



Iron Butt Association – The Belgium Beer Ride (BBR)

Belgium's best beers in a day

Many thanks to Robert, who designed this beautiful ride, and checked by Eddy.

Introduction

The BBR can only be ridden by **IBA members** and must be combined with an IBA ride of your choice, such as an SS2000K or BB2500K.

In addition to the general IBA Ride guidelines in the currently published version, the additional guidelines listed here apply to the BBR.

The **IBA Ride guidelines**, as well as the instructions for creating your **Ride documentation** can be found at www.ibabenelux.org (-> IBA documents).

Background

Belgian beer is one of the most diverse in the world. The origins of the Belgian brewing date back to the Middle Ages, when beer was first brewed in monasteries. Decisive influence on the further development of varieties had the Belgian "Vandervelde Act" of 1919, which prohibited the sale of liquor in bars. Therefore, a demand for beer emerged with a higher alcohol content. The Vandervelde law was repealed in 1983.

Although the production of beer in Belgium is now determined by Anheuser-Busch InBev, the largest brewery in the world, and Alken-Maes, there are about 140 other breweries in the country producing about 500 "normal" beers. Together with special beers, there are more than 1000 Belgian beers.

The best beers are probably the abbey beers and Trappist beers. They are top-fermented beers that are either still produced in the abbey breweries according to centuries-old recipes, or are manufactured under license by professional brewers. In the latter case, the abbey has no influence on the production process and the marketing strategy. Trappist beers are fermented beers brewed in a Trappist monastery. To qualify under this category, the complete production process inside the monastery must be performed or supervised by Trappist monks. Only ten monasteries, eight of which are situated in Belgium and the Netherlands, currently meet this qualification. These are Achel, Chimay, La Trappe, Orval, Rochefort, Maria Toevlucht, Westmalle and Westvleteren. **You'll visit them all.**



The Ride

The Belgian Beer Ride visits the specified 39 locations in one ride.

The documentation consists - besides the gas receipts - in a photo and the listing of the location in the log.

Please make sure before the start that the date and time are set correctly in the camera.

If access is possible, your motorcycle should be in the picture.

Many photos will have to be done in the dark. Therefore, take into account in your camera selection that the details are well visible even under these circumstances.

Where you start your journey and where you are riding are riding is your free choice!

So - just start refueling at the beginning, then ride to the first photo point and at the end take the last picture, then go for a refueling!

The time printed on the FIRST tank receipt is your official START time.

The time printed on the LAST tank receipt is your official END time.

Which point of the Belgian Beer Rides you ride in which order is up to you

There are many alternatives for your planning.

The photos of the targets must be made within the time frame established by the tank receipts.

After your ride, you will create a ride documentation that you send to us for verifying.

Instructions on how to create the Ride documentation can be found at www.ibabenelux.org (-> IBA documents).

HINTS

The Belgian Beer Ride is a nice ride with a cultural background.

Although the mileage of the ride is around 1,600 km, the effort for this ride should not be underestimated.

The choice of the starting point and the direction of travel have to be carefully considered.

Since quite some distances have to be ridden on secondary roads with low speed limits and 39 locations have to be visited, you should count with a lower speed average than a for typical long distance ride.

Be careful

There is a speed limit in the city of **Brussels**. Keep this in mind when planning (Belgian Brewers Museum and Cantillon).



There are 3 levels for the IBA Benelux Belgian Beer Ride. When you visit 21 breweries and take the required tickets mentioned in the description of the appropriate brewery, then you have the certification earned !

When you combine all 39 breweries with a Bun Burner 2500K in 36 hours, (1600km), you earned the certification for the BBR Silver.

And when you visit all 39 breweries with a SaddleSore 1600 Extreme (1600 km in 24 hours), you have earned the BBR Gold certificate.

Please mention the correct description for the certificate when ordering in the webshop.



The certificate and the patch are available when 21 breweries are visited and pictures are conform the description. Including the requested tickets of the breweries mentioned in the description.



The BBR Silber certificate and patch are available when ride a BB2500K/36 with all 39 breweries.



Das BBR Gold ist nur für diejenigen, die alle 39 Bilder haben und dieses Fahrrad mit einem SS1600K/24 kombiniert haben!





Achel

Achel is the smallest of the active Trappist breweries. Brewing started in 1852. In 1914, the inhabitants of the monastery were forced to flee from the German occupation during the First World War. The occupiers destroyed the brewery in 1917 to loot about 700 kg of copper. In 1998 it was decided to rebuild the brewery again. This was done with the help of fellow brewers.

Coordinates

51.299067, 5.489167



De Kluis 1, 3930 Hamont-Achel, Belgium

Achouffe

In 1982 the business operation of the Brasserie d'Achouffe was established and the production and commercial distribution of the beer La Chouffe was taken up. Based on the legends of the Ardennes, a dwarf was elected as the company logo of the brewery. Since 1988, La Chouffe is also exported. The dwarf should be clearly visible on the picture.

Coordinates

50.150850, 5.745933



Achouffe 32, 6666 Houffalize, Belgium



Alken

Cristal Alken was the first Belgian Pilsner beer brewed by Jozef Indekeu und Edouard Boes from Alken in 1928. As Belgian brewers were not able to brew low fermentation beer, this new beer was perceived as revolutionary. The beer is currently brewed by the brewery Alken in Limburg. The Alken Brewery belongs to the Belgian brewery Alken-Maus that was taken over by Heineken in 2008. The brewery in Alken does not only produce the Cristal Alken beer, but also the Pilsener beer Maes.

Coordinates

50.877561054659225, 5.306382856464383



Stationsstraat, 3570 Alken, Belgium

Averbode

The „new“ Averbode abbey beer is a Tribut to history; beer was brewed between the 14th and 20th Century. The Averbode beer is currently brewed by Brouwerij Huyghe.

Coordinates

51.032550, 4.980067



Abdijstraat 1, 3271 Scherpenheuvel-Zichem, Belgium



Belgian Brewers Museum

The Museum of the Belgian brew masters shows the rich tradition of Belgian beer. Visitors can visit all the brewing utensils, the brewing and fermentation tuns, boilers and other brewing materials from the 18th century. In this ancient tavern memories are evoked from a bygone age - old beer jugs, antique China and typical things you can guess at an inn and are representing Belgian beer culture. Since it is a pedestrian zone, the bike should not be in the picture here.

Coordinates

50.84633708178676, 4.35264547467489



Grand Place 10, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgium

Bocholt Brewery Museum

The Bocholt Brewery Museum has its foundations in one of the oldest family breweries of Belgium. With more than 4000 square meters, is the largest brewery museum in Europe. Found by Jean Martens in 1979, this surprising collection narrates the history of the art of brewing from 1758 until today.

Coordinates

51.171931667618296, 5.579832802932863



Dorpsstraat 53, 3950 Bocholt, Belgium



Brasserie Nationale

The largest brewery in Luxemburg was created in 1975 by the fusion of the Brasserie Funck-Bricher (est 1764) from Luxemburg with the Brasserie Bofferding (est 1842) from Niederkerschen. The brewery is member of the Free Brewers Initiative, an association of independent breweries in Europe. With a market share of 44 %, Bofferding was market leader in Luxemburg.

Coordinates

49.567667, 5.912500



1 CR110, 4930 Käerjeng, Luxemburg

Brauereimuseum Monschau

In 1847, brewer Wilhelm Braun purchased the „Grüneburg“ at the „Rötgen“ and extended the existing brewery with a tavern. In 1994, brewing had to be stopped and three years later, it was converted into the first brewery museum in the Eifel with gastronomy. Since 2012, the Felsquell Pilsener and the Zwickklbier is brewed again in a small microbrewery.

Coordinates

50.552833, 6.234450



St. Vither Str. 6, 52156 Monschau, Germany



Brunehaut

The independent and artisanal brewery Brunehaut uses old recipes that date back to 1096 zurückreichen and combines traditional bottle fermentation with modern technology. Brewing master Damien Delneste stands for the production of Dubbel and Tripel beers with top fermentation.

Every organic beer of Brunehaut received the official certification „product of ecological agriculture“. The brewery produces twenty speciality beers and cultivates its own barley and wheat

Coordinates

50.510233, 3.387717



7623 Brunehaut, Belgium

Cantillon

The Cantillon Brewery is the only active brewery in Brussels which is open to the public. In 2010, it celebrated its 110th anniversary. Gueuze Museum: Since 1978, the Cantillon brewery also operates the Cantillon Museum, which explains the special features of the Belgian beers Gueuze, Lambic beers and related beers made with wild yeasts.

Coordinates

50.841500, 4.335617



Gheudestraat 56, 1070 Anderlecht, Belgium



Chimay

Chimay is an unfiltered and unpasteurized Trappist beer that is brewed in the abbey of Notre-Dame de Scourmont in Chimay in the Belgian province of Hainaut. Today, about 130,000 hectoliters of Chimay are brewed in the abbey every year. This is more than 10% of the Belgian specialty beer market. One third of the production is exported. The bottling of about 35,000 bottles per hour currently happens outside the monastery on the industrial site Baileux not to disturb the monastic life. In the beverage market "Disco Beer" in the Rue Fernand Tilquin a ticket can be obtained.

Coordinates

50.036300, 4.377750



Zoning Industriel, 6464 Chimay, Belgium

De Dochter van de Korenaar

Ronald Mengerink, and his wife Monique de Baat had a dream for years: founding their own brewery. In 2007 they purchased the house with a storage room in the Belgian enclave Baarle Hertog and equipped it with a tentative brewing equipment, some storage tanks and a small bottling equipment. In 2009 Ronald Mengerink won the "Gouda Beer Prize". In 2011 he won a silver medal at the Mythos beer festival with his *Embrasse Peated Oak Aged* and won a silver medal at the European Beer Star Awards with *L'Enfant Terrible*. In 2013, the new beer *Extase* won the Public's Choice Award at the Zythos Beer Festival.

Coordinates

51.44692404868547, 4.941063453579693



Oordeelstraat 3B, 2387 Baarle-Hertog, Belgium



De Halve Maan

The brewery dates back to 1546 and today is the last town brewery in operation in the West Flanders city of Bruges, which is a family business run in the sixth generation since 1856. The brewery is a member of the Society Belgian Family Brewers. It is known for the "Brugse Zot (Fool of Bruges).

Coordinates

51.20250039297067, 3.224237058382202



Walplein 26, 8000 Brugge, Belgium

De Koninck

The history of the brewery dates back to the 19th century. In 1833 the brewery was founded. Right in front of the brewery, was and is still an outstretched hand, symbolizing the merchants for entry into the city that had to pay a fee. The brewery was named after the icon on the landmark: "The Hand". De Koninck is the most famous beer from Antwerp and is served in glass bowls, known as the „Bollekes". A ticket can be obtained in the shop.

Coordinates

51.19943071562721, 4.416214185710065



Boomgaardstraat 1, 2018 Antwerpen, Belgium



Delsart

At the end of the 19th century in a small village in Brabant, tubber Pierre-Joseph Delsart had two sons: Ignace Joseph and Jacques-Joseph. They only had one desire: brewing beer. In 1877, their dream became reality: the Brasserie Delsart of Dongelberg was born.

In 2002, the brewery celebrated its 125th anniversary. Franz Joseph und Jose started a new project in 2004: the new beer St. Joseph.

Comment: the beer shop has an excellent selection!

Coordinates

50.537083, 4.968817



Rue Georges Cosse 20, 5380 Fernelmont, Belgium

Dubuisson

The Dubuisson Brewery is the oldest brewery in the Walloon Region and is known for their beer brands "Bush" and "Cuvée des Trolls" internationally known. 1769 Dubuisson Brewery was founded in Pipaix. The 1933 is considered the birth of the "Bush Beer": a beer that combines both the Belgian and the English taste (the English beers were quite popular at the time in Belgium). The name is also a tribute to British beers. The beer helped the Dubuisson Brewery to gain international recognition.

Coordinates

50.576767, 3.556650



Chau. de Mons 32, 7904 Leuze-en-Hainaut, Belgium



Duvel

Albert Moortgat decided in 1918 to celebrate the end of the First World War by brewing a 'Victory Ale'. In 1923, a friend of the master brewer named this beer in allusion to the high alcohol content (8.5%) *nen echten Duvel* (Eng. : a real devil '), thus the name Duvel was born. He subsequently produced both in Belgium (Judas, Satan, Lucifer) and in France (Belzébuth, Bière du Démon) beers, which also made use of this analogy. Since 1963, the Duvel Moortgat Brewery brews at their new location in Breendonk, Belgium.

Coordinates

51.04080, 4.32951



Veurtstraat 3-1 2870 Puurs, Belgium

Haacht

Engineer Eugène De Ro, brewed the first beer in 1898 in the dairy and renamed it „brewery and dairy Haecht". The brewer soon reacted to the new thing, the blond beer. The beer brewing went quite well and in 1913 Haacht was one of the largest breweries in Belgium. The dairy business was stopped in 1929 and the focus was put on brewing beer, producing Bock, Export, Pilsener und Stout Ale. With all the acquired brands, Haacht is currently the third largest brewery in Belgium.

Coordinates

50.965366445601546, 4.609976730649713



Provinciesteenweg 28, 3190 Boortmeerbeek, Belgium



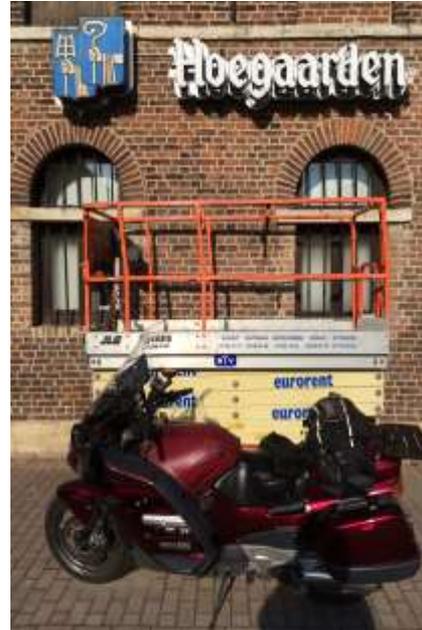
Hoegaarden

The brewing tradition in the town of Hoegaarden dates back to the middle ages. In the 19th century, there were still thirteen breweries and nine distilleries. In 1955, this tradition ended with the closure of the last brewery. In 1966, Pierre Celis, a local milk man, founded a new brewery and named it after the town: Hoegaarden. In 1990, InBev took over the shares of founder Celis and merged in 2008 into Anheuser-Busch InBev group.

Hoegaarden is the most famous wheat beer that is brewed with coriander and dried orange peel.

Coordinates

50.777183, 4.886517



Stoopkensstraat 24, 3320 Hoegaarden, Belgium

Huyghe

In the municipality of Melle, a detectable brewing tradition has existed since 1654; the beer was brewed from that time in the so-called Appelhoek. After Léon Huyghe had settled in 1902 in Melle, he bought the brewery in 1906 and renamed it Brouwerij Mouterij den Appel. As of 1936, a new brewery building was constructed and the family changed its name to the name Leon Huyghe Ltd. 1939, the new premises and the brewing hall were completed which are still used today. In 1989, the Huyghe beer *delirium tremens* - today its internationally best-known beer - was released which in 1997 was nominated by Stuart A. Kallen for the "best beer in the world".

Coordinates

50.99946, 3.80491



Geraardsbergsesteenweg 14b, 9090 Melle, Belgium



Koningshoeven

The monks of the abbey decided in 1884 to brew Trappist beer. 'La Trappe', like the beer brewed in Koningshoeven is named, was the first Trappist beer in the Netherlands. La Trappe is brewed in the traditional way, namely by a method developed by the Koningshoeven Trappist recipe. A ticket can be obtained in the monastery shop.

Coordinates

51.543867, 5.128250



Enschot, 5056 RP Berkel-Enschot, Netherlands

Lefebvre

The brewery was founded in 1876 by Jules Lefebvre and during WWI, it was dismantled and reconstructed again in 1921. Several fruit beers, special beers and abbey beers are brewed here.

Coordinates

50.67428415435048, 4.152343929795033



Chem. du Croly 69e, 1430 Rebecq, België



Liefmans

The Liefmans brewery has existed since 1679. It is known for mixing different beers whereby the old brewery creates very own beer blends.

Fermented with wild yeasts, the beers can develop their full flavor after fermentation for at least 1 year. At Liefmans, each bottle is wrapped in paper to protect it from external influences. Liefmans is also known for its fruit beers.

Coordinates

50.845233, 3.617683



Aalststraat 200, 9700 Oudenaarde, Belgium

Brouwerij De Drie Koningen

Also known as Marckensteijn Brewery

The brewery was founded as the home brewery Three Kings by Ronny Clijncke with a capacity of 20 litres. In 2007, a microbrewery with a capacity of 300 litres was installed. Larger volumes are produced in the Belgian brewery Strubbe in Ichtegem. The three beers were named Caspar, Melchior und Balthasar. In 2012, the brewery was purchased by Stijn Jordan and Marc Menuet and renamed. The beers are not only available at the Café anymore, but can also be obtained in their places.

Coordinates

51.379633, 3.506500



Markt 30, 4503 AH Groede, Netherlands



Maredsous

Maredsous is a top-fermented Belgian beer that is produced by the brewery Moortgat.

Curiously, this beer was brewed never in the Abbey of Maredsous in Denée (Province of Namur). However, the beer can be tasted at Maredsous clay jars, however. Maredsous is brewed and marketed under license from the Duvel Moortgat Brewery in Puurs (Antwerp province), which also produces the Duvel since 1963.

Coordinates

50.302333, 4.765183



Le collège St Benoît, Rue de Maredsous 11, 5537 Denée, Belgium

Maria Toevlucht

The idea for the brewery Zundert was born in 2009. Since the founding of the monastery in 1900, the Zundert monks had always earned their living by working in agriculture. In 2013, the Trappist brewery "De Kievit" (the Lapwing) Abbey Maria Toevlucht was opened in Zundert. On 10 December 2013, the International Trappist Association awarded "Authentic Trappist Product" -to the new beer. A ticket can be obtained in the monastery shop.

Coordinates

51.495133, 4.607783



Rucphenseweg 38, 4882 KC Zundert, Netherlands



Musee de la Bière et du Peket

The museum is situated in a 17th century castle. Apart from a visit, you can learn how to brew beer or organize a party there.

Coordinates

50.479633, 5.523317



Av. de l'Abbaye, 4160 Anthisnes, Belgium

Musee Européen de la Bière

The European Beer Museum was established 1986 by the culture association Archeological Society of Stenay. Founded in 1972 with the goal to investigate the archeological remains in the Meuse region, the organization extended its activities and turned to the study of brewing tradition in 1975. In twenty years, more than 50000 objects were collected.

In 1984, the town of Stenay purchased the old maltshouse with the purpose to establish the museum there. In 2002, the local project receives national recognition through the bestowal of the label "Musée de France", issued by the ministry for culture and communication.

Coordinates

49.489317, 5.185750



taverne du musée de la bière, 55700 Stenay, France



Orval

The Orval brewery is located on the grounds of the abbey in the province of Luxembourg, a stone's throw from the French border and is home to the world-famous Orval Trappist beers. The brewery can be visited only during the annual open day.

The production of Orval Trappist beers is limited and therefore in limited supply. The proceeds of the brewery activity are entirely donated to social projects and spent on the maintenance of the abbey and domain. A ticket can be obtained in the monastery shop.

Coordinates

49.638650, 5.347717



6823 Florenville, Belgium

Palm

Palm Breweries is a Belgian brewery. It is one of the largest breweries independent from monopolists such as Anheuser-Busch InBev Belgian breweries. The main product native to Steenhuffel and focused on Belgian beers is the Amber beer, whose undisputed market leader is Palm.

The history of Palm can be traced back to the year 1597, when the acquisition of a farm by the De Hoorn family in Steenhuffel was documented. After an expansion, the brewery De Hoorn turned into at the brand Palm after the First World War.

Coordinates

50.99580, 4.26823



Steenhuffeldorp 1 1840 Londerzeel (Steenhuffel), Belgium



Postel

The Norbertine monks brewed the Postel Abbey beer here since 1611. During the French revolution, brewing was stopped and never restarted. It was only in 1953 when the brewery from Campina Dessel closed an agreement with the Norbertines to bring the beer as Abbey beer back to the market. In 1988, the brewery was taken over by the brewery Alken-Maes. The beers were brewed by the brewery De Smedt in Opwijk. In 2000, the brewery was acquired by Heineken. The beers are nevertheless very "lekker".

Coordinates

51.287600, 5.190233

Take a picture from the signpost, the mole must be clearly visible.



Abdijlaan, 2400 Mol, Belgium

Rochefort

The least known Belgian Trappist Abbey of Notre-Dame de Saint-Remy in Rochefort was founded in 1230. The monastery can look back on a very eventful history. It is the year of 1595, which is officially named as the beginning of the time of the beer brewing monks in Rochefort. However, after the French Revolution only the outer walls remained. But the monks were not discouraged, they built up their monastery again and the end of the 19th century they also took up the tradition of brewing again.

Today there is work on only three days a week in the brewery, which holds its production deliberately low: 15,000 hectoliters annually. My personal trappist favorite is the Rochefort 10 with 11.3% alcohol (*author's note*).

Coordinates

50.178533, 5.220950



5580 Rochefort, Belgium



Rodenbach

The Rodenbach family originates from Andernach in the Rhine valley. Pedro Rodenbach founded the brewery in Roeselaere in 1836. Rodenbach beers obtain their characteristic sourly taste through the long storage in oak barrels up to two years. Some of the Barras are up to 150 years old. Since 1998, Rodenbach belongs to the brewery Palm in Steenhuffel.

Coordinates

50.946000, 3.138050



Spanjestraat 133, 8800 Roeselare, Belgium



Silly

The artisanal art of brewing is cultivated over six generations since 1850. In the last years, the production increased steeply, as the brewery dedicated itself to the production of specialty beers such as the Enghien beer.

Coordinates

50.649817, 3.925500



Rue Ville Basse 2, 7830 Silly, Belgium

St. Feuillien

The family Friart is brewing beer since 1873, including St-Feuillien. However, the history of the beer dates back to the 7th century when an Irish monk named Feuillien was decapitated near the current city of Le Roeulx. Later, a chapel was built there and transferred into the abbey St-Feuillien Le Roeulx. For centuries, beer was brewed there; today, the brewery is owned by the Friert family.

Coordinates

50.501933, 4.110000



Rue d'Houdeng 22, 7070 Le Rœulx, Belgium



Tongerlo

The Tongerlo abbey was founded in 1130 and until the French Revolution, beer was brewed in this place. In 1840, a brewery was set up again. As in many other breweries, German troops stole the copper brew kettles what finished the brewery. In 1956, a family brewery started to sell a beer named Tongerlo with the approval of the abbey. In the course of the next years, ownership changed a couple of times until in 1990, the brewery Haacht became the owner. Tongerlo beers have received numerous awards, among them the *World's Best Beer Award 2014*.

Coordinates

51.105167, 4.903900



Westerlo, 2260 Westerlo, Belgium

Val Dieu

On the grounds of the monastery of Val-Dieu, abbey beer is brewed since 1997; it can be linked to the centuries-old tradition of brewing and the recipes of Cistercian monks who were resident in the abbey since 1216 and left Val-Dieu in 2001. A ticket can be obtained in the monastery shop.

Coordinates

50.698350, 5.804133



Val Dieu 227, 4880 Aubel, Belgium



Westmalle

The Abbey of Westmalle was founded in 1794 and was awarded the status of a Trappist Abbey on April 22, 1836. Martinus Dom, the first abbot, made the decision to brew beer. The local sales began in 1856, since 1921 the beer is also commercially available.

Since 1856 also dark beer is brewed known as Westmalle Dubbel, currently inspired by a recipe from 1926.

In 1934 the brewery developed the first triple beer, it is now regarded as an outstanding example of this type of beer.

Coordinates

51.283833, 4.656017



Malle, 2390 Malle, Belgium



Westvleteren

The history of the Trappist monastery dates back to 1831. In 1839 the first brewery was started.

The abbey and the brewery are not to visit. There is an information centre on the monastic life, the "Clastrum", as well as the monastic specialties Café "In de Vrede" in the immediate vicinity of the abbey. The beer is bottled at 0.33 l, without a label. The content can be distinguished only by the bottle caps.

The beer is sold exclusively in the café "In de Vrede" at the monastery. A sale of beer through dealers does not exist. According to the company, the monks do not live to brew, they brew to live. They produce only limited amounts and not all beers are available all the time. The current stock can be obtained via a "Beer Phone Line". A maximum of two wooden boxes are for sale in packs of 24 bottles per person. Potential buyers must give a pick up date, indicating the vehicle registration number at the monastery. Such a reservation can be made every 60 days. The beer is only sold on the condition not to resell it. Westvleteren Trappist beer is chosen on international beer rating sites in the very first ranks. On "RateBeer.com" Westvleteren 12 was voted the world's best beer; the monks of the Abbey of Sint Sixtus already feel disturbed in their monastic life from the hustle and bustle caused thereby.

My recommendation: if the beer is offered in the shop: buy it!

Coordinates

50.895117, 2.722133



Donkerstraat 13, 8640 Vleteren, Belgium



Have fun and ride safe!!

