

 Free shipping for orders over £60


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## 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


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## Liquid Light Brewing Co.

Vegan Craft Beers Inspired By a Love For Music

<https://liquidlightbrewco.shop/>

 Free shipping for orders over £50


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## Merakai Brewing Co.

Crafted With Purpose

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

 Free shipping for orders over £60


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## Small Batch Brewing Co.

Making Good Beer For Great People

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

 Standard shipping £7.20


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## Hammerton Brewery

Proudly Brewing Great Beer in London N7

<https://hammertonbrewery.shop/>

 Free shipping on orders over £48

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# Webshop Directory...



## Wylam Brewery

Micro Brewery - Tap Room - Events Space

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

 Standard shipping £6.99


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## Runaway Brewery

Handmade, Modern British Beer

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

 Standard shipping £6.50


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## Pillars Brewery

Home of Lager - Brewed in East London

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

 Free shipping for orders over £80


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## Pipeline Brewing

Hazy, Hop-Forward Beers

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

 Free shipping for orders over £60


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## 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


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## Bottle & Jug Dept.

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

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

 Free shipping for orders over £95


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## 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

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