Love Handle



Live Wire

San Diego

This unfussy dive-bar pioneer helped San Diego develop a palate for craft beer.

What it is: As one of the first bars in San Diego specifically dedicated to promoting craft beer, this quintessential dive has managed to mix a delightfully lowbrow aesthetic while offering a variety of sensational brews for almost 30 years. Situated in North Park-arguably the city's best beer neighborhood-Live Wire helped spark the now-ubiquitous beer scene into the conflagration it is today, without ever falling prey to snobbery or sacrificing

Why it's great: There's a reason Live Wire has remained a cult favorite after all these years. Owners Joe Austin and Sam Chammas (along with their more recently added partner Thaddeus Robles) promised to provide "cold beer, warm friends" since Day One, and they have yet to falter in either aspect. The dark, unassuming, and essentially windowless exterior disguises the treasures contained within: namely, 24 tap handles that rotate among classic craft options such as Russian River Blind Pig IPA and Sierra Nevada Pale Ale. The jukebox is legendary. Take care not to get bamboozled by the sharks stationed at the pool table. -Beth Demmon

Hours: 5 p.m.-2 a.m., daily Address: 2103 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, California

Web: livewirebar.bigcartel.com



Bozeman, Montana

A one-stop shop for draft beer, to-go bottles, food, and plenty of patio.

Whatitis: If a traveler had only one hour

to taste the best beers from Montana and the Rocky Mountain West, pick up bottles to take home as souvenirs, grab a bite to eat, and rest their legs before their next hike or ski, Shine would be the place. The combo beer bar and bottle shop on the city's main drag houses two counter-style restaurants-LaPa Grill and Soup Shack-and boasts not just a bustling patio but a rooftop bar as well. Why it's great: Shine is a place where anyone, no matter how picky, can find something to love. Thirty taps pour a diverse stylistic selection of beers brewed in Montana and neighboring states, as well as wine, cider, kombucha, and gluten-free options, while LaPa Grill dishes up customizable burritos, tacos, and salads. The whole affair has a laid-back hippie slant to it-Grateful Dead references abound, and a Big Lebowski mural graces the bathrooms. (Jeff Bridges owns a home in nearby Paradise Valley.) Big Sky views provided by the rooftop deck and first-floor patio are the cherry on top. -Kate Bernot

Hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m., daily Address: 451 E. Main St., Bozeman,

Montana Web: shinebeer.com



Tumhout, Belgium

One of Belgium's oldest beer cafés, with a deep selection and plentu of bric-abrac to admire over an ale and a snack

Whatitis: The "Mournful Devil" is one of Belgium's oldest specialty beer cafés, plying its trade in eastern Antwerp province for at least three decades. In fact, there has been a tavern on this spot for much longer, since at least 1740—and it feels like it's always been there. Layers of beery bric-a-brac adorn old bones of brick, dark wood, and tile floors. It's a classically formed brown café that happens to have deep interest in beer.

Why it's great: This is an old-school, small-town, variety-mad beer café, with its thick menu typically boasting more than 300 bottles from across the country, plus four more on draft via devil's head tap handles. These include all the classics, including Trappists, plus gueuzes and strong Flemish ales from smaller breweries whose bottles rarely make it abroad-local Brouwerij Het Nest features prominently. Simple snacks include gouda cubes, olives, and preskop-a Flemish type of head cheese that goes beautifully with beer. -Joe Stange

Hours: 4 p.m.-midnight, Sunday & Tuesday-Thursday; 4 p.m.-2 a.m., Friday-Saturday; closed Monday

Address: Otterstraat 99, Turnhout, Ant-

werp, Belgium

Web: facebook.com/spytighenduvel/

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| CONTRIBUTORS IN THIS ISSUE |



Kate Bernot is a contributing editor for Craft Beer & Brewing Magazine* and a Sightlines contributor to Good Beer Hunting. She was previously the beer editor at DRAFT Magazine and is a certified beer judge. She lives in Missoula, Montana, with a black lab and three backyard chickens.



Jeff Alworth is the author of The Beer Bible, Cider Made Simple, and The Secrets of Master Brewers. He can be found writing about beer at his blog, Beervang. He also cohosts the Beervana Podcast, with Oregon State University economics professor Patrick Emerson.



Beth Demmon is a San Diego-based beer journalist and recipient of the 2019 Diversity in Beer Writing grant from the North American Guild of Beer Writers. Her work has appeared in Good Beer Hunting. CraftBeer.com, VICE Munchies, and more,



Annie Johnson is an experienced R&D brewer, IT specialist, and national beer judge. Her awards include 2013 American Homebrewer of the Year honors. As an influential voice in American brewing today, her recorded oral history is preserved in the Smithsonian National Museum of American History's Brewing History Initiative.



Drew Beechum has been combining nerdy obsession and a love of beer since 1999. He is the author of Simple Homebrew with Denny Conn and other books. You can hear him cohost teaches, consults on the Experimental Brewing Podcast every Wednesday on your favorite podcast app or at experimentalbrew.com.



Randy Mosher has spent most of his career working on creative projects revolving around beer. Author of Tasting Beer and four other books, he also recipes and branding, and is a partner in two Chicago-area breweries: 5 Rabbit Cervecería and Forbidden Root.