

## The top 8 breweries in The French Ardennes

Each boasting its own special feature (and one beer made from wild Ardennes blueberries)

Small, specialist beer companies, real ale producers, beer with a story as strong as its flavour - all found within a region that boasts a distinct brewing history and heritage - has helped to set a new trend in tourism.

Having evolved from gastro-tourism, 'beercations' have sent enthusiasts scuttling around the globe, in search of local beer cultures, and has created an industry estimated to be worth US\$11,628.0 million in 2024, which is projected to reach US\$22,560.3 million by 2030.

So it's always worth lifting a glass to the appearance of a new brewery these days - especially when it enters a region's Top 8 Breweries "with a bullet"...

-Brasserie Ardennaise de Haybes (BAH) is a new, contemporary brew-pub, which opened recently in The French Ardennes village of Haybes. Based within the former Thiry brewery, which closed in the 1950s, this historic building is on the edge of a major cycle route - Euroveloroute 19 - with a terrace overlooking the Ardennes and the River Meuse, and has been described as a "green setting, ideal for enjoying the brewery's two main beers: a triple, and a beer with wild Ardennes blueberries". Daily visits of the brewery are available on request. And, as well as an onsite shop, there is also a bar and snack bar.

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2, quai du docteur Adolphe Hamaide, Haybes. Contact: Julien Dejente – +33 (0)6 80 78 74 17 Special feature: Ideal for a cycling holiday

**-Brasserie d'Aubrives** was opened by Cédric in 2019. But his is not just a 19<sup>th</sup> century brewery - it's also a place to stay, with gîtes for 2 people or groups of 15, standing alongside a production unit in a renovated barn which can be explored, *and* with an escape game entirely designed by the brewer. Daily visits of the brewery are available on request. There is a takeaway shop onsite. And a bar is coming soon.

https://www.facebook.com/share/16ujGf6SCs/?mibextid=wwXIfr

6, rue de la brasserie, Aubrives

Contact: Cédric Martin - +33 (0)6 70 98 01 76

Special feature: A complete tourism experience unlike any other in France

**-Ardwen** is the largest brewery in the Ardennes. It opened its doors in 2006 and has since expanded to include a restaurant featuring local farm produce and meats - for reasons that become obvious once you know that its founder, Daniel Guerin, was himself a farmer and used barley from the Ardennes to produce his beers. Guided tours are available on request for groups of 30 people or more only. There is a shop onsite, along with a restaurant and a bar.

## www.ardwen.fr

20, avenue Roger Ponsart, Launois-sur-Vence

Contact: Yann Van de Woestyne - +33 (0)6 70 58 99 54

Special feature: Food, from gate to plate

-Brasserie d'Arthur is, without question, the most iconic brewery in the capital of the Ardennes, Charleville-Mézières. Established in Warcq in 2007, the brewery is currently receiving a facelift, and will be open to the public from winter 2025-2026. Once complete, it will include two lounge areas: "two rooms, with two atmospheres". One will showcase the emblematic Cuvée d'Arthur range, the other will promote the Cuvée du Kil range. Once fully opened in 2026, there will be guided tours every Saturday, alongside a shop with an onsite bar and café.

Website coming soon.

2. rue Jean-Baptiste Lefort. Charleville Mezieres Contact: Jean-Christophe Viot - +33 (0)7 86 15 49 14

Special feature: A huge site dedicated to beercations

-Brasserie des Coulous, the home of the Les Coulous brewery, which opened in Messincourt at the end of 2010 has become a benchmark for fine ale - winning numerous medals from many competitions. This has provided the brewery with a national reputation which continues to grow to this day. In addition to growing in size, the brewery is still adding to its range of beers. Guided tours are available every Saturday, and during the week on request. There is also a shop onsite.

https://brasserie-les-coulous.company.site/ -

6, rue de la pierreuse - Messincourt - Contact : Florent Hourriez - +33 (0)6 88 96 97 06 Special feature: The sheer quality of the beers on offer

-Brasserie de Monthermé was started in a former car garage which four friends transformed into a craft brewery project. Conveniently located close to several walking trails, and a motorhome park, the brewery showcases the local heritage through beers named after typical Ardennes expressions. Guided tours are available at weekends on request, and there is a shop onsite.

https://www.facebook.com/share/1ACoTovKNM/?mibextid=wwXIfr

6, rue du docteur Lemaire, Monthermé

Contact: Pascal Kot - +33 (0)7 86 73 73 96

Special feature: Ideally located for walking in the Meuse Valley and Semoy Valley

-Brasserie de l'Abbaye de Signy is another newcomer amongst local breweries, and has taken up residence in Signy l'Abbaye – just a stone's throw from the remains of the old abbey, in a building that once housed a spinning mill. Brewed on site, the abbey-style beers are produced in an industrial setting within typical Ardennes countryside. Guided tours are available at weekends, and there is an onsite shop. https://signv.fr/

44, rue de l'abbaye, Signy l'Abbaye

Contact: François-Louis Boucher - +33(0)6 62 14 58 56

Special feature: The site's heritage, which would enhance any beercation

-Brasserie La gourmée is a pretty, small, urban brewery that everyone is able to see when they visit the 'Aux gourmets sedanais' delicatessen situated next door. It all combines to make this one of the most unusual breweries in France, while also offering the opportunity to tourists to take home a souvenir of their stay in The French Ardennes.

https://aux-gourmets-sedanais-sedan.eatbu.com/?lang=fr

17, Rue Carnot, Sedan

Contact: Bruno Fonder - +33 (0)6 74 97 28 44

Special feature: Its unique setting, and appearance.

## **Editors notes:**

Full Media Kits (in English) for 2025 are available online, all press trips are arranged with the aim of reducing the impact of tourism on the environment.

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