

MAXIM



★ Every minute of every day, brewmasters give bubbly birth to new sudsy delights. We sipped hundreds and hundreds of the brain-softening beauties and, when we woke up three days later, declared these to be the 25 tastiest, most life-affirming concoctions to hit the shelves recently. We dare you to take a slug and not smile!

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BY MIKE DAWSON PHOTOGRAPH BY ADAM LEVEY

BEST
NEW BEERS
IN AMERICA

PORKSLAP

Style: Pale Ale

BREWERY: Butternuts Beer & Ale, Garrattsville, NY

★ Don't let the cartoon piggies tummy-thumping on the can fool you—Porkslap provides some serious suds action. Pour this classic American pale ale into a glass and you'll notice its striking orange color. Take a sip and you'll be struck by its malty, hoppy goodness. Pour some on your jeans and you'll be all wet. Pork power!



Drifter

Style: Pale Ale
Brewery: Widmer Brothers, Portland, OR

★ A light and airy pale, Drifter is like an awesome roommate who pays the rent on time and can persuade any group of hot girls to head back to your place for an after-party. Move this guy into your fridge fast. Your sex life just may depend on it.



MAXIM'S FAVORITE
BEER BURG:
PHILADELPHIA

→ Sure, Portland, Oregon still produces great suds (Widmer, Hopworks)—and, yes, you P-town natives are so cool because you all can telemark ski—but the crown of Best Beer Town has been swiped from you guys and smuggled back east to the scrappy and beer-soaked City of Brotherly Love. Here's why:

THE NEW BREW SCHOOL

There are dozens of beer makers in and around Philadelphia that are crushing national and international taste-test contests like the Great American Beer Festival and Beer World Cup. Translation: Philly is producing big-flavored craft beers that are super drinkable. The notables: Victory, Iron Hill, Sly Fox, Stoudts, Nodding Head, and Triumph. Sit and spin, Portland!

THE MAYOR TAPS THE FIRST KEG OF PHILLY BEER WEEK

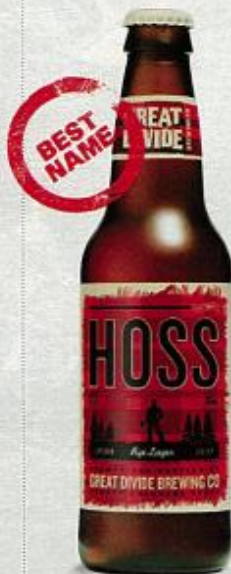
This beer festival isn't some piddly two-tent deal. The early-June drunkfest is a true citywide brew blowout featuring free homebrew classes and, of course, millions of homegrown kegs to the head. A source* tells Maxim that the teachers' union had the school year shortened so they could booze up at Beer Week. *Some toothless guy at the Philly bus station

IT WAS AMERICA'S FIRST BEER TOWN

The Constitution was hatched while dudes in wigs knocked back beer in Philadelphia taverns.

BEN FRANKLIN SAYS SO

"Beer is living proof that God loves us and wants to see us happy."



Hoss

Style: Rye Lager
Brewery: Great Divide Brewing, Denver

★ An old-world Bavarian brew style in which rye replaces some of the barley, this plaid-frocked fun punch epitomizes the genre: Sweet and crisp, with woody undertones.



Hoptober

Style: Golden Ale
Brewery: New Belgium, Fort Collins, CO

★ First thing you notice is the insanely strong hops aroma, then comes the crisp, honey-laced sweetness. Next thing you know, you've inhaled 17, your shirt is off, and you're singing Counting Crows at karaoke with some cute Korean Air flight attendants.



Helios Ale

Style: Saison
Brewery: Victory, Downingtown, PA

★ From Pennsylvania, this Quaker-born brew pours out of a mega 22-ounce bottle cloudy but tastes clean. It's orange in color, orange in taste, and orange you glad you drank it? Don't like clever wordplay? Well, screw you!



Ten Fidy

Style: Imperial Stout
Brewery: Oskar Blues, Lyons, CO

★ This canned, oh-so-drinkable skull-crusher is thick and black like Texas tea, smells like sweet pipe tobacco, and has deep notes of maple bacon, cherries, and mesquite. Dudes: Curl your hippie hair behind your ears and say "Whoa!" The crunchy, fleece-wearing beer pros at Oskar have struck Black Gold.



DRINK BEER, LIVE LONGER

Real scientists say beer can boost your health. Cheers!

BENEFIT:

HEALTHY HEART
A 2008 U.C. Davis study showed that drinking beer (in moderation) can decrease the risk of a heart attack and stroke by nearly 40 percent. Bonus: A few brews can also guard against hypertension, diabetes, and even dementia. Crack another Pabst, Granny!

BENEFIT: REDUCTION OF KIDNEY STONES
Researchers found that when men upped the number of beers they downed, they actually reduced their risk of developing kidney stones. Interestingly, the study also showed that after five beers, the incidence of smock-flashing female lab techs rose 77 percent.

BENEFIT: STRONGER BONES
A Tufts University study showed that dark beer protects bone-mineral density, lowering the chances of developing osteoporosis. Silicon, a prime ingredient in dark beer, helps the absorption of calcium and minerals to make bones strong. Fuck milk!



Haywire

Style: Hefeweizen
Brewery: Pyramid, Seattle

★ This American-style wheat ale is light and refreshing, with just faint hints of citrus and caramel—but it ain't no lady beer. The award winner has a muscular wheat flavor that makes it a suitable accompaniment for manly activities, like tailgating, scrapbooking, and needlepoint.



Samuel Adams Noble Pils

Style: Pilsner
Brewery: Boston Beer Co., Boston

★ Master brewer Jim Koch's perfect summer beer is stiff with hops but has a clean and silky feel that never leaves you with cotton mouth—only the munchies.



Torpedo

Style: Extra IPA
Brewery: Sierra Nevada, Chico, CA

★ SN's crew can't miss, even when they tackle one of the boldest styles on the planet. This missile to the white meat is robust but super easy thanks to heavy hints of apricot and Juicy Fruit gum flavors (seriously).



März Hon

Style: Märzen
Brewery: Clipper City, Baltimore

★ Based on a traditional Oktoberfest brew, this poundable Bodymore native has hints of syrup-drenched French toast, toffee, and street-corner shootings.

TOPS OFF

Beer must-have: moose push-down bottle opener.



\$18; decapper.com

**THE 25
BEST
NEW BEERS
IN AMERICA**



Bud Light Wheat

Style: Golden Wheat
Brewery: Anheuser-Busch, St. Louis

★ Wheat beer has been growing on us this year thanks in part to this rich and nuanced sauce. With hints of lemon and roasted nuts, it's huge in flavor for a light beer. Never count out the geniuses who invented Budweiser Tall Boys.



Brew Free! Or Die

Style: IPA
Brewery: 21st Amendment, San Francisco

★ This citrusy sucker is the most chuggable IPA on the list. It has a perfect medley of bite and mellowness—an awesome, full-flavored way to earn your bed spins.



Indian Brown

Style: Brown Ale
Brewery: Dogfish Head, Milton, DE

★ The hop-heads who work at Dogfish have been getting down with this brown for years, and finally, late last year they made it available to national distributors. Its boldness jolts, but the brown sugar and caramel notes make it go down smooth.



Old Stock

Style: Ale
Brewery: North Coast Brewing, Fort Bragg, CA

★ Trick and hazelnutty with hints of Coca-Cola and cherry, this is our new favorite snow-day beer. Drink it, then pee in your moon boot.

DRINK-TIONARY

Your 10-second guide to the beer styles you need to know.

• **PALE ALE**
This amber-hued beer is made from pale malts. It's at once fruity and slightly bitter, like your college roommate who liked to watch you sleep.

• **INDIA PALE ALE (IPA)**
A pale ale with significantly more hops. This style was created out of necessity: Brits added extra hops to help preserve the beer during overseas trips to India.

• **DOUBLE IPA**
An even more hopped-up IPA. Easy, people!

• **BROWN ALE**
Despite its color, this is one of the sweetest ales. Made from chocolate and/or caramel malts. Yum-O.

• **HEFEWEIZEN (WHEAT BEER)**
Wheat beers are crisp, smooth, and slightly tart. Note: Don't add an orange wedge. It makes you look like a girl, plus hints of citrus are already there.

• **DUNKELWEIZEN**
Hefe's darker cousin, this wheat beer has hints of banana and toffee. Dessert!

• **IMPERIAL STOUT**
This almost-flat brew uses dark, roasted malt. The flavor starts with coffee but finishes with tart blueberry.

• **PILSNER**
The world's first golden beer, pils is made with pale malt and noble hops, which have all the hop aroma but less bitterness.

• **TRIPEL**
This golden brew has three times as many pale malts as an average ale. It was born out of the monasteries of Belgium. Praise Jesus!

• **FARMHOUSE ALE (A.K.A. SAISON)**
A bubbly, straw-hued, medieval-born Belgian pale ale that's sweet and low in alcohol. The original summer beer.

• **OKTOBERFEST**
Also known as Märzen, this red, sugary Bavarian beer is brewed with a mix of Vienna and Munich malts that give it a fruity nose and toffeelike flavor. And a hand job when it needs five bucks.



Sexual Chocolate

Style: Imperial Stout
Brewery: Foothills Brewing, Winston-Salem, NC

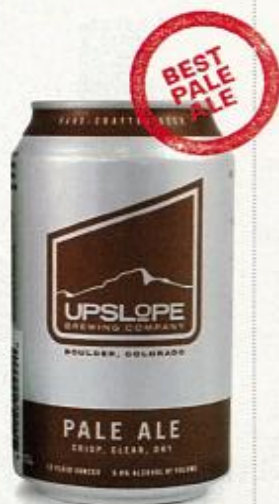
★ Flavored beers are for chicks. But this Nubian queen has three things going for it: (1) It reminds us of Eddie Murphy pre-tranny. (2) It sports the illest label of the year. (3) It gives us an excuse to order beer with dessert. Sip and watch your soul glow.



Green Lakes Organic Ale

Style: Amber Ale
Brewery: Deschutes, Bend, OR

★ Pacific Northwesterners already know that Deschutes kicks serious ale ass, and this new organic job is no exception. Grassy, hoppy, and thirst-quenching. And, no, just because it's organic doesn't mean it cancels out the 18 smokes you had last night.



Upslope Pale Ale

Style: Pale Ale
Brewery: Upslope Brewing, Boulder, CO

★ These guys opened shop in late 2008, and they already own our taste buds thanks to their pale. It's the most palatable craft beer we've gulped in a while. Check the ingredients: "Snow melt, malt, Patagonian hops, yeast." We're officially down with Upslope.



Blue Ball

Style: Porter
Brewery: Intercourse Brewing Co., Wilkes-Barre, PA

★ This quaffable flavored port sneaks up on you with subtle nudges of blueberry and hickory smoke. We want to smother it on pancakes at breakfast, but we'll probably skip all that and just pull a bottle out from the nightstand drawer and gulp it down on the way to the shower. Good morning, Wednesday!



Calico

Style: Amber Ale
Brewery: Ballast Point, San Diego

★ Ballast has been churning out great beer for lucky locals for years and is finally selling their house favorite in wide release. This sharp 'n' sweet potion pairs well with BBQ or pizza or a night by your self stalking your ex on Flickr.



Fat Squirrel

Style: Brown Ale
Brewery: New Glarus, New Glarus, WI

★ A sweet, nutty, malty good time in a bottle. Pack a few hundred of these into your tree hole and hibernate till spring comes.



Local 1

Style: Pale Ale
Brewery: Brooklyn Brewery, Brooklyn

★ This beer's frothy head is so tall and inviting you want to thrust at it like a human-size pillow. Resist. Sip, and let its floral top notes dance across your skull as its nine percent alcohol content stomps your brain like a pink elephant.



Tumble Off

Style: Pale Ale
Brewery: Barley Brown's Brew Pub, Baker City, OR

★ With more hops than Bugs Bunny and a grassy, herbal aftertaste that recalls our second-favorite Oregon export, this refreshing concoction from the award-winning Barley Brown boys is guaranteed to cure what "ales" ya.



Union Jack

Style: IPA
Brewery: Firestone Walker, Paso Robles, CA

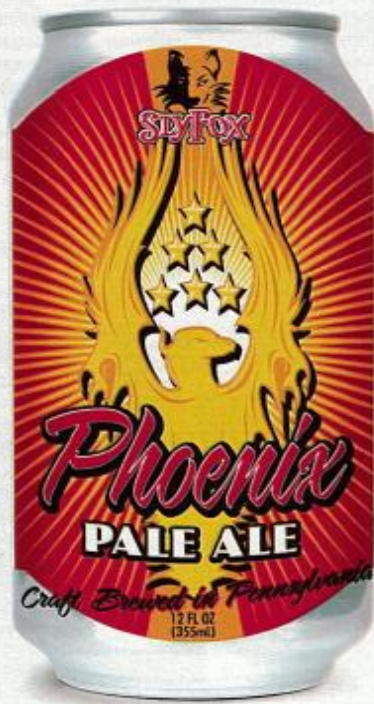
★ Hands down the best IPA Maxim has ever tasted. Not for the hop-timid. Crazy flavors—apple, peach, Twinkles, and, yes, kind bud—coalesce into an electrifying tomahawk dunk on your taste buds. Note: This stuff makes you, um, regular—and in a hurry. Make sure your pipes are clear before imbibing.



UFO White

Style: Wheat
Brewery: Harpoon—Boston

★ With hints of citrus, this smooth, easily swallowable brew is perfect for pirates worried about scurvy.



Phoenix

Style: Pale Ale
Brewery: Sly Fox, Royersford, PA

★ Is it possible to have delicious hoppiness wherever you go? Yes, you can. In this can!

AMERICA'S BEST BEER JOBS

1. CHIEF BEER OFFICER

Four Points by Sheraton Hotels
Currently held by: Scott Kerkmans
Beer duties: Discover, drink, and serve local craft beers that are brewed near each of the hotel's 182 properties.
Qualifications: Brewer, Alaskan Beer Company, Kerkmans beat out nearly 8,000 other applicants.
Beer benefits: Yearly trips to Germany for Oktoberfest; monthly travel to Four Points hotels, from Rio to Shanghai. Free mini-bar!
CBO says: "No complaints!"

2. BEER DRINKER OF THE YEAR

Wynkoop Brewing Company, Denver
Currently held by: Cody Christian
Beer duties: Wear crown, be the brewery's emissary, drink beer.
Qualifications: Knowledge of beer's history and importance to civilization; a desire to educate others on the joys of great brew.
Beer benefits: Free beer for life at Wynkoop pub. Seriously.
BDOTY says: "I love you guys."

3. MAXIM INTERNS

Currently held by: Stephanie Radvan, Shanté Cosme, and Peter Meijer
Beer duties: Keeping beer inventory and ensuring Maxim's Muscle Milk fridge is always stocked with sud soldiers.
Qualifications: College student; ability to maintain a straight face when hiring editors declare: "Print is making a comeback!"
Beer benefits: Free brew, plus it's easy to leave early when the editors are drunk, pantless, and wrestling each other on a Tuesday at 3 P.M.
Interns say: "Ew!"

