

American IPA

Hop Henge Experimental IPA

Deschutes Brewery
Bend, Oregon

Since 2006. Seasonal: Available Jan - Apr
Available in bombers and on draft.

Part of their "Bond Street Series" which includes Hop Henge IPA, Hop in the Dark Cascadian Dark Ale, Hop Trip Pale Ale, and Fresh Hop Mirror Pond Pale Ale.

IBUs: 95
ABV: 8.5%

Malts: Pale, Munich
Hops: Millennium, Northern Brewer, Cascade, Centennial, Zeus, Simcoe, Brewers Gold, Citra

West Coast IPA

Green Flash Brewing Company
San Diego, California

Available year-round in 22oz Bottles, 12oz Bottles, Four Packs, & Draft

IBUs: 95
ABV: 7.3%

Malts: Not sure.
Hops: Columbus, Centennial, Cascade

Stone IPA

Stone Brewing Company
Escondido, California

Since 1997. Available year-round in 22oz Bottles, 12oz Bottles, Sixpacks, Twelvepacks, & Draft

IBUs: 77
ABV: 6.9%

Malts: Pale, Crystal and Munich (possibly wrong)
Hops: Columbus, Chinook, and Centennial

Hop Manna IPA

Shmaltz/He'Brew

Based in San Francisco, CA, contract brewed at Mendocino Brewing Co (along with their Coney Island brews).

New in 2012. The first single IPA from He'Brew.
Available year-round in bombers and on draft.

IBUs: 65
ABV: 6.8%

Malts: Specialty 2-Row, Wheat, Munich Vienna, Cara-Munich 40

Hops: Warrior, Cascade, Citra, Amarillo, Crystal, Centennial

Dry Hop: Centennial, Cascade, and Citra

Racer 5 IPA

Bear Republic
Healdsburg, CA

Year round in 12oz. 6 packs, 12 packs, 22oz. bottles & Draft

IBUs: 75+
ABV: 7%

Malts: Pale and Crystal
Hops: Chinook, Cascade, Columbus and Centennial

Lagunitas IPA

Lagunitas Brewing Company
Petaluma, CA

Year round in 12oz. 6 packs, 12 packs, 22oz. bottles & Draft

IBUs: 45.6
ABV: 6.2% (according to BA)

Malts: Not sure. Crystal?
Hops: Not sure. Some sources say Cascade and Centennial, others say Willamette.

American IPA

History (from BA)

First brewed in England and exported for the British troops in India during the late 1700s. To withstand the voyage, IPA's were basically tweaked Pale Ales that were, in comparison, much more malty, boasted a higher alcohol content and were well-hopped, as hops are a natural preservative. Historians believe that an IPA was then watered down for the troops, while officers and the elite would savor the beer at full strength. The English IPA has a lower alcohol due to taxation over the decades. The leaner the brew the less amount of malt there is and less need for a strong hop presence which would easily put the brew out of balance. Some brewers have tried to recreate the original IPA with strengths close to 8-9% abv.

The American IPA is a different soul from the reincarnated IPA style. More flavorful than the withering English IPA, color can range from very pale golden to reddish amber. Hops are typically American with a big herbal and / or citric character, bitterness is high as well. Moderate to medium bodied with a balancing malt backbone.

BJCP Style Notes:

Aroma

A prominent to intense hop aroma with a citrusy, floral, perfume-like, resinous, piney, and/or fruity character derived from American hops. Many versions are dry hopped and can have an additional grassy aroma, although this is not required. Some clean malty sweetness may be found in the background, but should be at a lower level than in English examples. Fruitiness, either from esters or hops, may also be detected in some versions, although a neutral fermentation character is also acceptable. Some alcohol may be noted.

Appearance

Color ranges from medium gold to medium reddish copper; some versions can have an orange-ish tint. Should be clear, although unfiltered dry-hopped versions may be a bit hazy. Good head stand with white to off-white color should persist.

Flavor

Hop flavor is medium to high, and should reflect an American hop character with citrusy, floral, resinous, piney or fruity aspects. Medium-high to very high hop bitterness, although the malt backbone will support the strong hop character and provide the best balance. Malt flavor should be low to medium, and is generally clean and malty sweet although some caramel or toasty flavors are acceptable at low levels. No diacetyl. Low fruitiness is acceptable but not required. The bitterness may linger into the aftertaste but should not be harsh. Medium-dry to dry finish. Some clean alcohol flavor can be noted in stronger versions. Oak is inappropriate in this style. May be slightly sulfury, but most examples do not exhibit this character.

Mouthfeel

Smooth, medium-light to medium-bodied mouthfeel without hop-derived astringency, although moderate to medium-high carbonation can combine to render an overall dry sensation in the presence of malt sweetness. Some smooth alcohol warming can and should be sensed in stronger (but not all) versions. Body is generally less than in English counterparts.

Overall Impression

A decidedly hoppy and bitter, moderately strong American pale ale.

History

An American version of the historical English style, brewed using American ingredients and attitude.

Ingredients

Pale ale malt (well-modified and suitable for single-temperature infusion mashing); American hops; American yeast that can give a clean or slightly fruity profile. Generally all-malt, but mashed at lower temperatures for high attenuation. Water character varies from soft to moderately sulfate. Versions with a noticeable Rye character ("RyePA") should be entered in the Specialty category.