

(Free and download) The Ontario Craft Beer Guide

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Robin LeBlanc, Jordan St. John
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#3409153 in Books Robin LeBlanc Jordan St John 2016-06-07 2016-06-07 Original language: English PDF #1 7.00 x 1.00 x 5.00l, .0 #File Name: 1459735668432 pages The Ontario Craft Beer Guide | File size: 54.Mb

Robin LeBlanc, Jordan St. John : The Ontario Craft Beer Guide before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ontario Craft Beer Guide:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. She's an excellent writer, and thoroughly knowledgeable on the subject. By Eric Trautmann I've long admired Ms. LeBlanc's various beer-related blogs and columns. She's an excellent writer, and thoroughly knowledgeable on the subject. This book is an excellent encapsulation of the current state of the Ontario beer scene insightful and witty and very well researched.

Forget wine tours! This is the comprehensive guide to Ontario's craft-beer revival and the brewers behind it. The renaissance of craft beer that has swept North America over the past thirty years has transformed the Ontario

landscape, leaving over two hundred breweries, both great and humble, dotting the province. The diversity of craft beers we now enjoy is unprecedented in history and dazzling to behold. For the growing number of people who find their interest piqued, the sheer selection of brews can be intimidating. The Ontario Craft Beer Guide gives readers, whether bright-eyed beginners or aficionados of the highest calibre, a dependable field guide to the beers of Ontario. Noted experts Jordan St. John (Lost Breweries of Toronto) and Robin LeBlanc (The Thirsty Wench) tell the stories of some of Ontarios most notable breweries and provide expert ratings for nearly a thousand beers.

Anyone who drinks beer in Ontario owes LeBlanc and St. John a pint for completing the arduous (no, really) job of cataloguing and rating many hundreds of brands, resulting in a thorough, authoritative and fascinating list. (National Post)A hugely useful new intro to the beautiful madness that is the current scene. (NOW Magazine)With this level of detail I can transpose my palate to their recommendations and still trust their recommendations. Trust. Thats it. I can trust a book like this. So can you. (A Good Beer Blog)Robin LeBlanc and Jordan St. John have done an admirable job of profiling Ontarios dynamic and expanding beer industry. (Foodbloggersofcanada.com)A unique and thorough snapshot of the beer industry in a region that is on the cusp of a very large boom. (Bens Beer Blog)I started ticking off the brews that Ive tried, and Ive learned that I have a lot of beer to discover. (Beer OClock)While I do my best to steer readers in the right direction, Ontario beer drinkers owe a debt of gratitude to Jordan St. John and Robin LeBlanc, authors of the recently published Ontario Craft Beer Guide (Toronto Star)About the AuthorRobin LeBlanc is a writer and photographer. As the owner of the award-winning craft beer site thethirstywench.com and writer for Torontoists beer column, Inherent Weisse, she has appeared on TV, radio, and newspapers preaching the gospel of good beer. She lives in Toronto. Jordan St. John was National Beer Columnist for Sun Media from 2011 to 2015 and writes under his own banner at saintjohnswort.ca. He is the author of three books, including the award-nominated Lost Breweries of Toronto. A Certified Cicerone, Jordan collaborates with brewers across Ontario. He lives in Toronto.Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.INTRODUCTION Until very recently, Ontarios craft beer scene was a fairly manageable affair. The explosion of small breweries that has taken place since 2007 means that it has become very difficult, even for beer writers covering the province, to keep track of what exists, let alone how everything fits together. While it is excellent to have an up-to-date list of breweries from across the province, it became apparent to us in mid-2014 that additional context and information was required if anyone was going to be able to navigate the huge amount of choice that currently exists in the marketplace. So, in a climate where new breweries are popping up at a rate of one a week, the most frequent question we were asked when writing this book was, How did you know when to stop? We chose to make the cut-off point for inclusion three weeks before we had to hand in the manuscript for this book, approximately December 15, 2016. Such a cut-off was needed; otherwise, our editors would have suffered more headaches than they get now from emails requesting late additions. The second most frequent question, and perhaps one of the more loaded ones, was, How are you defining what makes a craft brewery? As many know, there are a lot of definitions out there, from making small amounts of beer to being independently owned to being community focused. In this book we have included just about any brewery that might be considered craft, which means breweries, brewpubs, and contract breweries. In all cases, we have denoted the difference in types of business for the sake of clarity. Because contracting is sometimes used as a first step for a brewery before moving into its own facility, some are listed as transitional. In cases in which a brewery has been purchased at some point in the past by a large multinational company, we have included them but made a note of the ownership. The historical context that breweries like Creemore and Mill Street have provided for the craft beer scene in Ontario cannot and should not be ignored. The purpose of this guide is to assist you in navigating Ontarios craft beer market and finding something that you might like to drink. Each brewer's entry is composed of its contact information and coordinates, a brief biography to help give a sense of the brewer's identity, and a series of tasting notes and ratings for the beers that it has on offer. In producing tasting notes and ratings, we have strived for fairness. That being said, we have offered brewers every opportunity to put their best foot forward by directly consulting with them to see which beers (usually capped at eight examples) they feel best celebrate who they are. In the majority of the entries, we've used samples directly from the brewery itself, avoiding any potential problems that might arise from tasting the beer from dirty tap lines in a bar or pub or from bottles or cans that have gone stale as a result of languishing too long on the shelves of a retail establishment. A Word About the Rating System In producing ratings, we have been mostly interested in three things: whether the beer has objective flaws, how well the flavour profile works, and how well the beer accomplishes what it sets out to do, i.e., the extent to which it is what the brewers claim it to be. Beer preference is subjective. You may like a certain style of beer more than another for just about any reason, and you're not wrong to feel that way. Brewing quality is not subjective. Beer frequently has technical flaws or undesirable qualities that can leave an unpleasant impression. In the case of flavour defects, these might include the presence of diacetyl (which smells like buttered popcorn, leaves a slick, butterscotch mouthfeel, and causes hangovers), dimethyl sulfide (an aroma of creamed corn, canned vegetables, or tomato sauce), acetaldehyde (overwhelming green apple), butyric character (blue cheese or baby vomit), inappropriate phenolic character (smoke, burnt plastic, or Band-Aid), or just a lack of conditioning resulting in rough, unpleasant mouthfeel. The beer may be inappropriately carbonated or under-

attenuated (containing residual sugars that ought to have been fermented). We have taken into account stylistic convention. The Beer Judge Certification Program style guidelines are a helpful tool in doing exactly that, and, combined with context, experience, and the knowledge that it is possible to push the envelope a little, they have helped form the backbone of our rating system. We have been pleased to reward brewers for balance of flavours. A frequent criticism of websites for beer geeks is that they tend to reward the extreme, favouring beers with higher alcohol and in-your-face flavours. We've tried to eliminate this bias from our thinking, focusing on how balanced a beer is, its progression of flavours, and the overall impression that it leaves. Whether considering a beer with a simple style done well or a complex behemoth that somehow manages to attain balance, we've done our best to treat them similarly. Finally, writing this book has given us an appreciation for how much the art of brewing has to do with expectation management. When deciding how to market a beer, brewers must decide exactly what that beer is in order to communicate its qualities effectively. If a brewer refers to something as a blonde ale and it has pronounced notes of chocolate and mint, something is seriously wrong. If a brewer has referred to something as Belgian-style and it shows no trace of Belgian influence, that's a real problem. If a klsch is more like a blonde ale or a cream ale is more like a pale ale, we've taken that into account. That said, there are always new styles of beer emerging. We have taken seriously the description of the beer provided. To give an example, the term breakfast stout may not be widely enough known to connote an actual style of beer, but it conveys the impression that it will contain oats, coffee, and chocolate. It lets you know what you're getting, which is of ultimate importance to the consumer.