



Press Release

Searching for the best beers in the world for 20 years

European Beer Star 2023 awards 222 outstanding beers

Nuremberg, November 29, 2023: *The Association Private Brauereien has been organizing the renowned European Beer Star beer competition since 2004. The winners of the "Anniversary EBS" were presented with their awards on November 29, 2023 as part of the BrauBeviale trade fair. The successful breweries were duly celebrated by industry colleagues and interested trade fair visitors.*

For the 20th anniversary of the renowned beer competition, a total of 2356 beers competed against each other in 74 categories. The extensive list of categories included well-known classics such as "German-Style Pilsner" or "South-German Style Hefeweizen hell", but also exotic styles that are more familiar to beer lovers, such as "Herb and Spice Beer" or "Wood and Barrel Aged Sour Beer". Since the beginning of the European Beer Star, beer styles of European origin have been the focus of the beer competition. However, breweries from all over the world are invited to take part. This year, over 550 breweries from 47 countries took part in the European Beer Star.

In mid-September, 140 beer experts tasted the submitted beer samples purely according to sensory criteria. From preliminary and intermediate rounds to the final in each category, the beers were judged on the basis of their appearance, aroma, taste and other typical characteristics. The international panel of judges consisted of beer experts from all over the world, including master brewers, trade journalists and beer sommeliers. In the end, only the three best beers in each category were awarded gold, silver and bronze.

Germany leads the medal table

A total of 222 awards were presented at the European Beer Star 2023. 83 of them were won by breweries from Germany. With 28 gold, 27 silver and 28 bronze medals, Germany leads the medal table. Second place went to the USA with 9 gold, 8 silver and 10 bronze medals. This year, 8 gold, 12 silver and 10 bronze awards went across the Alps to Italy. Austria followed with a total of 18 awards (6 gold, 7 silver, 5 bronze) and Switzerland with 7 awards (4 gold, 3 silver). A total of 21 nations are

represented on the medal table of the European Beer Star 2023 - a clear sign of the international nature of the competition.

Most successful brewery comes from Kelheim, Bavaria

With three gold and one bronze, the brewery Schneider Weisse from Kelheim is the most successful brewery in this year's competition and once again proved its expertise in the wheat beer categories. Brauerei Maisel also returned back home to Bayreuth with triple gold. Two gold awards each went to Privatbrauerei Waldhaus and Biermanufaktur Engel in Baden-Württemberg.

At international level, the Firestone Walker Brewing Company won double gold. Pravda Brewery from war-torn Ukraine achieved a particularly notable success with two gold awards.

Other medal collectors at the European Beer Star 2023 include Schlossbrauerei Autenried from Bavaria with three silver medals and the Italian brewery 50&50 with a complete set of medals.

From classic to extravagant beer styles

The Distelhäuser Brauerei answered the question of the best German-style Pilsner and was awarded the gold medal in this category. The prize for the best "Helles" goes to the Kaiser Brauerei in Geislingen, Baden-Württemberg. Urbrew was able to confirm its surprise success from last year. The gold medal in the "South German-Style Hefeweizen hell" category thus goes to Handan in China for the second time in a row.

In the "Italian Grape Ale" category - a style that combines beer and wine - two awards went to Italy and one award across the Atlantic to Brazil.

The Polish beer style "Grodziskie" was tasted for the first time at the European Beer Star. This is a light beer brewed with smoked wheat malt and has become increasingly popular in recent years. It is therefore not surprising that the gold and bronze medals went to Poland, the home country of this beer style.

In the "Free-Style Beer" category, Stieglbrauerei from Salzburg impressed the final jury this year. In addition to the sensory evaluation of the beer quality, the storytelling, the story behind the beer, also plays a key role in the rating in this category. The Austrian brewery won the gold award in this special category with its interpretation of an ancient beer made from historic grains and fermented in "Quevri" dug into the ground.

Please find attached the complete list of winners as well as the medal table of the European Beer Star 2023.

Further information: www.european-beer-star.com

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About the European Beer Star:

The European Beer Star has been organized by the Association Private Brauereien since 2004 and has long since become one of the most important beer competitions in the world. The European Beer Star honors beers that are unadulterated, full of character and of high quality. Most of the beer styles considered are those that have their origins in Europe. All breweries worldwide are eligible to participate: local, regional, supraregional, and internationally active breweries, not only from Europe, but from all countries on all continents. The European Beer Star is supported by BarthHaas, BrauBeviale, Brauwelt, Fermentis, Kalea, Kaspar Schulz, Micro Matic and Rastal.

Further information: www.european-beer-star.de

About the Association Private Brauereien

As a national and regional trade organization, the Association Private Brauereien represents the interests of several hundred small and medium-sized breweries. Member breweries include one-man operations as well as companies with more than a hundred employees; pub breweries that offer their beer exclusively in their own pubs, microbreweries whose beers are sold around the chimney, and breweries that export their beers worldwide. Members include newly established breweries as well as traditional breweries where beer has been brewed for centuries. All of these establishments, in addition to great beers, have a common denominator that can also be found in the name of the association: They are privately operated.

Further information: www.private-brauereien.de