

Meet the New Sox / Barney Frank / Van Morrison's Cambridge Sojourn

# Boston

## THE Beer ISSUE

New England's  
21 Top Breweries

The Ultimate  
Craft-Beer Pub Crawl

Master Brewers'  
Favorite Brews

PLUS

## MINDY KALING

On weather denial,  
"ethnic white people,"  
smelling Matt Damon,  
and beer

SPRING  
ARTS PREVIEW  
BOSTON'S BEST MUSIC,  
FILM, THEATER,  
AND MORE

What you  
sippin' on?  
We recommend  
a *salson* (straw  
optional).

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[Part 2]

# The List

SAM ADAMS AND HARPOON MAY HAVE kicked off the craft-beer revolution a couple of decades ago, but these days there's way more to the craft-beer scene in New England. So much more, in fact, that whittling down this list was an extremely tall order. Luckily, we had the beer-nerd brain trust that is **Lauren Clark**, author of *Crafty Bastards*, beer writers **Heather Vandenbergel** and **Andy Crouch**, and our own resident brew guru, **Christopher Hughes**, to argue over the finer points—range of offerings, quality, and overall consistency—and settle on this, the list of the 21 top beer-makers in New England right now. Cheers!

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## Narragansett Brewing Company

Providence, Rhode Island  
(not open to the public)

			
N/A	N/A	Available online only	N/A

You know Narragansett for its famed “Hi, Neighbor!” slogan and its delightfully cheap (yet incredibly dull) flagship. But ‘Gansett is so much more: It brews some truly excellent beer, including the Bock, a Bavarian *helles* lager with bready malt flavor and noble-hop zing, and Fest, a toasty, malty brew that’s a classic for fall.  
**→ Known for:** ‘Gansett Lager, a staple of concerts, ball games, and house parties.  
**→ But don’t miss:** Collaborations with Rhode Island institutions like coffee-syrup giant Autocrat (coffee-milk stout), and Del’s Lemonade (a tart, refreshing shandy).  
[narragansettbeer.com](http://narragansettbeer.com).

### Key

-  Food
-  Beer to go
-  Swag
-  Taproom



Skip ‘Gansett’s flagship lager in favor of these top-notch tallboys.

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## Cambridge Brewing Company

Cambridge, Massachusetts

			
Burgers, salads, and pasta	Growlers, bottles, and cans	Pint glasses and T-shirts	Yes, with free samples

This Kendall Square brewpub has cranked out innovative beers and consistent favorites for more than 25 years, thanks to brewmaster Will Meyers and a long lineage of talented brewers. It continues to evolve with sake-beer hybrids, a commitment to sourcing local ingredients, and a formidable barrel-aging program.  
**→ Known for:** Timeless classics like Charles River Porter; hybrids like the hoppy pilsner Remain in Light.  
**→ But don’t miss:** Whatever barrel-aged or funky offering is on tap, be it a summer barley wine (Arquebus) or a light-bodied *saïson* with



The best beer (that’s not mine!) is...  
**Allagash White**

“It’s not easy to create a beer with such a distinct and bold flavor profile, while keeping it restrained and balanced the whole time. Classically delicious.”  
 —**John Kimmich**, founder, the Alchemist (claim to fame: Heady Topper Double IPA)

*Brettanomyces* (Brett Grisette).  
[cambridgebrewingcompany.com](http://cambridgebrewingcompany.com).

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## Lost Nation Brewing

Morrisville, Vermont

			
Local meats, cheeses, and sandwiches	Growler fills and bottles	Glassware	Full pours, no free samples

Founders Allen Van Anda and James Griffith execute a range of sessionable (read: low in alcohol) styles done right, from a wheat-based IPA to a Belgian blond ale. The charming taproom, meanwhile, is a must-hit on any Vermont beer trek. The brewery is located just off a year-round recreational trail, so outdoor types can ski, snowshoe, snowmobile, or bike to their beer.  
**→ Known for:** *Gose*, a tart ale brewed with coriander and sea salt.  
**→ But don’t miss:** Vermont pilsner, because the world needs more hop-forward, crisp and clean pilsners.  
[lostonationbrewing.com](http://lostonationbrewing.com).