wethersponGESTIVALJESTIVALWED 6 - SUN 17 MAR

Up to 30 real ales, 26 new to Wetherspoon, and 5 international brewers.











Contents

Inside this issue

- 3 Autumn beer festival dates/St Patrick's Day ale
- 4 Making the most of real ale on the app
- 5 Key to the festival ales

6-21 Meet the festival brewers22-25 Tasting notes26 Festival ale checklist







10-11 Brains



16-17 Moorhouse's





AUTUMN BEER FESTIVAL Wed 9 – Sun 20 Oct

St Patrick's Day Irish Red Ale



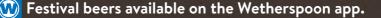
The beer festival ends on Sunday 17 March. To celebrate St Patrick's Day, we will be adding a special Irish ale from Lough Gill.

Lough Gill Brewing Co

Andersons Irish Red Ale 4.0% ABV

This is ruby-red in colour, with a light fruity nose, smooth body and flavours of mild caramel and toasted malt.

Hops: Fuggles, Goldings



Making the most of real ale on the app



Ales to the table?

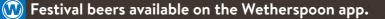
Use the Wetherspoon app to order any available ale from your table. Download the Wetherspoon app or scan the QR code on your menu.



Key to the festival ales

Each festival ale has a symbol next to it, telling you what type of ale it is, whether an ale is brewed especially for this festival, a brand-new ale brewed only since 2024 or an ale brewed with unusual ingredients. The key below explains it all.

Festival ale – brewed for the first time, exclusively for this festival		
International brewer – non-UK brewer		
New ale – not brewed before 2024		
Seasonal ale – an ale not brewed permanently		
Special ale – a rare ale brewed again, especially for this festival		
Speciality ale – brewed with unusual ingredients/an unusual style		
Classic cask ale – a traditional British-style cask ale		
AL-ALE TYPES		
Golden Amber; Dark brown; Black; deep ruby; mid brown ruby very dark		



Birrificio Gregorio: Falstaff



The beer Aroma: floral, herbal, honey Taste: earthy, herbal, malty

This beer is a golden ale brewed in cask format exclusively for the Wetherspoon beer festival – an endless style for an endless classic opera. Different subjects with the same name – Falstaff (a Shakespeare character readapted in the Giuseppe Verdi opera) – two expressions of passion.

This golden ale hides a big character behind its simplicity. Malt sweetness and biscuity flavours are balanced by floral and citrus hop bitterness. Light bodied and easy drinking, its floral and herbal notes are given by Challenger and East Kent Goldings hops.



Birrificio Gregorio Falstaff

Birrificio Gregorio, Parma, Italy Est. 2017 4.8% ABV

Roberta Maccari has travelled to Hook Norton Brewery (Oxfordshire) to brew this golden beer for us. The malty sweetness and biscuit flavours are balanced by a floral and citrus hop bitterness, resulting in a light-bodied, easy-drinking character.

Hops: Challenger, East Kent Goldings

Golden

Birrificio Gregorio is the first brewpub founded in Parma, the city associated with Verdi and gastronomy. The brewery was established in 2017 by Angelo Jr Gregorio, born in Salerno. His idea was to bring his origins (and its typical food) and his passion for beer to the city.

Thanks to his ambition and entrepreneurial skills, over the years, he decided to open three more places, in Parma, where people could find different kinds of food, yet all with the great common denominator – Birrificio Gregorio's beers.

In fact, the policy of the company is exclusively to supply directly, with most of its beer production centred around German-style lagers (such as Bockbier, Keller, Pils and Rauchbier), with American and English ales also being part of its output. In 2024, the brewery has plans to expand its brewing production – with a new brewing plant.





Meet the brewer

Roberta, at 28 years old, has been working in the brewery as head brewer for three years, following the former head brewer's retirement. Her passion for beer started with an experience she had in a microbrewery (in Ireland) as an intern on a postdiploma degree.



Later, she attended a professional brewing course which allowed her to acquire further technical skills. In 2018, she started working in the brewpub as assistant brewer, along with work in the restaurant. The highlight of her career has been filling the head brewer position. This allowed her to show off her hard-working skills and beer knowledge. She is a very determined person and considers this festival to be a huge opportunity for her personal and professional growth.



Brains: Red Dragon



The beer Aroma: fruity, malty, rich Taste: fruity, malty, satisfying

A robust ale with dark copper tones, a luscious fruity fragrance and a gratifyingly malty conclusion, Red Dragon originated in 2019 at Brains' New Dragon Brewery in Cardiff Bay.

This creation commemorated the inauguration of the new brewery, symbolising the next phase in Brains' extensive 134-year history, deeply rooted in the heart of Cardiff. At 5.0% ABV, Red Dragon not only delights the palate, but also provides a unique avenue to reconnect with an established customer base. While doing this, it also served as an introduction to a new audience, showcasing a progressive visual identity which enhanced visibility at the bar, surpassing competitors.

This exclusive brew has been resurrected for Wetherspoon's beer festival and will become an iconic seasonal beer, available exclusively during the spring months. ABU RED 5.0%

Brains Red Dragon Brains Brewery, Cardiff Est. 1882

Est. 1882 5.0% ABV

This dark copper-coloured beer has an inviting aroma, with hints of fruit and malt, leading to a satisfying, rich flavour, with further malt and fruit notes balanced by a subtle bitterness.

Hops: Dragon, Styrian

Dark brown; ruby

SA

Special ale – a rare ale brewed again, especially for this festival

Brains stands as the quintessential drink and an iconic brand, representing the pride of Wales and revered as the nation's toast. In a remarkable tale of continuity, it remains under the ownership of the descendants of its founders, who, in 1882, assumed control of a fledgling brewery tucked behind a Cardiff pub. Its passion for beer runs deep!



Since its 1882 inception, Brains has been crafting exceptional beers in the heart of Cardiff, using only the finest locally sourced ingredients. The portfolio includes the timeless Brains SA and the immensely popular Rev James range, complemented by a diverse selection of seasonal and craft beers catering to every palate. Modern additions, such as Bayside Lager and Barry Island IPA, join this illustrious line-up. Stay tuned for exciting new products on the horizon!

As a Welsh brewery rooted in family ownership, it takes pride in its independence and celebrates the vibrant journey which has shaped its colourful history.





Meet the brewer

Bill Dobson commenced his brewing career 30 years ago, at the age of 22, starting at the Ind Coope brewery in Burton upon Trent, then a part of Carlsberg-Tetley. It was during his time there that he acquired the art of cask beer-brewing, producing draught Burton Ale, Ansell's and Greenall's. A few years later, with the brewery passing into the ownership of Bass, he expanded his repertoire to include draught Bass, Worthington and Stones beers.

He earned the title of master brewer in 2000. After thoroughly enjoying 13 years honing his craft in Burton, the opportunity to become head brewer at Brains in 2007 was one he couldn't pass up. This role allowed Bill to brew iconic beers, such as SA, Dark and The Rev James Original.

His passion for cask beer has been a constant throughout his career. He finds joy in the challenges and rewards which it presents, as both a brewer and a consumer, thanks to the diverse beer styles which it encompasses and the unique experience of a hand-pulled pint, which, in his opinion, is impossible to match or surpass.

The highlight of his career has been the design and construction of Dragon Brewery, providing a new 'home' for Brains and allowing for the creation of new beers, such as Red Dragon, a celebration of this significant milestone.

Brouwerij De Bock: Germain

DE BOUWERIJ-

The beer

Aroma: fine hoppy, floral, herbal Taste: creamy, malty, spicy

Germain is a brand-new beer which will be brewed for Wetherspoon by Brouwerij De Bock, which has already won many awards for its beers. Germain is a 3.5% ABV international lager with three grains, including oats. The ultimate goal is 'less alcohol, more taste'.

With the use of noble hops, such as Saaz and Tettnanger, the beer gives a spicy and floral character. Oats provide a full-bodied aftertaste. The beer is fermented at 18°C, where the hop aromas are fully present. With a bitterness of 20 IBU, it goes down very smoothly.

Brouwerij De Bock Germain

ALC: 3.5% VOL. BREWED EXCLUSIVELY FOR J D WETHERSPOON AT BATEMANS BREWERY, WAINFLET, LINCOLNSHIR BY PIETER DE BOCK BROUWERIJ DE BOCK - BELGIUM

Brouwerij De Bock, Beveren-Waas, Belgium Est. 2014 3.5% ABV

Pieter De Bock has travelled to Batemans Brewery (Lincolnshire) to brew this hazy golden lager for us. The floral hop character contains subtle spicy and herbal notes, balanced by a smooth flavour to deliver a refreshing finish.

Hops: Saaz, Tettnang

Pale; very light; blond; straw

> International brewer Belgium

10 Festival News

The brewery was founded in 2014 by Pieter De Bock as Brouwerij De Bock. After the pandemic, Jordi Bruynseels and Alain Dufait, two friends, joined the brewery and then started their brewery in June 2023. They currently produce three beers, a golden ale Remi (7.2% ABV), a Belgian strong dark ale Desideer (9.2% ABV) and this international lager called Germain (3.5% ABV). Together with Jordi Bruynseels, Pieter also publishes a monthly podcast called 'Bierklap', where they talk about all things beer.

Brouwerij De Bock has already won seven medals at the Brussels Beer Challenge, in the categories 'golden ale' and 'Belgian strong dark ale'. At the 2023 World Beer Awards, Desideer won the gold medal.



Jordi Bruynseels and Pieter De Bock

Meet the brewer

Pieter De Bock, almost 40 years old, is brewing engineer and head brewer/founder of Brouwerij De Bock. He started the brewery in 2014 as a gipsy brewer. He spent 2008–22 as production manager at breweries Affligem, Anders and The Musketeers – to finally start his own brewery in 2022 in Beveren (Belgium). With 14 years' experience, it was time to make his dream come true. Starting your own brewery is a real milestone. Tradition is what he loves about real ale.





Leikeim: Chocolate Ale



The beer Aroma: chocolate, coffee, roasty **Taste**: chocolate, coffee, mint

Chocolate Ale is a time-limited brew from Leikeim brewery's traditional range called 'treasures'. These are unique beers which inspire with their exceptional brewing processes, ingredients and the master brewers' creativity.

For Wetherspoon, Chocolate Ale, made according to the original Christian Fischer recipe, is brewed exclusively for this beer festival, in advance of being added to the treasures range at the end of 2024. This deep black porter shimmers in the glass, with its cream-coloured foam. The nose immediately picks up intense roasted aromas, reminiscent of dark chocolate and coffee. At first sip, this impression is confirmed through the use of five malts, including chocolate malt.

After the chocolate and espresso aromas, a fine, fresh mint note is evident in the finish, along with a delicately bitter aftertaste. Only one hop variety is used for the chocolate ale, Polaris – known for its mint flavour and for adding that certain something.



Leikeim Chocolate Ale

Leikeim Brewery, Altenkunstadt, Germany Est. 1887 5.6% ABV

Christian Fischer has travelled to Banks's Brewery (West Midlands) to brew this ebony beer for us. Hints of coffee and liquorice in the aroma lead to a smooth roasted chocolate flavour, with espresso notes, resulting in a rich, complex character.

Hops: Polaris

Black; deep ruby; very dark

Franconian, independent and, above all, family run – this is how they brew their beer at Leikeim. And they've been doing it since 1887. The brewery has maintained an established tradition and incorporated innovative modernisation. However, its most important brewing ingredients are found in its master brewer's great experience, the passion of every single employee and, of course, the unique at-home feeling which everyone experiences who takes a sip from one of the flip-top bottles.

Because Leikeim knows what a beer from Franconia should taste like, nowhere else do living and cultivating tradition take place as directly, openly and unconditionally as in family businesses. Nowhere else do such strong passions develop over generations for a common goal, especially when it comes to brewing good beer... because they love beer.



Christian Fischer

Meet the brewer

Master brewer Christian Fischer grew up in a small town in Upper Franconia, a region of Bavaria with the highest density of breweries in the world. From an early age, Christian was interested in Bavarian beer culture, so it was clear from the outset that he would complete his training as a brewer and maltster at the local Leikeim brewery.

After completing his training, he worked as a Leikeim brewer for many years, before three years gaining new experience in Switzerland. He used the impressions and experiences gathered there for his further training as a master brewer at Leikeim and his discovery of special beers. Malt beers are his passion – so, with Chocolate Ale, he wants to share this enthusiasm with all beer-lovers.



Andreas Leikeim, son of the brewery founder (on the left), with his employees in 1929.



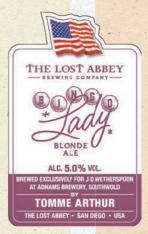
Lost Abbey: Bingo Lady



The Lost Abbey BREWING COMPANY

The beer Aroma: freshly baked bread Taste: bright, crisp, hoppy

Bingo Lady blond pale ale is a crisp and brightly hop-forward beer. It is brewed from barley, wheat and a dash of rice to lighten the body. The overall drinking impression is very much that of a Kolsch-style beer, without the German yeast. This is a refreshing beer, with notes of crisp cracker-like barley and firm bitterness from the Lemon Drop and Magnum hops.



Lost Abbey Bingo Lady

The Lost Abbey Brewing Company California, USA Est. 2006 5.0% ABV

Tomme Arthur has travelled to Adnams Brewery (Suffolk) to brew this blond pale ale for us. The beer's notable hop presence is perfectly balanced by its malt character, leading to a snappy citrus hop note in the finish.



The Lost Abbey was founded in 2006 by Tomme Arthur and his partners Gina and Vince Marsaglia. Since its founding, the brewery has specialised in Belgian ales and barrel-aged beers. The brewery is regarded as one of the premier sour beer producers in the United States and has twice been named 'brewery of the year' at the Great American Beer Festival and World Beer Cup. In addition to these awards, it has also garnered three 'best of show' medals for the Festival of Barrel-Aged Beers (the largest all-woodaged beer festival in the United States).

Since opening in 2006, The Lost Abbey has expanded and now operates a tasting room in Vista, California, along with three satellite tasting rooms in the greater San Diego area. The most recent opening is in East Village, San Diego (near Petco Park), operating in an historic church building.





Tomme Ar unur

Meet the brewer

Tomme Arthur is the co-founder and chief operating owner of The Lost Abbey. He has been brewing professionally for almost 28 years. He got his start as a homebrewer before launching his brewing career in San Diego. Tomme, considered a pioneer in wood-aging beer, is recognised for his avant-garde brewing style.

He was named by the Brewers Association (based in Boulder, Colorado) as the 2018 Russell Scherer award-winner for 'brewing innovation'. He is an active beer judge and travels to participate in competitions, both domestically and internationally. Early in his brewing career, Tomme (along with two of his best friends) hosted The San Diego Real-Ale Festival, featuring 50 cask beers from local and regional Californian breweries. For many years, it was one of the largest cask beer festivals to take place in the United States.



Moorhouse's: Ask Twice

MOORHOUSE'S



The beer

Aroma: pine, pink grapefruit, tangy Taste: dried fruit, sweet caramel

This is a contemporary session bitter, rich amber in colour, with aromas of tangy pink grapefruit and pine. It has flavours of dried fruit and a sweet caramel malt balance. Dan Casaru, Moorhouse's head brewer, has been inspired by its collaboration with Six Connections in creating a smooth ale.

Ask Twice is a beer which started from a chat between Moorhouse's and Six Connections, the latter being all about real conversations, in normal places, around mental health – in the pub, on a night out or at a festival; in the good times as well as the not so good – 'conversation before the crisis'.

Research shows that asking twice is a simple and effective way to show people that we are showing real interest, that we are ready to listen, whether that's now or whenever they're ready. Moorhouse's Ask Twice

Moorhouse's Brewery, Lancashire Est. 1865 3.8% ABV

This new amber beer has been brewed to support the Six Connections Community campaign, encouraging people to talk about mental health. Aromas of tangy grapefruit and pine lead to an excellent balance of dried fruit and sweet caramel malt.





Founded in 1865 by William Moorhouse, the brewery started originally as a producer of mineral water. In the early 20th century, William's family took over the business and started to produce low-alcohol hop bitters which were exported worldwide. In 1978, Moorhouse's turned from a soft drinks company to a cask ale brewery. The first cask ale produced was Premier Bitter – still one of its much-loved favourites.

In November 1985, William Parkinson a local businessman, purchased the brewery, which has remained in his family ever since as a proud independent east Lancashire brewery.

As well as winning 'champion beer of Britain', Moorhouse's has recently picked up SIBA's 2023 'national best pale ale' for its Moonbeam, a session IPA.

Meet the brewer

Dan Casaru, Moorhouse's head brewer, has been brewing for over 20 years. He started his brewing career at Edinburgh's Heriot Watt University, working at various breweries before becoming part of Moorhouse's family for the past 13 years.

With a passion for great-tasting beer, Dan takes pride in creating and brewing quality beers of different flavours and styles, in Moorhouse's core range and hop-forward special ales.

Dan and his team have been the brains behind its award-winning ales, winning double success at the International Brewing Awards for White Witch and Blonde Witch – testament to the brewers and the quality beers which they produce.







Orkney: Boulder Beach



BOULDER BEACH SINGLE HOP APA LEMONY - PUNCHY - HERBAL ABV

The beer Aroma: citrusy, grapefruit, zesty Taste: citrusy, grapefruit, zesty

This bold golden single-hop pale ale has Columbus hops which offer herbal and strong lemon citrus flavours, with a punchy, hoppy finish. It is a relatively new brew, part of Orkney's seasonal selection, with this being the first time it has been available nationally.

The inspiration for Boulder Beach is Rackwick Bay, on the island of Hoy, next to mainland Orkney. Rackwick is a dreamlike setting, with an array of rocks of varied and unusually bright colours, worn smooth by the frequent tides. It is an out-of-this-world place and much loved by the many visitors to its shores. Orkney Boulder Beach Orkney Brewery, Orkney Est. 1988 4.4% ABV

Named after the beach in Rackwick Bay, Hoy, Orkney, this golden single-hopped APA delivers herbal and strong lemon-citrus flavours, leading to a surprisingly bold, punchy hop finish for such a smooth beer.





The brewery is an independently run family business which started in an old school house. Orcadian and owner Norman Sinclair has deep connections with the school. His father and grandfather both attended; indeed, the family home was just up the hill. The school house was originally built in 1878, and brewing started here in 1988.

From small beginnings, Orkney's beers were soon highly revered. Iconic ales such as Orkney Dark Island and Skull Splitter are the embodiment of the highest-quality brewing. The range has picked up multitudes of awards in cask and bottle. Orkney won the top prize with Orkney Gold, a keg beer, and its new Runic range of cans picked up two awards last year at the Society of Independent Brewers regional competition. The revered Dark Island Reserve received a gold in 2021 in the same competition.



The brewery has a resolute approach to brewing, with honest methods, no compromises and a desire to perfect. Respectful to the environment which inspires it and is its home, the brewery delivers beer of extraordinary quality, with skill, resourcefulness and endeavour.



Meet the brewer

Head brewer Andrew Fulton joined the brewery right at its inception, after studying at Edinburgh's world-renowned centre of excellence - Heriot Watt University. His passion for cask beer stemmed from his evenings while based in Edinburgh, a centre for real ale at the time.

The highlight for him so far was in 2009, winning the 'champion beer of Scotland'. Achieving industry awards has not been uncommon for Orkney Brewery, but what was guite remarkable was the fact that it did it with a style which nobody else in Scotland was brewing at the time. The beer was Raven, an English bitter. So, while being a novelty for Scottish pubs and palates at the time, it was just too perfect not to be acknowledged as the champion ale.



Redpoint: Disco Macaw



REDPOINT BREWING CO. TAIWAN

The beer

Aroma: citrus, grapefruit, zesty Taste: citrusy, juicy, tropical

Disco Macaw is a tropical delight, crafted with a symphony of Citra, Mosaic and Simcoe hops. Inspired by the vibrant plumage of the iconic macaw, this ale is a lively dance of flavours. Bursting with juicy citrus notes, the Simcoe and Citra hops contribute a zesty melody, while Mosaic adds a touch of exotic fruitiness.

The inspiration for this ale stemmed from a desire to capture the essence of tropical paradise – a sip which transports beer enthusiasts to sun-drenched beaches and lush rainforests. This beer embodies the spirit of adventure, inviting you to revel in the tropical oasis of flavours in each refreshing sip.



Redpoint Disco Macaw

Redpoint Brewing, Taipei, Taiwan Est. 2014 4.5% ABV

Doug Pierce has travelled to Shepherd Neame Brewery (Kent) to brew a special version for us of this light amber ale. It is a delicious, juicy pale ale, with a refreshing tropical citrus flavour.





Established in 2013 by Spencer Jemelka and Doug Pierce, Redpoint Brewing emerged as a trailblazer in 2015, débuting the first domestically brewed IPA and craft lager on the island. The brewery sets out to elevate Taiwan beer culture.

Redpoint also worked with locals in Thailand to create and build the Thai craft beer scene, so it is proud to say that it is the brewery which established craft beer in Thailand via its OEM partners. Since then, Redpoint's reputation has grown and is now the premier craft brand name and go-to brewery for OEM products in Asia. Today, Redpoint Brewing stands in Taiwan's brewing landscape as a symbol of craftsmanship and community.





Meet the brewer

Doug Pierce is the founder and one of the brewmasters at Redpoint Brewing in Taipei, Taiwan. As a former semiconductor executive who started homebrewing as a break from the intensity which comes with running a high-tech business, he quickly realised that he had missed his calling.

He has been brewing professionally for over 12 years and brewing real ales for Wetherspoon since 2016. Although Taiwan has yet to embrace the style, Doug continues to enjoy it immensely. The highlight of Doug's professional brewing career was having Redpoint's Lager named 'best American lager in Asia' at the Asia Beer Awards, held in Singapore.



Tasting notes

Real-ale types

Wed 6 – Sun 17 Mar

International



Festival ale -

Daleside Spring Frenzy 3.4% ABV

Daleside Brewery, North Yorkshire. Est. 1992

This blond session ale delivers orange and grapefruit notes from its hop varieties used, balanced by a malt flavour and resulting in a refreshingly crisp finish. Hops: Amarillo, Chinook

Brouwerij De Bock Germain 3.5% ABV

Brouwerij De Bock, Beveren-Waas, Belgium. Est. 2014 Pieter De Bock has travelled to Batemans Brewery (Lincolnshire) to brew this hazy golden lager for us. The floral hop character contains subtle spicy and herbal notes, balanced by a smooth flavour to deliver a refreshing finish.

Hops: Saaz, Tettnang

3 Moorhouse's Ask Twice 3.8% ABV

Moorhouse's Brewery, Lancashire. Est. 1865

This new amber beer has been brewed to support the Six Connections Community campaign, encouraging people to talk about mental health. Aromas of tangy grapefruit and pine lead to an excellent balance of dried fruit and sweet caramel malt. Hops: Cascade, Comet, Idaho 7

Otter Dark 3.8% ABV

Otter Brewery, Devon. Est. 1990 This dark brown beer is a traditional mild, with a twist, delivering floral blackcurrant notes, courtesy of the US hops used - which provide a fine balance to the smooth roast malt flavour. Hops: Celeia, Challenger, Pilgrim, Willamette

5 Cairngorm Lairig Brew 4.0% ABV

Cairngorm Brewery, Highlands. Est. 1997

This new copper-coloured beer is a classic Scottish bitter with a delicate malt flavour and hints of caramel, balanced by pleasing hop notes which deliver a subtle spicy finish. Hops: Challenger, Crystal, Goldings

📀 Exmoor Skip Intro 4.0% ABV 🤞

Exmoor Ales, Somerset. Est. 1980

This new straw-coloured ale has delicate fresh lemon and pine aromas, leading to a light and refreshing flavour, with subtle malt, a balancing bitterness and a slightly dry finish, with hints of sweetness. Hops: Bobek, Centennial, Motueka



New ale - not





















7 Batemans Five Generations 5G 4.2% ABV

Batemans Brewery, Lincolnshire. Est. 1874

This new light amber session IPA has a tropical fruit aroma, leading to a balance of malt and soft hop bitterness in the flavour, with hints of passionfruit, pineapple and mango in the finish. Hops: Fuggles, Harlequin, Olicana

Sambrook's Evergreen 4.3% ABV

Sambrook's Brewery, Battersea. Est. 2008

Named after The Evergreen State itself (Washington), this straw-coloured beer is a celebration of Yakima Valley hops, so delivers plenty of punchy citrus, pine resin and tropical fruit notes, culminating in a moreish, bitter, dry finish. Hops: Ekuanot, Summit

P Theakston Atlantic Red 4.3% ABV

Theakston Brewery, North Yorkshire. Est. 1827

This rarely seen full-bodied mahogany-red beer is a European twist on an American-style red ale, with plenty of spicy, honey and cedar notes to give a complementary balance to its malt character.

Hops: Cascade, Pilgrim

Hook Norton Crafty Fox 4.4% ABV

Hook Norton Brewery, Oxfordshire. Est. 1849

This black IPA has a hoppy, fruity aroma, leading to a rich flavour with plenty of dark fruit notes and hints of toast, plus a good balance of bitterness and sweetness throughout. Hops: Amarillo, Cascade, Mosaic, UK Chinook, Willamette

Orkney Boulder Beach 4.4% ABV

Orkney Brewery, Orkney. Est. 1988

Named after the beach in Rackwick Bay, Hoy, Orkney, this golden single-hopped APA delivers herbal and strong lemon-citrus flavours, leading to a surprisingly bold, punchy hop finish for such a smooth beer. Hops: Columbus

Nethergate White Stout 4.5% ABV

Nethergate Brewery, Suffolk. Est. 1986

This new hazy beer is pale in colour, yet delivers the rich, creamy textures which you would expect from a traditional stout, while its infusion of vanilla pods and cocoa nibs creates silky vanilla notes and hints of chocolate.

Hops: Boadicea, Challenger

13 Redpoint Disco Macaw 4.5% ABV

Redpoint Brewing, Taipei, Taiwan. Est. 2014

Doug Pierce has travelled to Shepherd Neame Brewery (Kent) to brew a special version for us of this light amber ale. It is a delicious, juicy pale ale, with a refreshing tropical citrus flavour. Hops: Citra, Mosaic, Simcoe

14 Saltaire Aquila 4.5% ABV

Saltaire Brewery, West Yorkshire. Est. 2006

This occasionally brewed straw-coloured ale is refreshing, yet full-bodied, with a floral and fruity character which delivers orange and stone fruit notes, along with undertones of pine. Hops: Opus, Styrian Wolf















23

















24 Festival News

15 Titanic Chocolate & Vanilla Stout 4.5% ABV

Titanic Brewery, Staffordshire. Est. 1985

This black speciality beer has an initial sweetness on the nose, leading to a classic roasted flavour, tempered by the addition of chocolate and vanilla, resulting in a rich, indulgent finish. **Hops:** Challenger, Fuggles, Goldings, Northdown

🔒 Liberation Guernsey Street 4.6% ABV 🌈

Liberation Brewery, Channel Islands. Est. 1871

This deep golden beer is brewed in the style of an APA, with biscuity malt overtones merging with its US hops to provide a balanced character, culminating in a crisp, fruity finish. *Hops: Amarillo, Belma, Centennial, Citra, Galena*

😶 Rebellion Roasted Nuts 4.6% ABV 🍸

Rebellion Brewery, Buckinghamshire Est. 1993

This red-brown premium bitter is packed with intense and distinctive malt and fruity hop flavours, resulting in a complex, balanced and full-flavoured character. **Hops:** Cascade, Goldings

🕫 Greene King Dark Tide 4.7% ABV 🍾

Greene King Brewery, Suffolk. Est. 1799

This ebony beer was first brewed in October 2023 as part of this brewery's Future Brewers Programme. The creamy malt and caramel character is complemented by initial chocolate notes and roasted coffee hints, leading to a subtle bitterness in the finish. **Hops:** Bramling Cross, Goldings

9 Mad Squirrel Kodiak 4.7% ABV

Mad Squirrel Brewery, Hertfordshire. Est. 2004

This rarely seen red-brown beer is brewed in the style of an American brown ale, full bodied with plenty of tropical fruit flavours to provide a modern twist on a traditional style. *Hops: Centennial, Chinook, Simcoe*

20 Adnams Jester 4.8% ABV

Adnams Brewery, Suffolk. Est. 1872

This golden pale ale, not often seen, is brewed using solely the English hop variety Jester, delivering complex fruit aromas and notes, balanced beautifully with a gentle biscuit flavour. **Hops: Jester**

2) Birrificio Gregorio Falstaff 4.8% ABV

Birrificio Gregorio, Parma, Italy. Est. 2017

Roberta Maccari has travelled to Hook Norton Brewery (Oxfordshire) to brew this golden beer for us. The malty sweetness and biscuit flavours are balanced by a floral and citrus hop bitterness, resulting in a light-bodied, easy-drinking character. **Hops:** Challenger, East Kent Goldings

22 Butcombe Brewers Strength Original 4.8% ABV

Butcombe Brewery, Somerset. Est. 1978

This new amber-coloured beer is a stronger version of the brewery's popular Original bitter. The balance of malt and hop flavours leads to a pronounced bitterness, clean character and refreshingly dry finish.

Hops: secret blend of traditional English hops







TESTER









Oakham Bite the Bullet! 5.0% ABV

Oakham Ales, Cambridgeshire. Est. 1993

This new full-bodied black stout is loaded full of rich chocolate and coffee notes from the powerful silky malt, complemented by emerging dark fruity hop flavours to provide a rich, complex character.

Hops: Centennial, Olicana

Redemption Magnus 5.0% ABV

Redemption Brewery, Tottenham. Est. 2010

This new deep amber strong ale has a solid malt base, providing a complex blend of biscuit, toffee and hazelnut flavours, complemented by fruity citrus notes and a subtle spiciness. Hops: Bramling Cross, First Gold

Rooster's Parts and Labour 5.4% ABV SA

Rooster's Brewery, North Yorkshire. Est. 1993

This straw-coloured beer has bold, juicy, citrus and tropical fruit aromas, leading to a full hoppy flavour and moderate level of bitterness and resulting in a long, balanced finish. Hops: Centennial, Citra, Columbus, Kohatu

28 JW Lees Copper and Stars 5.6% ABV SA

JW Lees Brewery, Manchester, Est. 1828

This copper-coloured beer is a warming twist on an English IPA, with crystal rye providing a fiery glow and spiciness, balanced by a resinous orange bitterness and blackcurrant flavours.

Hops: Admiral, Fuggles, Jester

29 Leikeim Chocolate Ale 5.6% ABV

Leikeim Brewery, Altenkunstadt, Germany. Est. 1887

Christian Fischer has travelled to Banks's Brewery (West Midlands) to brew this ebony beer for us. Hints of coffee and liquorice in the aroma lead to a smooth roasted chocolate flavour, with espresso notes, resulting in a rich, complex character. Hops: Polaris

Shepherd Neame Grizzly Bear IPA 6.0% ABV

Shepherd Neame Brewery, Kent. Est. 1698

This golden-amber beer is brewed in the style of an American IPA, with the generous hop blend providing citrus, pine and fruit notes in the aroma and a robust bitterness, balanced by light caramel notes.

Hops: Amarillo, Boadicea, Cascade, Challenger, Citra

Brains Brewery, Cardiff. Est. 1882

This dark copper-coloured beer has an inviting aroma, with hints of fruit and malt, leading to a satisfying, rich flavour, with further malt and fruit notes balanced by a subtle bitterness. Hops: Dragon, Styrian

24 Lost Abbey Bingo Lady 5.0% ABV

The Lost Abbey Brewing Company, California, USA. Est. 2006 Tomme Arthur has travelled to Adnams Brewery (Suffolk) to brew this blond pale ale

for us. The beer's notable hop presence is perfectly balanced by its malt character, leading to a snappy citrus hop note in the finish.

Hops: Lemon Drop, Magnum









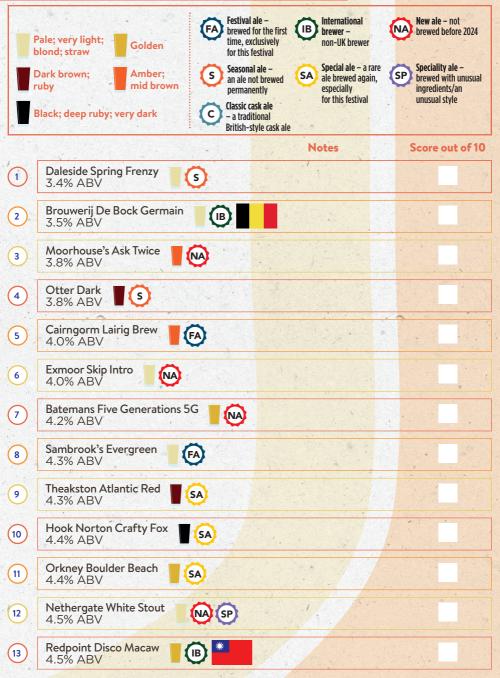








Festival ale checklist



		Notes	Score out of 10
14	Saltaire Aquila 4.5% ABV		
15	Titanic Chocolate & Vanilla Stout	SP	
16	Liberation Guernsey Street		
17	Rebellion Roasted Nuts CO		
18	Greene King Dark Tide		
19	Mad Squirrel Kodiak 4.7% ABV		
20	Adnams Jester 4.8% ABV		
21	Birrificio Gregorio Falstaff		
22	Butcombe Brewers Strength Original 4.8% ABV	6	
23	Brains Red Dragon 5.0% ABV	2	
24	Lost Abbey Bingo Lady 5.0% ABV		
25	Oakham Bite the Bullet!		
26	Redemption Magnus 5.0% ABV		
27	Rooster's Parts and Labour 5.4% ABV		
28	JW Lees Copper and Stars 5.6% ABV		
29	Leikeim Chocolate Ale 5.6% ABV		
30	Shepherd Neame Grizzly Bear IPA 6.0% ABV	FA A	

Photography/illustration is for guidance only. JD Wetherspoon plc reserves the right to withdraw/change offers (without notice), at any time. See main menus and customer information screen for allergen information, symbol explanations and additional details of our terms and conditions.

for the facts drinkaware.co.uk jdwetherspoon.com



¹/₃-pint tasting glasses Try three ales for the price of a festival pint.



All guest ales are part of the includes-a-drink range.



SPR24RAFNEWS