Press Release

World-Class in a Glass: European Beer Star Recognizes Outstanding Beers from 25 Nations

Nuremberg, November 11, 2026: The international brewing community has crowned its finest beers: at the European Beer Star 2026, outstanding brews from around the world received the coveted Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards. A total of 2,274 beers from 48 countries were evaluated by the international expert jury across 76 categories. Awards were presented to breweries from 25 nations, once again underlining the competition's global significance as one of the brewing industry's most respected quality benchmarks.

Brewing Excellence at the Highest Level

Germany once again emerged as the most successful brewing nation in the competition. German breweries collected a total of 62 awards, comprising 20 Gold, 22 Silver and 20 Bronze medals, securing first place in the medal table. Italy followed in second place with 38 awards, including an impressive 16 Gold medals. Austria ranked third with 21 awards, while China and Poland completed the top five with 17 and 12 medals respectively.

The international diversity of the winning breweries was particularly remarkable. Alongside Europe's traditional brewing nations, participants from Asia as well as North and South America achieved notable success. The results demonstrate that brewing excellence can now be found in every corner of the world.

Winners in Newly Created Categories

Romania claimed a place at the top of the podium with a Gold medal for Oriel Beer & More in the newly introduced "European-Style Farmhouse Ale" category. Silver in this inaugural category went to Daoravida Brewpub from Brazil, while Bronze was awarded to Terra Cervisiae Schützing from Austria.

The Gold medal in the newly established "Franconian-Style Landbier" category was awarded to Kaiserdom Specialitäten Brauerei of Bamberg. Aufsesser Brauerei claimed Silver, followed by Brauerei-Gasthof Kundmüller with Bronze. Remarkably, all medal winners in this category come from Franconia, making them outstanding ambassadors of the region's vibrant brewing tradition

Most Successful Breweries from China, Poland and Austria

Among the competition's top-performing entrants were three breweries that each secured four awards. Jing-A from China reinforced its position as a leading force in Asia's brewing scene with one Gold, one Silver and two Bronze medals. The Polish brewery Trzech Kumpli also received four awards, earning two Gold and two Bronze medals. With two Gold medals, one Silver and one Bronze, Vienna-based Ottakringer Brauerei not only demonstrated the exceptional quality of Austrian brewing but also emerged as the most successful brewery in this year's competition.

Highly Competitive Non-Alcoholic Categories

Non-alcoholic beers and beer-mix beverages accounted for 12 percent of all entries this year, setting a new record for the European Beer Star. Competition was particularly intense in the "Non-Alcoholic Lager" category, where Krenkerup Bryggeri from Denmark ultimately prevailed. Additional awards in the non-alcoholic categories were presented to breweries from Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania, China, Belgium and the United States, highlighting the growing importance of alcohol-free beers across a wide range of international beer markets.

Helles and Pilsner Among the Largest Categories

The categories "German-Style Helles" and "German-Style Pilsner" traditionally attract some of the largest and most competitive fields at the European Beer Star. These beer styles combine exacting sensory standards with intense international competition.

Gold in the "German-Style Helles" category went to Löwenbrauerei Passau. The brewery from Lower Bavaria prevailed in one of the competition's most prestigious categories and also earned two additional awards for its "South German-Style Hefeweizen Dunkel" and "South German-Style Hefeweizen Hell."

In the "German-Style Pilsner" category, Aktienbrauerei Kaufbeuren impressed the expert jury and secured the highest distinction in one of the world's most popular beer styles. The brewery from the Allgäu region completed its medal haul with additional awards in the "Beer Mix Beverage" and "German-Style Dunkler Doppelbock" categories.

Several breweries also achieved the rare feat of winning a complete set of Gold, Silver and Bronze medals: 100Venti from Italy, Urban Roots from the United States, MOVA Brewing Co from Ukraine, Brouwerij Boon from Belgium, and the German breweries Schneider Weisse and Camba Bavaria.

Successful Transformation of the Traditional Brewing Process

With the introduction of the Innovation Challenge, the European Beer Star 2026 also established a special category for innovative beverages produced by breweries. An expert panel assessed the submitted products based on sensory quality, innovation and market potential.

With its "Sigl Oat Drink – The Barista," Trumer Privatbrauerei demonstrated how traditional brewing expertise and modern consumer expectations can successfully come together. Rather than relying on technical enzymes or artificial additives, the family-owned brewery harnesses the enzymatic power of barley malt in a production process closely related to brewing beer.

For successfully adapting the traditional brewing process to locally sourced oats and creating a plant-based beverage with outstanding sensory qualities and strong market relevance, Trumer Privatbrauerei received the Innovation Award 2026.

Further information: www.european-beer-star.com

Press Contact:

Private Brauereien Bayern e.V.
Benedikt Meier-Bausewein
Thomas-Wimmer-Ring 9
80539 München

Phone: +49 (0)89 29 09 56 0
E-Mail: meier@private-brauereien.de

About the European Beer Star:

The European Beer Star has been organized by the Association Private Brauereien since 2004 and has long since become one of the most prestigious beer competitions in the world. The European Beer Star honors authentic, distinctive, and high-quality beers. The competition primarily focuses on beer styles that originated in Europe. All breweries worldwide are eligible to participate: local, regional, national, and international breweries, not only from Europe but from all countries on every continent. Partners of the European Beer Star include BarthHaas, BrauBeviale, Brauwelt, BayWa, Fermentis, Kaspar Schulz, Katz, Micro Matic, Peki, Rastal, and ADM.



EUROPEAN
BEER STAR