



BUZZ PICKS



JOEY

Sierra Nevada Porter

5.6% ABV, Robust Porter

The big brother to England's traditional Brown Porter, the Robust Porter style is more of everything, a brewing philosophy that lends itself to modern American craft brewing. The ugly duckling of the Sierra Nevada lineup, Porter doesn't get much face time, because it is neither overly hoppy nor excessively large. What the Porter is, is a rich, dark medium-bodied beer with a balancing hop character and roasted grain bitterness. Despite their history, Sierra Nevada didn't reinvent the wheel with their Porter, they just made one really solid and very enjoyable example.

"I started my beer drinking with Guinness and still crave the dark stuff all of the time, though I've broadened my horizons since then. When I wanted something dark, I never considered a porter, because the ones I'd had just felt like "halfway stouts". After having Deschutes Black Butte Porter and my Porter revelation, I experienced Sierra Nevada Porter and fell in love. This will be a constant for me over the next several months."



AUGUSTINE

Newcastle Brown Ale

4.7% ABV, Northern English Brown Ale

Newcastle was originally launched in the late 1920s to huge acclaim. At the prestigious 1928 International Brewery Awards, Newcastle won several awards still featured on the bottles label today. Shortly after release local Police in England asked the brewers of Newcastle to reduce the strength of the beer, because their jail cells were full. Newcastle continues to be a success internationally today and is now part of the wildly successful Heineken brand. Lightly sweet maltiness with flavors of toasted bread, nuts and caramel are balanced delicately with herbal hops and faint yeast fruitiness. A classic example of English balance and subtlety.

"It's a good time of year to drink a brown ale. Newcastle is malty and smooth tasting."



AUSTIN

Gulden Draak

10.5% ABV, Belgian Strong Dark Ale

Billed by the brewery as a "Dark Tripel", Gulden Draak is indeed dark and rich with a strength rivaling, and surpassing in many cases, a classic Tripel. Sweet malt flavors of caramel play a supporting role to the dynamic yeast flavors of dark fruits and spices. A truly luxurious beverage suited for after dinner drinking or relaxing during the cooler weather.

"Finally, Fall has hit Houston and the weather is amazing. So, when asking yourself what type of beer would be great to enjoy in this weather, look no further, Gulden Draak is the answer. Gulden Draak is a great Belgian brew that I truly enjoy. A big beer like this will keep you warm on the cool nights ahead of us as we approach winter."



JOSE

Delirium Nocturnum

8.5% ABV, Belgian Strong Dark Ale

Brewed by the Huyghe family brewery in Ghent, Belgium, Delirium Nocturnum is the dark counterpart to its sister beer, the infamous Delirium Tremens. The pair have a troubled past in the US market, being banned for a time because of their names and laws restricting any alcoholic product from promoting excessive drinking. Three fermentations, two prior to packaging and one in the bottle, with three different yeast strains contribute to a yeast profile that is complex and varied. A produce department of fruit is coupled with spice and hop flavors supported by a rich malt core to create a classic and lasting Belgian ale to be savored.

"The cooler months are approaching, finally! I won't feel so bad drinking a dark beer. Nocturnum is a good transition beer to winter. Not too heavy, not too dark, good fruitiness in the middle and a light honey finish."