

THE BEER DEMYSTIFIER *NEW YORK CITY FILES* 2009-2010

BREWERY PROFILE

Heineken International

[Global Corporate Mass Producer](#)

HQ: The Netherlands



The 4th largest global corporation (nearly 11 billion Euros in revenue in 2005). Dutch-based Heineken is the owner of over 130 breweries in 65 countries. In Belgium, Heineken has the former craft Affligem beers under its belt, while in France it has Fischer, and in Poland it has Zywiec (which brews a delicious Baltic porter). A recent acquisition is The Royal Brewery of Krušovice, one of the Czech Republic's oldest breweries (established in 1517), while in April 2008 the corporation acquired most of Scottish and Newcastle (some of that former entity going to Carlsberg). See also [Asia Pacific](#), [Brau Holding International](#), and [Brau Union Österreich](#) (q.v.).

Ratings

Each beer has been given a rating from one to five which should be interpreted as follows.

* Bland, one-dimensional, or tasting of cheap adjuncts – unenjoyable. Not recommended.

** Nothing special but may be worth trying if nothing better is available.

*** Good, recommended.

**** Great, highly recommended.

***** Exceptionally good, very highly recommended.

Ratings are based on personal taste although, in certain instances, outside evaluations have been used when a particular beer has not been sampled by the author/webmaster.

{S} after the beer name denotes seasonal availability.

• Brewed in Belgium

Brugs (4.8%) *** < - BELGIAN WITBIER - > – An adequate Belgian witbier.

Grimbergen Double (aka Dubbel) (6.5%) ***** < - BELGIAN DUBBEL - > – A sturdy dark brown brew with plenty of character, strong on caramel and vine fruits.

Grimbergen Blonde (6.7%) *** < - BELGIAN BLOND ALE - > – A light beer with plenty of spices, especially clove.

Affligem Blond (7.0%) ***** < - BELGIAN GOLDEN STRONG ALE - > – A high quality blond ale, clear golden with phenols, pepper, and herbal hops coming through.

Affligem Dubbel (7.0%) ***** < - BELGIAN DUBBEL - > – Golden brown Belgian dubbel with dark fruits and spices on the tongue.

Affligem Tripel (8.5%) ***** < - BELGIAN TRIPEL - > – Hazy golden beer with distinct spices, cloves, and fruity esters.

Affligem Noël {S} (9.0%) ***** < - BELGIAN DARK STRONG ALE - > – Warming mahogany-colored strong ale boasting a complex mix of dark fruit, caramel, bitter chocolate and spices.



• Brewed in Bulgaria

Zagorka Special (5.0%) ** < - STANDARD LAGER - >

- **Brewed in China**

Kingway (4.5%) * < - STANDARD LAGER - >

- **Brewed in Costa Rica**

Bavaria Gold (4.0%) ** < - DORTMUNDER EXPORT LAGER - >

Olé (4.0% estimated) ** < - STANDARD LAGER - >

Bavaria Dark (4.5%) * < -DARK AMERICAN OR EURO LAGER - >

Imperial (4.6%) ** < - STANDARD LAGER - >

- **Brewed in Croatia**

Karlovačko Pivo (5.4%) ** < - STANDARD LAGER - >

- **Brewed in the Czech Republic**

Krušovice Cerne (3.8%) **** < - SCHWARZBIER - > – Very dark lager with an enticing sweet caramel flavor profile, lightly hopped.

Krušovice Imperial (5.0%) *** < - BOHEMIAN PILSNER - > – Golden Bohemian pilsner with a pleasant Saaz hop bite.

Starobrno (5.0%) *** < - BOHEMIAN PILSNER - > – Full-bodied Czech Pilsner.

- **Brewed in England**

John Courage Amber (4.7%) ** < - ENGLISH BEST BITTER - >

McEwan's India Pale Ale (4.7%) ** < - SCOTTISH HEAVY 70/- - >

Newcastle Brown Ale (4.7%) ** < - ENGLISH BROWN ALE - > – A rather mediocre, thin to medium-bodied beer now brewed in Gateshead (the town on the opposite side of the River Tyne from Newcastle). Mid brown with mild sweet malt and cereal adjunct notes. Very overrated.

McEwan's Scotch Ale (8.0%) **** < - WEE HEAVY STRONG SCOTCH - > – A malty, fairly decent 'Wee Heavy' now brewed in England far from its origins.

- **Brewed in France**

33 Export (4.8%) ** < - DORTMUNDER EXPORT LAGER - >

Fischer Bitter (4.9%) ** < - GERMAN PILSNER - >

Fischer Amber (6.0%) ** < - AMBER LAGER / RED LAGER - >

Fischer Blonde (6.0%) ** < - STANDARD LAGER - >

- **Brewed in Greece**

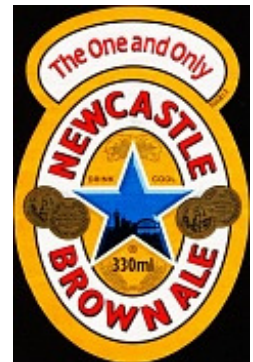
Alfa (5.0%) * < - STANDARD LAGER - >

Athenian (5.0%) ** < - STANDARD LAGER - >

Marathon (5.0%) ** < - STANDARD LAGER - >

- **Brewed in Haiti**

Prestige (5.0%) * < - STANDARD LAGER - >



- **Brewed in Ireland**

Murphy's Irish Stout (4.0%) * * * < - DRY STOUT - > – A creamy, smooth, uncomplicated stout.

Beamish Irish Stout (4.1%) * * * < - DRY STOUT - > – Creamy, smooth, moderately roasty processed stout.

Beamish Red Ale (4.2%) * * < - IRISH RED ALE - >

Murphy's Irish Red (5.0%) * * < - IRISH RED ALE - >



- **Brewed in Italy**

Birra Moretti (4.6%) * * < - STANDARD LAGER - >

La Rossa (7.2%) * * * < - DOPPELBOCK / EISBOCK - > – A decent doppelbock, ruby red with caramel notes.

- **Brewed in Macedonia**

Skopsko (4.9%) * * * < - BOHEMIAN PILSNER - > – A clean, uncomplicated lager with a little graininess and sweetness.

- **Brewed in the Netherlands**

Buckler (0.5%) * < - LOW ALCOHOL BEER - >

Heineken Light (3.3%) * < - LIGHT LAGER - > – Watery on the palate with mild grainy notes. Unpleasant.

Amstel Light (3.5%) * < - LIGHT LAGER - > – If it wasn't for the cooked vegetable aroma and flavor, there would be nothing to comment on here.

Heineken Lager Beer (5.0%) * * < - STANDARD LAGER - > – A very over-hyped lager, often light-struck (skunky) from its long haul over the Atlantic.



Heineken Dark Lager (5.1%) * * * < - DARK AMERICAN OR EURO LAGER - > – Malty brown lager, fairly mild and untaxing.

- **Brewed in Poland**

EB Natural Premium (5.2%) * * < - STANDARD LAGER - >

Lezajsk 1525 (5.5%) * * < - STANDARD LAGER - >

Warka Beer (aka Warka Jasne Pelne) (5.7%) * * < - STANDARD LAGER - >

Zywiec Beer (5.7%) * * < - STANDARD LAGER - >

EB Specjal (6.2%) * * * < - STANDARD LAGER - > – Sweetish lager, a little grassy.

Warka Strong (7.0%) * * * < - PREMIUM LAGER - > – A full-bodied, golden lager which is smooth with a touch of sweetness.



Hevelius Kaper (8.7%) * * * < - PREMIUM LAGER - > – Strong amber lager with sweet caramel notes. It is no longer brewed in its native Gdansk but at Elbrewery in Elbląg following a rationalization.

Zywiec Porter (9.5%) * * * * < - BALTIC PORTER - > – Highly drinkable Baltic porter with an underlying sweetness and a little fruitiness.

- **Brewed in Portugal**

Sagres Preta (aka Sagres Dark) (4.3%) * * * < - SCHWARZBIER - > – Portuguese dark lager with corn adjuncts, though quite drinkable.

Sagres Cerveja (5.1%) * * < - STANDARD LAGER - >

- **Brewed in Russia**

Bochkarev Bochkovoe (4.3%) * * < - STANDARD LAGER - >

Bochkarev Klassicheskoe (5.5%) * * < - STANDARD LAGER - >

Stepan Razin Kalinkin (7.0%) * * < - PREMIUM LAGER - >

- **Brewed in Scotland**

Caledonian Golden Promise (5.0%) * * * < - ENGLISH PALE ALE - > – Golden organic ale, soft on the palate.

- **Brewed in The Slovak Republic**

Golden Pheasant (5.0%) * * < - BOHEMIAN PILSNER - >

- **Brewed in Spain**

Cruzcampo (5.0%) * * < - STANDARD LAGER - >

SEE BEER MENUS FOR AVAILABILITY (EXTERNAL LINK)

<http://www.beermenus.com/breweries/heineken-international>

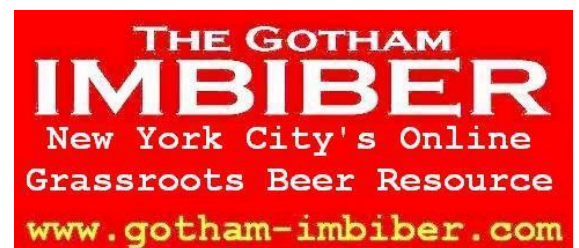
<http://www.beermenus.com/breweries/florida-bebidas-heineken->

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