

Yes, some would call me a beer snob. But here's the thing: Beer can be and *is* so much more than the watered-down generic "pilsner" taste of the Buds, Millers, and Coors (Coorses?) of the world. Beer runs the gamut of sweet to sour, malty to bitter, fruity to chocolatey, crisp to funky, and everything in between—or some or most of those all at once. There is a different beer for each season. There is a different beer for each meal.

Why, beer can even be flurfy, brappy, and norkish. What does that mean? I don't know, because the words necessary to fully describe the wonderful complexities possible in beer sometimes just don't exist. That's only one of the joys of being a so-called beer snob.

But let me tell you about the joy of being a beer *connoisseur* in Michigan in general and Ann Arbor in particular: I'm not alone, not by a long shot. We are legion, and we support a fantastic variety of what has come to be known as craft beer: delicious, small-batch brews produced by local, independent brewpubs and microbreweries.

Ann Arbor is currently home to three such establishments: [Arbor Brewing Company](#), [Grizzly Peak](#), and the [Blue Tractor](#). Yes, our town of 115,000 has nearly as many brewpubs and microbreweries as the city of Chicago does. Fascinating, no? Not only that, there are several others within close driving distance: the [Corner Brewery](#) in Ypsilanti, [Jolly Pumpkin](#) in Dexter, [Original Gravity](#) in Milan, and [Liberty Street](#) in Plymouth. And if that weren't enough, Ann Arbor is also home to "Michigan's premier multi-tap" beer bar, [Ashley's](#).

With so many fine establishments in our proverbial backyard, it can be hard to keep track of all the release parties, beer tastings, food pairings, pub crawls, and other special events going on. What's a beer lover to do?

Well, read this blog, for one thing. My goal is to try to keep up with the various and sundry beer happenings in the Ann Arbor area and conveniently reveal them here for fellow aficionados, would-be aficionados, and whoever else stumbles across this page. I also hope to feature informative articles about beer styles, beer appreciation, beer deals, and even the personalities behind the beer.

(Side note: Are you one of those personalities—owning, brewing, barkeeping, or otherwise making our beloved local watering holes hum? Let's get to know each other better. Email me at annarborbeer@gmail.com.)

In short, it is my aim to provide you, Dear AnnArbor.com Reader, with nothing less than "all the brews fit to pint."

Until next time, cheers!