

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

**Matt Brewing Co. (F.X. Matt / Saranac)**

*Type: Domestic Regional Brewery*

811 Edward Street, Utica, NY 13502.

Tel. 1 315 624 2400.

Available in cask? – No.

Available in keg? – Yes.

Available in bottle or can? – Yes.

Distributor: Manhattan Beer Distributors, tel. 1 718 292 9300.

Who's who: President – Nick Matt.

Notes: This large regional brewery undertakes much contract brewing for other companies, including a proportion of Brooklyn Brewery's quota. Founded 1888 by German immigrant Francis Xavier Matt. Imperial IPA is the first in a series of 'big' beers named 'The High Peaks Series'.

*Distance to the brewery from New York City: 245 miles.*



**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.*

**Saranac Oatmeal Stout {S}** (4.3%) \*\* < - AMERICAN STOUT - >

**Saranac Pomegranate Wheat {S}** (4.7%) \*\*\* < - FRUIT BEER - > – Hazy wheat-fruit beer, light bodied with a slight tartness. Spring and early summer availability.

**Saranac Summer Ale {S}** (4.7%) \*\* < - AMERICAN PALE WHEAT ALE - >

**Saranac Lager** (4.8%) \*\* < - STANDARD LAGER - >

**Saranac Kölsch {S}** (5.0%) \*\* < - KÖLSCH - >

**Saranac Mocha Stout {S}** (5.0%) \*\*\* < - AMERICAN STOUT - > – Almost black, this winter beer has strong notes of coffee and chocolate with an underlying burnt character. Hops used are Willamette.

**Saranac Mountain Ale {S}** (5.0%) \*\* < - FRUIT BEER - > (blackberry & raspberry)

**Utica Club** (5.0%) \*\* < - STANDARD LAGER - >

**Saranac Black and Tan** (5.1%) \*\*\* (blend of more than one beer) – A mix of stout and amber lager.

**Saranac Golden Pilsener** (5.1%) \*\* < - GERMAN PILSNER - >

**Saranac Black Forest** (5.3%) \*\*\* < - SCHWARZBIER - > – Dark SCHWARZBIER hopped with Hallertau and Mount Hood, creamy with caramel malt sweetness.

**Saranac Season's Best {S}** (5.3%) \*\*\* < - VIENNA LAGER - > – 'Nut Brown Lager', a dark amber, nutty winter beer. Hopped with Tettnang.

**Saranac Caramel Porter {S}** (5.4%) \*\* < - ROBUST PORTER - >

**Saranac Nut Brown Ale {S}** (5.4%) \*\* < - ENGLISH BROWN ALE - >

**Saranac Oktoberfest {S}** (5.4%) \*\*\* < - OKTOBERFEST / MÄRZEN - > – Copper colored and refreshing lager, hopped with Tettnang and Saaz.

**Saranac Pumpkin Ale {S}** (5.4%) \*\*\* < - PUMPKIN BEER - > – A medium-bodied, fruity, spicy brew with notes of cloves, ginger, cinnamon, allspice, and vanilla. Hopped with Cascade.

**Saranac Adirondack Lager (aka ...Amber)** (5.5%) \*\*\* < - AMBER LAGER / RED LAGER - > – Amber lager with a little malt sweetness, hopped with Hallertau, Mount Hood, and Cascade.

**Saranac Chocolate Amber {S}** (5.5%) \*\*\* < -MUNICH DUNKEL - > – Deep red-brown lager with moderate notes of bitter chocolate and roasted malts. Hopped with Vanguard.

**Saranac Pale Ale** (5.5%) \*\*\* < - ENGLISH PALE ALE - > – English pale ale, amber hued and a little biscuity, hopped with Cascade and East Kent Goldings.

**Saranac Roggen Bock {S}** (5.5%) \*\*\* < - AMERICAN RYE BEER - > – Russet brown-red beer brewed with rye as 20% of the grain bill. Medium-bodied, and a little sweet with a slight spiciness. Hopped with Tettnang.

**Saranac Single Malt {S}** (5.5%) \*\*\* < - ENGLISH BROWN ALE - > – Light brown ale brewed with Scottish Maris Otter malt and floral Fuggles hops.

**Saranac Belgian White {S}** (5.6%) \*\* < - BELGIAN WITBIER - >

**Saranac Hefeweizen {S}** (5.6%) \*\*\* – Unfiltered wheat beer with clove and banana notes.

**Saranac Marzenbier {S}** (5.6%) \*\* < - OKTOBERFEST / MÄRZEN - >

**Saranac Rauchbier {S}** (5.6%) \*\* < - RAUCHBIER (SMOKED MÄRZEN) - >

**Saranac India Pale Ale** (5.8%) \*\*\* < - AMERICAN IPA - > – Golden straw colored IPA hopped with Cascade.

**Saranac Belgian Ale** (5.9%) \*\* < - BELGIAN PALE ALE - >

**Saranac Black Diamond Bock {S}** (6.0%) \*\*\* < - TRADITIONAL / DUNKLER BOCK - > – A deep amber, winter bock hopped with Hallertau. There are notes of molasses and caramel malt.

**Saranac Bock {S}** (6.0%) \*\*\* < - TRADITIONAL / DUNKLER BOCK - > – Medium-bodied copper-colored bock, quite malty though a little thin. Brewed with Hallertau hops.

**Saranac Brown Ale {S}** (6.0%) \*\*\* < - AMERICAN BROWN ALE - > – Dark amber colored, this sweetish winter release has moderate notes of chocolate. Hopped with Cascade and Columbus varieties.

- **Occasional and commemorative beers:**

**Saranac Imperial IPA {S}** (8.5%) \*\*\* < - IMPERIAL / DOUBLE IPA - > – Piney, dark copper beer brewed with ten hop varieties, including Centennial, Columbus, and Cascade. Some fruit notes balance the powerful hoppiness.

## **SEE BEER MENUS FOR AVAILABILITY (EXTERNAL LINK)**

<http://www.beermenus.com/breweries/matt-brewing-company>

*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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