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Brew Like a Monk: Trappist, Abbey, and Strong Belgian Ales and How to Brew Them

Stan Hieronymus

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brew like a MONK

*Culture and Craftsmanship
in the Belgian Tradition*

Trappist, Abbey, and Strong Belgian Ales and How to Brew Them



Stan Hieronymus

With foreword by
Tim Webb

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Stan Hieronymus : Brew Like a Monk: Trappist, Abbey, and Strong Belgian Ales and How to Brew Them

before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Brew Like a Monk: Trappist, Abbey, and Strong Belgian Ales and How to Brew Them*:

18 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Not a cookbook
By Ben Hamlin
If you are serious about beer and interested in the development of the Belgian style so you can create your own version, then this is a truly useful book for you the adventurous home-brewer. I started out with the clone recipe books (of which there are many out there) and initially bought this book to quickly increase my ability to clone a Belgian style beer that had enjoyed on a whim. Once I started reading however, my eyes were opened. The book does cover quite a bit of history but in doing so debunks a lot of myths about abbey beers and some of the notions about 1000 year old recipes. This is really more a book about brewing philosophy written with the small batch home-brewer in mind. There are very helpful and encouraging tips scattered throughout the book and any brewer with this new knowledge (and perhaps BrewSmith software-my personal favorite) you can continue the "tradition" of abbey beers even though you may not be affiliated with a monastery or even Belgium for that matter. Home-brewing is all about finding your style and using the experience of those that have come before to create something that you really want to drink.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Belgian brewing history, methods, and recipes
By M. Salisbury
As a home brewer who loves Belgian and Belgian-style ales, this was a must-read book. The first part of the book talks about Belgian breweries and how they create their beers. While the breweries don't share their recipes, the author is able to provide general guidance on how those recipes are created. Later, the author talks with American craft brewers known for their Belgian-style beers and how they brew them. The final sections talk about how to brew Belgian-style beers and includes recipes for various styles using ingredients available here in the USA. The book is infused with a lot of Belgian brewing history as well. I found it quite enjoyable and useful to read.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great brewing resource!
By Dano
I've always been a fan of Belgian beers, but never quite understood the process that goes into making them. Since I started homebrewing, the goal was to brew my own Belgian style beer and this book is an invaluable resource in achieving that. The book covers a lot of history of Trappist monks and their brewing styles. All phases of brewing these beers are covered as well. The fermentation section of the book is one I revisit over and over and it includes a great amount of information to get that Belgian flavor profile we all love. I can't recommend this book enough.

Brew Like a Monk delves into monastic brewing, detailing this rich-flavored region of the beer world. It also examines methods for brewing these unique ales suited to commercial and amateur brewers.

About the Author
Stan Hieronymus is the editor of "The Real Beer Page" at www.realbeer.com, the largest source of information about beer on the Internet. Hieronymus and Daria Labinsky are travel editors for "All About Beer Magazine", the leading beer consumer magazine in the United States, and authors of "All About Beer Magazine's Beer Travelers Guide." They are the 1999 NAGBW Beer Writer of the Year and First Runner-Up, respectively.