



» Honourable mentions

Southwark Old Stout, \$2.70 » SA Brewing

If its jet-black colour of night isn't enough to make you sit up and take notice of this beautiful, old-style beer, one sip of the 7.4 per cent brew will.

> **A no-nonsense stout that cuts straight to the bone.**

Pure Malt Ale, \$4 » Brewers Fine Ale Pty Ltd

Wonderful, ultra-malty number that delivers a rich, full-mouth feel and the aroma really fills your nostrils as your palate savours the rich maltiness.

> **Different beer with a lot of character.**

Victoria Bitter, \$2.45 » Foster's Group

VB is the nation's No.1 selling beer with good reason. Far from a traditional bitter beer, VB is a superbly balanced, 4.8 per cent lager tailor-made for a long session at the bar or barbecue.

> **Always room for one more.**

Belgian Chocolate Stout, \$6 » Redoak Cafe Brewery

Infused with dark Belgian chocolate, this 5 per cent beer has a wonderfully rich aftertaste that lingers on the tongue and an aroma that envelops the senses before it even touches your lips. Who says you can't have beer with dessert?

> **A decadent delight.**

Rooftop Red, \$3.50 » Matilda Bay Brewery

Not many beers lay claim to being inspired by a song, but this 4.7 per cent red lager owes its moniker to the Paul Kelly classic *Sydney from a 727*. It's characterised by an understated taste balanced by a subtle hop bitterness and a gorgeous ruby red colour true to its name.

> **One is never enough.**

Pepperjack, \$4 » Saltram Wines, SA

This innovative beer combines hops and barley with Pepperjack Shiraz concentrate. It's a well-balanced, fruity, 4.7 per cent drop that has a sharp impact on the palate that dissipates quickly. The shiraz is noticeable, but it remains tantalisingly on the edge of your consciousness, ensuring the beer is not overpowered.

> **Easy-drinking ale that dares to be different.**

Bluetongue Pilsener, \$3.90 » Bluetongue Brewery, Newcastle

This European-style pilsener is a crisp, hoppy, bottom-fermented beer with an alcohol content of 4.7 per cent. Bluetongue is brewed in the traditional Czech pilsener style.

> **Has one of the best beer labels going around.**

Bee Sting, \$4 » Barossa Valley Brewing, SA

A beautifully understated, slightly cloudy 5 per cent honey wheat beer that rewards drinkers with the subtlest hint of orange blossom honey in taste and smell.

> **Something different.**

Crackenback Pale Ale, \$3.75 » Snowy Mountains Brewery, NSW

Named after the mountain range in the Kosciuszko National Park, three types of hops combine to produce a well-balanced 4.9 per cent beer that delivers a soft bitterness and fruity, slightly spicy finish.

> **Great name, great beer.**

Moonshine, \$6.50 » Grand Ridge Brewery

Rich, warming, complex and with an 8.5 per cent alcohol content that's high enough to blow your socks off.

"Always love this one," actor, TV presenter and beer aficionado Paul Mercurio says.

> **Don't light a match near this brew.**

Boag's Draught, \$2.45 » Boag's Brewery, Tasmania

Boag's Draught is still brewed according to the original 1881 recipe and the 4.7 per cent beer is well-rounded, smooth and with just the right level of bitterness.

> **A good honest beer.**

Hightail Ale, \$4 » Mountain Goat Brewery

Hightail Ale, a 4.5 per cent, bottle-conditioned English-style "real ale", has a malty body and hoppy zing.

> **Go the goat!**

Australian Ale, \$3 » Bridge Road Brewers

Subtle, understated but satisfying honey-tinged ale from this Beechworth-based brewery deliciously slides over your tongue.

> **Honey never tasted so good.**

Cascade First Harvest, \$4 » Cascade Brewery Co

A limited-edition brew that comes out only once a year and for hop lovers, is the highlight of the beer calendar. Anyone who has savoured the pungent aroma of freshly picked hops will testify it cuts through your nostrils like a knife.

> **A hop-head's delight.**

Red Angus Pilsener, \$3.50 » William Bull Brewing Co

Five malted grains, three styles of hops and a long, slow fermentation process combine to deliver a highly enjoyable beer with a slightly spicy and fruity character.

> **Nectar of the gods.**