



As I type this it feels like summer has ended. It's barely August. Come back summer. We love you. To coax it from behind those tears of rain grey clouds of misery, here's a super summery beer box delivered straight to you. There's some summer crushers, summer sours, summer beery fun in general. And a surprise or two.

Brighton Strong - 8%

UnBarred, Brighton & Hove, UK

When my friend Thomas Lacey (who used to be in the wonderful band The Ghost Of A Thousand and now fronts Yards) came to me and said he was involved in a brewery I was very skeptical. Not that the lad has ever put his name to anything shit to be fair. And once again he has come up trumps - everything we've had by UnBarred (brewed by Jordan, designed and drunk by Thomas) has been awesome. This homage to Belgian ales, with added Brighton honey, is no exception.

Phase One, 6.5%

Electric Bear, Bath,, UK

If you haven't heard of this brewery, then it probably won't be all that long until you have. Or, errr, right now, having received this box. I was lucky enough to visit the brewery and its impressive stuff. They also brew a nice wide variety of beers, from a coffee, caramel milk stout (Mochachocayaya) through to this bad boy...a straight up, big, bold saison. Think citrus, zesty, spicy, lemon.

Wild and Mild - 5.2%

Lindheim/Crooked Stave, Norway/USA

Lindheim have been blowing our minds lately at various beer festivals, so it's pretty cool seeing their bottles in the UK now. Crooked Stave are not too shabby either. Enjoy this apple sour and investigate these breweries!

Hop Drop Sour IPA - 6.5%

Lervig, Stavanger, Norway

Have you gathered by now that we think Lervig can basically do no wrong when it comes to their specials and one-off brews? We were lucky enough to meet one of their brewers when we were worse for wear at Mikkeller Beer Celebration, Copenhagen and she summed up Lervig in all the best ways - understated, friendly and generally great. This sour IPA is super easy to drink, nicely balanced...a real summer thirst quencher.

Thyme Square - 4.5%

Belleville, London, UK

We've been in touch with, and drunk, Belleville (based in Wandsworth) since before Ghost Whale opened, and their taproom is a hidden gem. The breweries output feels a little bit like that too - just quietly doing their own thing and putting out affordable, delicious beers largely serving the local population. This saison/grisette is herbal, slightly spicy, but just lovely and easy going. Yum.

Pronto - 4.5%

Pizza Port, California, USA

I was first lucky enough to drink this at Himmeriget, an incredible beer bar in Copenhagen. This Session IPA had lost nothing in transit which really says something. We back Pizza Port brewing hard. Now you can too.

Don't Pine For Me Apple Tina - 5%

Wild Weather Ales, Reading, UK

I mentioned on our weekly mailout that i'm not sure about this breweries branding and artwork....like is it a bit 'old man naff'? Or is it fun and irreverent? Regardless - their beers are really good. This is slightly (only slightly) sour and salty gose style beer, with pineapple (in case you hadn't guessed). It's really refreshing, light and fun. A bit like the brewery itself perhaps.

Damme Nation - 7%

Siphon, Oostkerke - Damme, Belgium

In case you hadn't realised, Belgium is really, really traditional when it comes to it's beers. So Siphon stick out like a (welcome) sore thumb. Modern, but with respect to classic Belgian brewing techniques and styles. Which is a welcome thing for sure. And a welcome addition to our shelves and your beer box with this classic, modern, straight up European IPA.

Red Eye Flight - 7.4%

Tempest, Tweedbank, Scotland

Of course we had to throw in one dark beer. Dark beers taste lush in August as well as every other month of the year. This mocha porter, brewed with cocoa and demerara, and aged on Italian espresso beans, does everything you think it will. Yes.

