

Merchant du Vin

Classic Brewing Styles

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Ales A

Top Fermentation

The roots of ale production can be traced nearly 8,000 years. "Ale" comes from the German word "alt," meaning old or aged. Like red wines, they are fermented at warmer temperatures and more quickly, often yielding distinctive, flavorful beers.

Lagers L

Bottom Fermentation

Fermented at cool temperatures - like white wine - lager is a relative newcomer to the world of brewing, not discovered until the early 1400s. Lagers offer a clean flavor and aroma that allows malt and hops to shine through.

Lambic Ales W

Wild Fermentation

Most beers are fermented under controlled conditions by cultivated yeast. Lambic beer is naturally fermented by airborne wild yeasts. Multiple wild yeast strains lead to extreme complexity to create Lambic ales; only native to a select region within Belgium.

Trappist Ales L

Bottle-conditioned

All Trappist beers are brewed within the walls of a Cistercian, or "Trappist," monastery under the guided supervision of monks. Unique in experience and taste, these ales are bottle-conditioned; allowing for natural carbonation and subtle changes in character over time.



India Ale
Amber-gold; hop emphasis
5.0% ABV
6/4/12 oz. & 12/18.7 oz. bottles

Restrained maltiness to support enhanced hopping, but still balanced and inviting with a floral finish. India Pale Ales were first produced by English brewers for shipment to India. Fermented in stone Yorkshire Squares.



Oatmeal Stout
Smooth, silky, dark ale
5.0% ABV
6/4/12 oz. & 12/18.7 oz. bottles

Opaque chocolate color, creamy head, and a silky body. A small addition of oats balances roasted barley, providing a finish that is somewhat bittersweet. Until Samuel Smith revived this style in 1980, there had been no oatmeal stouts for many years.



Variety Pack
English Ales & Stouts
4/6/12 oz. bottles of Samuel Smith's style defining English Ales & Stouts

- Pale Ale
- Taddy Porter
- Nut Brown Ale
- Oatmeal Stout
- Imperial Stout
- Chocolate Stout



Chocolate Stout
Luxurious, rich stout
5.0% ABV
6/4/12 oz. & 12/18.7 oz. bottles

Luxurious organic chocolate beautifully melded to the full, roasty flavor of stout. Aromatic, satisfying, lush with deep flavors and a delightfully smooth finish.



Pale Ale
Copper-colored classic ale
5.0% ABV
6/4/12 oz. & 12/18.7 oz. bottles

Caramel flavors from crystal malt with a touch of fruity butterscotch in the finish. Pale Ale's beautiful balance has led most breweries to brew a pale ale, but Samuel Smith's remains the classic example.



Cider
Crisp, refreshing apple cider
5.0% ABV
6/4/12 oz. & 12/18.7 oz. bottles

Brilliant straw color, light body, and clean apple flavor with a gentle apple-blossom finish. This off dry, semi-sweet, cider is made from all organic ingredients.



Apricot Ale
Inviting, clean organic fruit ale
5.0% ABV
6/4/12 oz. & 12/18.7 oz. bottles

Festive and innovative ale made with a favorite stone fruit, apricots. Bold fresh apricot flavor helps build an exceedingly inviting beer.



Strawberry Ale
Refined organic fruit ale
5.0% ABV
6/4/12 oz. & 12/18.7 oz. bottles

Subtle but compelling flavors of strawberry in a delicious light organic ale. Unique color, aromatic with a clean nose and medium body all in fine balance.



House Ale
Contemplative, malty scotch ale
7.2% ABV
12/11.2 oz. bottles

Deep amber in color, this smoky, fruity, malty ale is fermented in wood vessels. Age-worthy and classic. From a tiny brewery located in Scotland's oldest continually-inhabited house.



Jacobite Ale
Coriander-spiced scotch ale
8.0% ABV
12/11.2 oz. bottles

Burnt amber color with exotic, rich flavor from fermentation in wooden vessels. The recipe includes an ancient and traditional brewing spice, coriander. First brewed in 1995 to commemorate the 1745 Jacobite Revolution.



Dubbel Ale
Dark malt, dubbel ale
7.0% ABV
12/16.9 oz. bottles

In the classic dubbel fashion, a hint of dark sugar flavor, effervescent body, and classic bouquet derived from a traditional Belgian yeast strain. Bottle-conditioned for natural carbonation.



Amber Ale
Nuanced caramel, nut flavored ale
6.0% ABV
12/16.9 oz. bottles

Brewed from millet, rice, buckwheat, and sorghum as well as hops and yeast. Deep amber color, medium body, spicy Belgian aroma and very drinkable. Bottle-conditioned for natural carbonation.



IPA
Hoppy, boldly floral ale
6.0% ABV
12/16.9 oz. bottles

Nutty and fruity with hints of enticing caramel flavor. Finishes with spicy notes and firm hop bitterness. Bottle-conditioned for natural carbonation.



Dry-Hopped Lager
Crisp, clean, golden lager
4.1% ABV
12/16.9 oz. bottles

Clean, bright lager brewed from naturally gluten-free ingredients. Taste is moderately tart with a light sweetness near the finish. Hopped after fermentation (dry-hopped) for fresh-hop bouquet.



Bavarian Pils
Crisp, all-malt pale lager
5.3% ABV
6/4/11.2 oz. bottles

The flavor of a fruitful barley harvest, seasoned with Bavarian noble hops. Snappy, spicy hop aroma and pure malt flavor. German pils beers were an inspiration for golden lagers in the US and worldwide.



Bräuweisse
Dry, spicy wheat ale
5.1% ABV
6/4/11.2 oz. & 20/16.9 oz. bottles

Classic Bavarian wheat beer. Fruity, thirst-quenching ale with clove and spice character from traditional Bavarian weissebeer yeast. Unfiltered with a huge rocky head; a world classic with a long list of awards.



Jahrhundert
Fresh, crisp golden lager
5.2% ABV
20/16.9 oz. bottles

Clean, energizing golden lager with light body, malty palate and herbal bouquet. First brewed by Ayinger Brewery in 1978 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the brewery.



Altbairisch Dunkel
Smooth, elegant dark lager
5.0% ABV
6/4/11.2 oz. & 20/16.9 oz. bottles

Beautifully refined and subtle Bavarian dark lager. Soft roasted malt flavors with overtones of coffee. Perfect malt richness and delicate hop finish. Perfectly executed in taste and texture.



Celebrator
Dark, rich, doppelbock lager
6.7% ABV
6/4/11.2 oz. & 6/25.4 oz. bottles

Cascading layers of malt complexity give this amazing strong lager a deep richness matched by no other beer. Flavors of roasted malt, toffee, and spice. Full body with a long aromatic finish.



Weizenbock
Strong, spicy wheat ale
7.1% ABV
20/16.9 oz. bottles

Astonishingly good, strong wheat ale. Smooth body from wheat with spicy clove flavor of Bavarian weissebeer brewed as strong as a bock beer. Huge head, with a compelling flavor that isn't overbearing.



Ur-Pils
Germany's classic lager
5.2% ABV
6/4/11.2 oz. & 20/16.9 oz. bottles

Pale and supremely refreshing Ur-Pils pours a white foamy head. Light body, dry, and well-balanced with mild hop bitterness. Unfiltered with notes of lemon and bread.




Hefe-Weizen
Smooth wheat & barley ale
5.1% ABV
20/16.9 oz. bottles

Crisp, dry, effervescent and refreshing unfiltered weissebeer. This smooth hefeweizen is light in body and color with a lemony citric tartness that carries through to the finish.



Strawberry
Lush strawberry lambic ale
4.1% ABV
6/4/8.45 oz. - 12/12 oz. - 12/25.4 oz. bottles

Rosy hue and subtle aroma of juicy, ripe strawberries. Fairly light body, rich, lush taste of strawberries with wild-yeast complexity. Hugely drinkable.



Kriek
Robust cherry lambic ale
3.5% ABV
12/12 oz. & 12/25.4 oz. bottles

Fresh black cherry juice added to lambic for a deep rose colored, sparkling, fruity, refreshing classic with a full body and a slightly tart finish. Aromatic and festive.



Lambic Variety Pack
Fruited lambic ales
6/4/8.45 oz. bottles

Variety 4-pack with one 8.45 oz. bottle each of the following world-renowned fruited lambic ales:

- Framboise
- Pêche
- Kriek
- Apple



Oude Gueuze, Cuvée René
Batch-blended lambic ale
5.2% ABV
12/12 oz. & 12/25.4 oz. bottles

Complex, deep, sour, natural flavor and bright acidity. Oude Gueuze (or *yeuze*) is a blend of old (3 year) and young (1 year) batches of lambic. This traditional style of lambic cellars beautifully for years. Bottle-conditioned.




Cassis
Rich black currant lambic ale
3.5% ABV
12/12 oz. & 12/25.4 oz. bottles

Authentic wild-fermented lambic with fresh black currant juice added, creating a deep purple-red color with exceptional aroma and flavor. Full-bodied, while still refreshing and clean.




Oude Kriek, Cuvée René
Batch-blended lambic ale
7.0% ABV
12/12 oz. bottles

Oude Kriek is a traditional lambic Oude Gueuze made with whole cherries. Oude Gueuze (or *yeuze*) is a blend of old (3 year) and young (1 year) batches of lambic. Bottle-conditioned. SEASONAL



Authentic Trappist Ales must follow these guidelines:

- Produced within a Trappist monastery.
- Production takes place under the supervision of monks.
- Proceeds earmarked for the needs of the monastic community, for solidarity within the Trappist order and for charitable purposes.



Orval
Dry, complex, Trappist ale
6.9% ABV
12/11.2 oz. bottles

World classic, brewed at an abbey first established almost 1,000 years ago. Dry-hopped, effervescent, complex fermentation with *brettanomyces* for appetizing unique flavors. Cellars beautifully.



Rochefort Triple Extra
Trappist triple ale
8.1% ABV
12/11.2 oz. bottles

Hazy, deep gold color with complex, and deeply layered flavor. Fairly light body for a strong ale. Finish of lush Rochefort yeast character and aroma.



Rochefort 6
Dark, Trappist dubbel ale
7.5% ABV
12/11.2 oz. bottles

Reddish-brown color with herbal, rich flavor and character. Taste of figs and earth with refined spiciness in the aroma. Finishes with a bit of caramel.



Zundert 8
Dark Trappist triple ale
8.0% ABV
12/11.2 oz. bottles

Chestnut-colored, spicy, fruity ale with flavor and aroma of caramel. Floral entry that develops a mellow, dry, inviting bitterness as the flavor opens. The abbey describes Zundert as "slightly unruly."



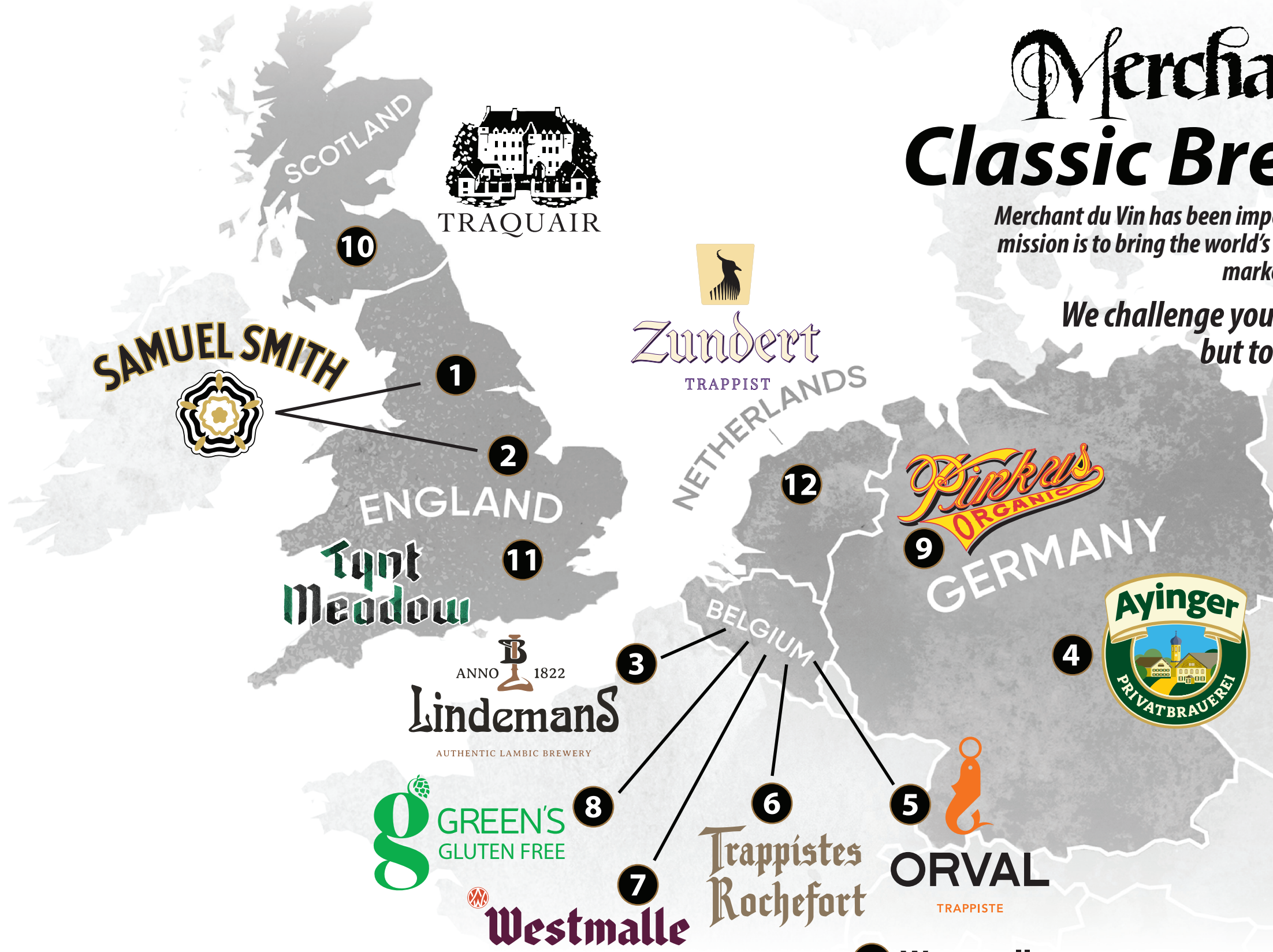
Westmalle Dubbel
Trappist dubbel ale
7.0% ABV
12/11.2 oz. & 6/25.4 oz. bottles

Malty, subtle, and dark. This benchmark "double" has a soft body and complex aroma hinting at tropical fruit. Westmalle has brewed a beer of this style since the 1830s.

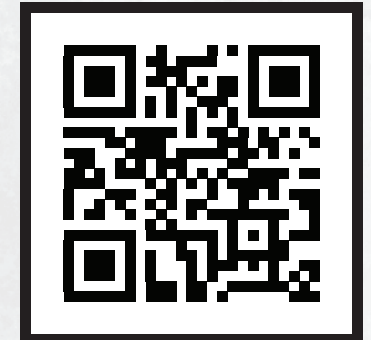
Merchant du Vin Classic Brewing Styles

Merchant du Vin has been importing specialty beer since 1978. Our mission is to bring the world's finest classic brewing styles to every market in the US.

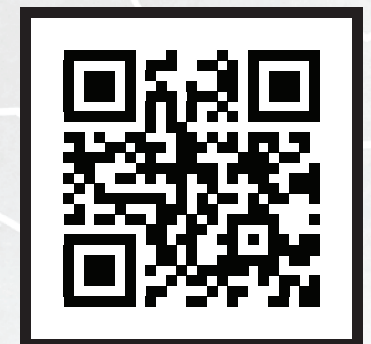
We challenge you to not just drink beer, but to explore it!



FIND OUR BEER



BEER SPECIFICATIONS



1 Samuel Smith - Est. 1758

Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, England

Yorkshire's oldest brewery and pioneer of world-renowned iconic beer styles. Family owned and fiercely independent Samuel Smith still uses stone Yorkshire Slate Squares to ferment their ales. This traditional methodology imparts unique, rich flavors and a silky texture.

2 Samuel Smith - Melbourn Bros. - Est. 1825

Stamford, Lincolnshire, England

Located in England's premier fruit-growing region, this facility utilizes steam-powered brewery equipment while retaining its traditional and exceptionally high quality standards. These organic fruit ales are brewed using mixed culture fermentation and multiple yeast strains.

3 Lindemans - Est. 1822

Vlezenbeek, Flanders, Belgium

This sixth generation family-owned brewery specializes in lambic ales, wild-fermented beer using airborne yeast, and is one of the few lambic breweries in the world. Made with all natural ingredients in the Senne Valley of Belgium, they are famous for their interpretation of Oude Gueze, Oude Kriek, and fruited lambics. Fruited lambics are young (one year old) lambic ale mixed with pasteurized fruit juice.

4 Ayinger - Est. 1878

Aying, Bavaria, Germany

Owned and operated by the same family since 1878, Ayinger is one of Bavaria's most awarded breweries. With every beer brewed in accordance with the *Reinheitsgebot*, Germany's purity law, this diverse brewery offers a full range of specialty lagers and ales with distinctive quality.

5 Orval - Est. 1070

Florenville, Belgium

Orval brews one Trappist ale to unique perfection using a complex fermentation schedule and the same strain of yeast for over 100 years. The logo, a trout with a golden ring in its mouth, commemorates Princess Mathilde, who dedicated the grounds to the monastery when a trout returned the wedding ring she had dropped into a spring.

6 Rochefort - Est. 1230

Rochefort, Belgium

Rochefort's Trappist strong ales appear on virtually every list of the world's finest beers, and for good reason. These unique brews are packed with intense flavors melded into perfect balance. The naming of their brews '6', '8' and '10' come from a traditional method of measuring specific gravity known as 'Belgian Degrees.'

7 Westmalle - Est. 1794

West Malle, Belgium

Founded by monks fleeing from Napoleon, this popular Trappist brewery introduced the first Belgian Tripel in 1934 to commemorate the new brewhouse opening. Within the walls of the abbey three beers are brewed: Westmalle Tripel, Dubbel, and Extra.

8 Green's Gluten-Free - Est. 2004

Lochristi, Flanders, Belgium

Green's Gluten-Free was founded by a beer-loving celiac, Derek Green, who wanted to enjoy specialty beer once again. These innovative brews match classic brewing styles and are made from naturally gluten-free ingredients. Brewed at the highly-respected De Proef Brewery.

9 Pinkus - Est. 1816

Münster, Westphalia, Germany

The world's first modern organic beer was brewed by Pinkus in the 1980s. This family owned brewery is dedicated to quality through pure ingredients. They use only organically-grown barley malt and whole hop blossoms in all of their world-class beers.

10 Traquair House - Est. 1491

Peeblesshire, Innerleithen, Scotland

Traquair house is the oldest continually-inhabited house in Scotland, originally a hunting lodge for the kings of Scotland. Recipes for their casked ales are based upon research from the house archives. They are the only U.K. brewery fermenting in oak vessels and brew impeccable Scotch ales unique in flavor and texture.

11 Tynt Meadow - Est. 1835

Coalville, Leicestershire, England

Every Trappist ale is unique in its own right, but Tynt Meadow is one of a kind. This English take on Trappist ale is smooth, and well balanced in flavor and experience. Located on land formerly used by the monks for dairy farming, Tynt Meadow is situated on the picturesque English countryside.

12 Zundert - Est. 1900

Zundert, Netherlands

Originally farmers, the monks of Zundert switched to brewing Trappist ales in 2013. One of only two Trappist breweries in the Netherlands, these ales are gentle, complex, and brewed with Belgian tradition in mind.



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