

# Local Brews

by Corinne Stremmel

Hot summer days call for a cold beer, right? When the temperatures start to climb, you might find yourself reaching for something light with a crispy, citrusy finish. That's what we tried to embody when we set out on a cold spring day in April in preparation for this story.

The Savour team set out to sample beers from five local breweries, and this is what we found: five beers that we would personally sip dockside on a clear July day.

Check out our picks and summer recs from the brewers themselves. Plus learn where you can pick up beer to go. If you'd rather hang around the taproom, these breweries have plenty going on all summer long.



Paul Dols



Hop & Barrel

*Consider this the only beer guide you need this summer.*

## What's new:

Hops & Barrel, located in Hudson, WI wants to be the brewery where you can go to just hang out. Now back to their summer schedule of events, Hop & Barrel has live music and a lot of parties lined up as well as some more unconventional entertainment like pro wrestling from Iron Heart out of St. Paul. "We're sort of the type to try anything and see what works," said owner Justin Terbeest. And as far as we're concerned, beer and pro wrestling work surprisingly well.

## What's now:

For a true summer shandy, try Hop & Barrel's Lemon Breaker, a lemon craft soda blend with a low alcohol content. The brewery sources its craft soda locally from Spring Grove Soda, making Hop & Barrel the largest distributor of craft soda in Wisconsin. For IPA lovers try the Hazy Valley, a very approachable, hazy IPA with floral

notes, making it just thirst-quenching enough for a hot summer day. The 5th Triple is a West Coast IPA with a palatable, dry finish with massive notes of pineapple. Lightweights beware, this one packs an 11% ABV punch.

## Where can I get some?

Hop & Barrel distributes throughout northwestern Wisconsin including the twin ports of Duluth and Superior. They can also be found throughout the Twin Cities.

## Savour's summer picks:

We loved the Muchos Ojos, a Mexican beer crafted to not be overly Americanized. "We tried some true Mexican craft beer and it had so much body and flavor," said Terbeest. New Zealand hops give off a nice lime flavor for easy sipping. "You gotta know the rules to break them," said Terbeest on crafting our top pick.