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MICHAEL JACKSON

THE BEER HUNTER®



MICHAEL JACKSON's 5th edition of **THE GREAT BEERS OF BELGIUM** will be the book's most extensive revision thus far. The new text reflects not only the changing beer scene but also Jackson's perspective as its acute observer for more than 30 years.

The Great Beers of Belgium is more than a guide book. Jackson's 20-plus essays on classic beer styles have helped to define the special qualities of these brews. All of these essays have been re-written. He describes the beers, the breweries, the places and the people, with the knowledge of an insider and the art of a storyteller.

The number of brewery entries - with tasting notes - has been increased to over 70. Where in the world to buy or drink the Great Beers of Belgium? A surprisingly international guide.

The photography in the book is predominantly new. Joris Luyten's two-page spreads at the beginning of each chapter are portraits of beer-styles. His depictions of Belgian food with beer have a startling graphic originality. His shots of beer in the bottle and glass (over 250) are a superbly clear reference source.

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The look of the book has undergone a transformation. It is more elegant (reflecting the changing status of beer), but also much easier to navigate.

Four previous editions and two reprints were published in 2001, 1997, 1995, 1994, 1992 and 1991. The book has appeared in French, Flemish, English and Japanese. It is the only one of Jackson's books devoted to the beers of a single country. Its American launch took place at the Belgian Consulate in New York, and it has been the subject of lectures and tastings at the Smithsonian Institution and the National Geographic Society (both in Washington D.C.) and the Belgian Embassy in Tokyo.

MICHAEL JACKSON, internationally known as the leading writer on the beers of the world, is especially known for his love of Belgian brews. In 1994, he was presented with the *Belgian Mercurius Award* by Crown Prince Philippe for his services to the country's breweries. His TV documentary series **THE BEER HUNTER** (1990, 1991) included one film on Belgian beer cuisine and lambic breweries and another on Trappist abbeys. His **WORLD GUIDE TO BEER** (1977, 1988) is credited with having introduced Belgian beers to many export markets, including the United States.

Books: These have variously been published in 18 languages, from Japanese to Estonian. Sales exceed three million. Jackson's 15 books include:

- **WHISKY ENCYCLOPEDIA**. Spectrum, Utrecht, October 2005. U.K. U.S., German, Dutch, Italian, Portuguese, Japanese and other foreign language editions in preparation.
- **THE MALT WHISKY COMPANION**. The world's best selling book on malt whisky. Fifth fully revised and expanded edition now available from Dorling Kindersley, London. French edition, published as **GUIDE DE L'AMATEUR DE MALT WHISKY** by Éditions Solar, Paris, now in preparation. U.S., German and Japanese editions also in preparation.
- **SCOTLAND AND ITS WHISKIES**, Duncan Baird Publishers, London, 2001; also as **L'ECOSSE ET SES WHISKIES**, Éditions Solar, Paris, for publication in October 2001.
- **MICHAEL JACKSON'S GREAT BEER GUIDE** Dorling Kindersley, London, and New York, 2000 and as **MICHAEL JACKSON GROOT BIER BOEK** by Lanoo/Van Dishoeck, Houten.
- **MICHAEL JACKSON'S BEER** Dorling Kindersley, London and New York, 1998. Published as **LA BIÈRE MICHAEL JACKSON**, Éditions Gründ, Paris, 1999.
- **MICHAEL JACKSON'S BEER COMPANION** published as **HET COMPLETE BIERBOEK** by Standaard, Antwerp, 1994
- **THE POCKET BEER BOOK 2000** published as **BIERWIJZER** by Het Spectrum, Utrecht, 1984; and **GUIDE INTERNATIONAL DES BIÈRES** by Glénat, Brussels 1987 (The fully revised and updated 9th edition for 2000 is now available in English from Mitchell Beazley, London)
- **THE NEW WORLD GUIDE TO BEER** published as **SPECTRUM BIERATLAS** by Het Spectrum, Utrecht, 1978; and as **LA BIÈRE** by Glénat, Brussels 1990

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Television/film/video: His award winning series **THE BEER HUNTER** has been shown in 15 countries. It was originally produced by Channel 4 in Britain, The Discovery Channel in the United States, and has recently been running on PBS. The films were shot in California, England, Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany and the Czech republic. Michael Jackson has appeared in many regional and national television programmes on both sides of the Atlantic including (in the U.S.) *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* (NBC), *Nightline with Ted Koppel* (ABC), *Good Morning America* (ABC), *CBS Morning News*, the *Today Show* (NBC), (in the U.K.) *The Carlton Food Network* and *Food and Drink* (BBC).

Journalism and specialist publications: Michael Jackson contributes regularly to *The Independent*, and *Observer* newspapers (London). His work has also appeared in *Playboy*, *The Washington Post* and *The Irish Times*; He has contributed to gastronomic magazines throughout the world including *Decanter* (London), *Wine Enthusiast*, *Wine & Spirits*, *Wine Spectator* (New York) and *Kampai (Tokyo)*. He is an Emeritus member, Board of Advisers, *Zymurgy* magazine; Contributing Editor, *All About Beer* magazine; Contributing Editor, *Ale Street News*; Contributor, *The New Brewer* (all United States), *Bière* (Canada); *Brewers' Guardian*, (United Kingdom); *Brauwelt* (Germany), *Journal du Brasseur* (Belgium), *Olut* (Finland), etc.

Michael Jackson is a regular contributor to *Malt Advocate* (US), a consultant editor of *Whisky Magazine* (UK), and *Beer Passion Magazine* (Belgium). He is he is a contributor to both *Slow Wine* and *Slow Food* magazines, and a member of the editorial advisory board of the latter. Michael Jackson is appointed visiting lecturer at the *Slow Food's Università di Scienze Gastronomiche* in Pollenzo, northern Italy.

Professional publications: Emeritus member, Board of Advisers, *Zymurgy* magazine; Contributing Editor, *All About Beer* magazine; Contributing Editor, *Ale Street News*, Contributor, *The New Brewer* (all United States). Consultant, *Celebrator*; Contributor, *Bière* (Canada); *Brewers' Guardian*, *What's Brewing* (United Kingdom); *Brauwelt* (Germany), *Journal du Brasseur* and *Beer Passion Magazine* (Belgium).

Lectures / seminars: Michael Jackson holds the record for the largest audiences at The Book and The Cook, in Philadelphia (more than 1,000 for each of fifteen consecutive years, at the University of Pennsylvania's Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology). He is a regular guest lecturer at the Culinary Institute of America and has given seminars in most major cities of the United States, many in Europe, as well as Tokyo, Osaka and various Australian cities. He has lectured at Cornell University and is Patron of the Oxford University Beer Appreciation Society. He is a regular speaker (and judge) at The World Beer Cup. He has spoken at the Smithsonian Institution and in March 2006 will presented his ninth annual lecture and tasting at the National Geographic Society (both in Washington D.C.). the subject of this lecture will be north American interpretations of classic Belgian beer styles.

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Internet: Produced in conjunction with Real Beer INC, Michael Jackson's own website, **THE BEER HUNTER®**, contains a wealth of previously published and new material written by Jackson. Areas covered include; beerhunting and travel, beer and brewery reviews, tasting notes and listings of Jackson's international travel and events schedule. The site is at:

www.beerhunter.com

Awards: Crown Prince Philippe of Belgium in 1994 gave Michael Jackson *The Mercurius Award*, for services to the country's brewing industry. Jackson has also won the *Literary Medal of the German Academy of Gastronomy*, the *André Simon Award* and the *Glenfiddich Trophy* (as well as five *Glenfiddich Awards*, for books, journalism, television and whisky-writing), and in the United States was the first winner of the *Achievement Award of the Institute of Brewing Studies*. In 1997, he was made a member of the Belgian *Confederatie der Brouwerijen van België / Confédération des Brasseries de Belgique*, the first non-brewer to receive this honour. In 1998 he was a *James Beard* nominee and in 1999 received his fifth *Glenfiddich Award* for **DRINKS JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR**. In 2001, Jackson was named *Beer Ambassador 2001* by the Leading Bars Association of Finland, for his services to that country's beer, also in 2001, Michael Jackson's book **SCOTLAND AND ITS WHISKIES** was awarded the title of Best Book on Spirits in the *Gourmand World Cookbook Awards 2001* and in November 2002 it was awarded *The Jury Grand Prize Golden Laurel* by the Swiss organisation *Historica Gastronomica Helvetica*. In December 2002 Jackson was winner for the third time of *The Gold Tankard* in the *British Guild of Beer Writers Annual Awards*. In 2004, Jackson was the recipient of *Whisky Magazine's Lifetime's Achievement Award* and the Distinguished Service Beer Journalism Award from the Association of Brewers (U.S.A.). In October 2005, **WHISKY** was awarded a "Gold Ladle" for **Best Drink Guide Book** at the **World Food Media Awards 2005**, in Adelaide, Australia. In November 2005, Jackson received *Lifetime's Achievement Awards* from *Malt Advocate Magazine* in New York and, in December, from the *British Guild of Beer Writers* in London

Biographical: Michael Jackson is 63. He was born in the county of Yorkshire, in the North of England, and he began his working life there as a newspaper reporter, later working in London. He began writing on beer as a sideline, and had his first book published in 1976. He now writes exclusively on beer, whisky, other drinks and travel. He lives in London but travels extensively.

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Great Beers of Belgium 5th ed launch 12/05

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