

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

BREWERY PROFILE

Hook Norton

Hook Norton, U.K. (England)

A long-established, well-respected independent, family-run British regional brewery who first appeared on the American market in late 2007. The brewery was founded in a farm building in 1849 by John Harris. This is a rare, if not unique example of a traditional brewery whose power needs are still derived from a fully operative 25hp steam engine which was first installed in 1899.

Importer: [The Shelton Brothers](#)

Distributor: Union Beer Distributors, tel. 1 718 497 2407.



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.

Hooky Dark (3.2%) ***** < - ENGLISH DARK MILD - > - A pleasant dark chestnut colored session beer with some roast malt notes and an inviting East Kent Goldings aroma. The finish is moderately hoppy, unusually for the style.

Hooky Bitter (3.6%) ***** < - ENGLISH BITTER - > - A golden session ale with some grassiness on the palate.

303AD (4.0%) ***** < - ENGLISH BEST BITTER - > - First Gold hops provide a crispness to this golden brew named to commemorate St. George, who died in the year 303.

Hooky Gold (4.1%) ***** < - ENGLISH BEST BITTER - > - Golden, crisp ale with a fruity aroma.

Cotswold Lion (4.2%) ***** < - ENGLISH BEST BITTER - > - A pale, fruity single-varietal ale with a lime citrus aroma, hopped with Fuggles.

Old Hooky (4.6%) ***** < - ENGLISH BEST BITTER - > - A tawny brown beer with a well-rounded, fruity character and hints of crystal malt.

Double Stout (4.8%) ***** < - DRY STOUT - > - Black, toasty, dry stout for the winter.

Haymaker (5.0%) ***** < - EXTRA SPECIAL BITTER (ESB) - > - A tasty amber ESB with plenty of Goldings hop character.

Flagship (5.3%) ***** < - ENGLISH IPA - > - An authentic English IPA with a sweet fruity aroma and a fruity, hoppy taste. Admiral hops are used in this beer, available in cask only.

Twelve Days {S} (5.5%) ***** < - OLD ALE / WINTER WARMER - > - A malty, slightly nutty dark brown winter beer with a sweetish finish.

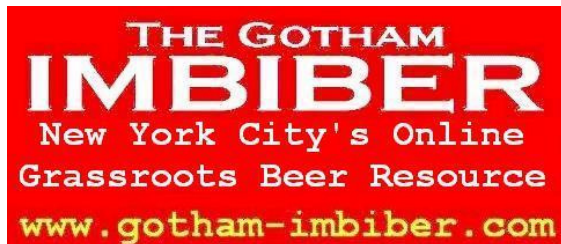
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<http://www.beermenus.com/breweries/hook-norton-brewery>

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Ratings and tasting notes are taken from Beer Demystifier New York City 2008-2009 by Alex Hall (published June 2008).

This page is written by Alex Hall, and is updated to June 2008.



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