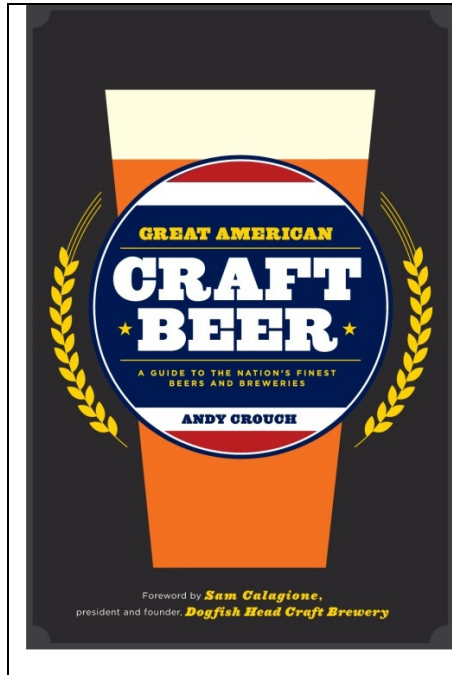


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# **GREAT AMERICAN CRAFT BEER**

**A Guide to the Nation's  
Finest Beers and Breweries**

**By Andy Crouch**

**Foreword by Sam Calagione,  
President and founder,  
Dogfish Head Craft Brewery**

Once a mockery of the great brewing countries, America now stands tall as a nation featuring some of the best beer in the world. Previously in danger of being relegated to a single light, malt beer, hundreds and thousands of new flavors and opportunities await the American beer drinker. With more than 1,500 craft breweries in the U.S. accountable for upwards of 9 million barrels of beer, American craft brewers provide a staggering number of quality alternatives to a nation that refused to be satisfied by the mass produced, cheap beers offered by the largest breweries and, more importantly, the marketing campaigns of the world.

Award-winning freelance writer and beer columnist Andy Crouch takes readers on a journey through the world of craft beer in **GREAT AMERICAN CRAFT BEER: A Guide to the Nation's Finest Beers and Breweries** (Running Press; August 2010; \$22.95), reviewing more than 340 beers in more than 80 styles from 216 breweries. He follows a unique flavor-focused approach that allows drinkers of all levels to find the beer that fits their tastes.

From the earliest Sumerian goddess of brewing, to the docking of pilgrims at Plymouth Rock in response to beer running low, to the Prohibition laws passed in the 1920s, to the great boom craft beer is seeing today, **GREAT AMERICAN CRAFT BEER** traces the storied history of beer as an important addition to many cultures around the world. Also included are 25 recipes from renowned beer chefs Bruce Paton and Sean Z. Paxton, a glossary of terms, a description of glassware, and a list of some of the best beer bars in the United States. Crouch applies his brew knowledge and extensive research to inform beer lovers about:

- The various styles, including stout beer, winter warmer, cream ale, American pale ale, rye beer, and so on.
- The wonderful array of tastes that craft beers achieve, such as: orange, lemon, pumpkin, caramel, coffee, banana, chocolate, and even smoked meat; from seasonal preferences to year-round necessities.
- Using beer to complement foods, offering tips for what beers can accompany certain dishes, and finding the right glass for each beer: knowing the difference between a weizen glass or a snifter.
- Trying out “session beers” which encourage lower alcohol content, enabling more time to be devoted to appreciating beer.
- Visiting beer bars, where a novice or veteran drinker can be introduced to an atmosphere perfect for increased education and satisfaction.

Whether the reader is a beer enthusiast or a timid drinker looking to enrich their taste, each will find the advice and wisdom in **GREAT AMERICAN CRAFT BEER** undeniably helpful.

Truly, Crouch offers a definitive work to his readers, with one hope: that his endeavor leads to the better beer drinking for the American people.

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Andy Crouch, an award-winning freelance writer, has provided articles to *Ale Street News*, *American Brewer*, *Celebrator Beer news*, *New Brewer Magazine*, *Yankee Food News*, and through his website, BeerScribe.com. He writes columns for both *Beverage Magazine* and *BeerAdvocate Magazine*. In addition, Crouch’s first book, *The Good Beer Guide to New England*, was published by the University Press of New England in May 2006. He resides in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

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