

# The BEERS of FRANCE

UPDATE  
SUPPLEMENT  
Winter  
1999

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**PLEASE NOTE:** The new address and contact numbers

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To keep our book 'The Beers of France' as current as possible we produce occasional updates which are available free of charge and will be automatically posted to anyone who has completed and sent a Registration Form (see back page). This supplement offers information gathered since publication of the first edition (October 1998) and is intended to be used in conjunction with the book. This supplement simply updates the original work.

## GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE FRENCH BEER SCENE IN 1999

The overall national beer scene in France continues to grow – a trend which has necessitated this supplement. The two famous brewing centres of Nord/Pas-De-Calais and Alsace have seen some new activity, but mainly the new breweries are springing up in various parts of France not normally associated with beer.

Brittany is proving to be the up-and-coming region – with many new breweries and a developing beer culture through a good helping of characterful bars. Hand-pumped beer is now something of a trend after the initial trailblazing by the Coreff brewery (Deux Rivières) and many of the brews display a British-type character which will appeal to real ale fans.

Another growth area is Lyon and the French Alps – Savoie now has three breweries and there are two in Briançon, provincial centre of the high Alps – followed closely by the bubbling under of a farmhouse/micro scene in the mid-South-West.

More good news comes from the Centre region where we can now report on the first brewery in this previous beer desert.

The first Brittany Beer Festival (for Breton brewers only) took place in Nantes in May 1999 and proved to be an excellent shop window for local brewers old and new. The history of the region has left the legacy of Brittany's boundaries being open to question – but casting a wider net to include Nantes (which has many historical links with Brittany) gave punters the chance to taste beers from Bouffay and Nantaise, both of which are officially in Loire Atlantique. Following an afternoon of dégustation at the ten brewery stands (Britt didn't show up, Heineken at Rennes was not invited, and Nez Rouge and Taverne St-Martin only sell beer at their brewpubs) there was a mass meal and a 'Fest Noz' – a traditional Breton dance – until late. Overall it was a successful first stab at such a festival, well-organised and well worth a visit – another one took place in Lorient later in the year. Those planning to attend in 2000 (there will probably two again) can find information on our website nearer the date, but bear in mind that French beer festivals are very different to the British concept, for instance beers are served by the brewers themselves.

Another festival which appears to have become an annual event

is the 'Fête de la Bière' in Lausanne, Switzerland, organised by ABO (L'Association des Buveurs d'Orge). This year it took place from 3-6 June - a four-day event (free entry) in a spectacular setting on the lakefront in the Ouchy district - and took the form of a volunteer-run festival with various national stands and plenty of entertainment. Of the 250 beers at the festival, France was well represented with 28 - most of them well chosen - along with some real gems from Britain, Germany, Belgium and Holland. An added advantage is the opportunity to try beers from the new wave of Swiss micros. Watch our website for the year 2000 festival, or see the ABO website at [www.space.ch/abo](http://www.space.ch/abo) (in French).

Despite a burgeoning interest in quality beer in France, we are still frustrated with the dearth of speciality beer bars to stock the wares of smaller breweries. To this end, we need recommendations of bars/cafes and beer shops to update the list on our website - in this supplement there are some new recommendations, but we always need more. If you find any, please take the time to complete the form in the book or in this supplement so that we can eventually offer a comprehensive list for the whole country.

*John Woods & Keith Rigley*

## NEW BREWERIES (by Region)

### ALSACE

BRASSERIE LANTERNE, 5 rue de la Lanterne, rue Gutenberg, 67000 Strasbourg. **Beers:** Ambrée, Blanche, Blonde.

BRASSERIE LAUTH, 82 rue Principale, 67310 Scharrachbergheim

BRASSERIE UBERACH, 30 Grand Rue, 67350 Uberach  
Planned to open in June 99. Set up in partnership with EDF and Electricité de Strasbourg. **Beers:** La Goutière.

BRASSERIE RIQUEWIHR, 68340 Riquewihr

Brewpub which uses BBG brewplant. In addition to beer it also produces Esprit de Bière (eau de vie distilled from beer). **Beers:** Hollbier Ambrée, Hollbier Blonde.

### AQUITAINE

BRASSERIE DU CANARDOU, 24230 Nastringues

Fuller than most organic beer range made by brewery on the Route des Vins near Bergerac. Run by Jean-Yves Jego, his wife and one employee. Brewplant installed by Ted Brown from Wales. Lovely rural setting. **Beers:** Dame Blanche, Félibrée (blonde), Korlène (rousse), Triple Grain (malt, buckwheat and spelt).

LA FERME DE LAUBICHERIE, 24270 Sarlande

Farm-based brewery producing just one beer at present. **Beers:** Bière de Ferme.

BRASSERIE DU PAYS BASQUE, Route Departementale 936, 64520 Bardos - Commenced July 1999 with 2,500hl output. **Beers:** Gurutze (5%).

### BRITTANY

BRASSERIE AN ALARC'H, ZA Vieux Tronc, 29690 Le Huelgoat

Tiny two-man brewery in the hills of central Brittany making just one beer, a dark stoutish ale, often dispensed by handpump. Marketed with a beautiful label depicting a nearby rocky outcrop on the moors. Translates as the Swan Brewery. **Beers:** Hini Du.

BRITT BRASSERIE DE BRETAGNE, 29910 Trégunc

Large, high profile, professionally marketed brewery near Concarneau. Rumours persist of infection problems and interim brews being made in Belgium, but was operational on a visit in August 1999. Interesting range with a strong identity from its puffin logo. **Beers:** Gwiniz Du, Britt Ambrée, Britt Blanche, Britt Rousse.

BRASSERIE POULDREUZIC, Tregonguen, 29710 Pouldreuzic

One-man operation in remote far west location making just one rich, amber coloured beer named after a spectacular local beach.

Run from a barn using brewkit installed by Ted Brown from Wales. The beer is often served on handpump at festivals. **Beers:** Penhors. BRASSERIE ARTISANALE DU TRÉGOR, ZA de Kerfolic, 22220 Minihy-Tréguier

Fast-growing brewery run by the charismatic Stéphane Tanguy. Some of his beers exude a strong British character and are often served on handpump. Stéphane uses his microbiology background to culture yeast from Belgium and UK. Large range for such a new brewery. **Beers:** Dremwell Blanche, Dremwell Blonde, Dremwell Dorée (golden), Dremwell Noire, Dremwell Rousse.

TAVERNE ST-MARTIN, 92 rue Jean Jaurés, 29200 Brest  
A small but well-run brewpub in busy shopping street with a strong emphasis on food rather than beer. Uses BBG equipment to make its four brews, including an 8% beer described as 'abbey style' (which it wasn't). **Beers:** Blonde, Ambrée, Blonde du Type Abbaye, Bière du Mois (beer of the month, on our visit it was Blanche).

BRASSERIE TRI MARTOLOD, 9 Zone Artisanale, 29950 Benodet  
Sources suggest this operation (translates as the Three Matelots) was due to start September 1999. **Beers:** Hefe Weizenbier, Pils, Bière de Noël.

NEZ ROUGE CAFÉ, 12 rue des Dames, 35000 Rennes  
Novelty themed disco bar in the old town. Bland and quite ordinary beers. Board inside displays a large range, though only two were available on our visit. **Beers:** Blonde, Brune (maybe others).

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#### CENTRE

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BRASSERIE DU SOLLIER, Le Sollier, 18570 Le Subdray  
A good Bavarian-style weizenbier brewed in the outbuilding of a farm in the wheat-growing area of Berry, just SW of Bourges. Early success has led to investment in a bottling line and a contract with Stoc shops. Owner Damien Ferrier studied in Germany and trained at the Paulaner brewery in Munich. **Beers:** Le Sollier.

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#### ÎLE DE FRANCE

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LA FABRIQUE, 53 rue di Faubourg, St-Antoine, 75011 Paris  
FREEDOM & FIRKIN, rue de Beri, 75008 Paris  
Brewpub opened in Autumn 98, now brewing for Firkin sister pubs the Financier and Floozy as well as itself.

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#### LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON

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BRASSERIE ARTISANALE DES ALBÈRES, 3 rue des Loroits, 66700 Argelès-sur-Mer – Coastal resort brewpub which started up in June 1999 using BBG brewkit. **Beers:** Blanche des Garrigues, Blonde des Albères, Spéciale Côte Vermeille.

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#### LORRAINE

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BRASSERIE RARÉCOURT, La Vallée, 55120 Rarécourt

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#### MIDI PYRENÉES

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LA BIERATAISE, route du Bois de la Pierre, 31370 Bérat  
Tiny brewery started in 1996 which remained undiscovered from all but our own research sources. Based in a barn next to the owner's house in a small village SW of Toulouse. Brewery tap offers music evenings and private functions. **Beers:** Blonde, Brune.  
FERME BRASSERIE DU BOCAGE, 31310 Montbron-Bocage  
Very new brewery (started 1999) in Haute-Garonne departement. **Beers:** La Paienne Blanche.

FROG & ROSBIF, 14 rue de l'Industrie, 31000 Toulouse  
Joint venture between the Paris Real Ale Company and John Foy (under company name of Nothing Toulouse SARL!), close to city centre offering similar fayre to the Paris Frogs. Welcome outlet for decent beer in friendly, well-run bar with a good atmosphere on its numerous theme fun nights. **Beers:** Aeropostale, Brew de l'Industrie, Darktagnan, Frog Natural Blonde, Trente Wheat.

BRASSERIE OC'ALE, St-Simon, 82130 Lafrançaise  
Characterful operation in a lovely rural location. Run by enthusi-

astic and charismatic Jack Courmont who has done a great marketing job in the brewery's short life. Concentrating on the single product – an organic, highly-perfumed wheat beer the name of which is a play on 'langue d'oc' and 'locale'. **Beers:** Oc'Ale.

**BRASSERIE D'OLT**, 28 rue Sannié, 12130 St. Geniez d'Olt  
Located in the upper Lot valley, Brasserie D'Olt has built its reputation on a distinctly artisanal Belgian-style ale taking its name from a local legend of a marmot which saved two children from a flood. A two-man operation set in the grounds of owner Sébastien Blaquiére's family house, seemingly going from strength to strength. **Beers:** Bière de la Marmotte.

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#### NORD/PAS-DE-CALAIS

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**3 BRASSEURS**, 8 rue du Château d'Isinghein, 59150 Lomme  
Purpose-built brewpub on trading estate close to a huge multi-plex cinema. The usual 3 Brasseurs range. Popular for business lunches. Rambling interior with numerous cubbyholes. **Beers:** Ambrée, Blanche, Blonde, Brune (plus seasonals).  
**VILLENEUVE D'ASCQ** – Planned to open late 1999.

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#### NORMANDIE

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**BRASSERIE LA CHAPELLE**, 76780 La Chapelle-St-Ouen  
Small brewery NE of Rouen. **Beers:** Northmen Ambrée, Northmen Blonde, Northmen Brune, Northmen Rousse.

**BRASSERIE DES HALLES**, 8-10 rue Bernadin de St-Pierre, 76100 Le Havre – Brewpub in the centre of Le Havre, close to the ferryport. **Beers:** Blanche, perhaps others.

**BRASSERIE DUPLESSY**, 13 rue aux Moines, 27700 Tosny  
Few details as yet on this brewery which started up in May 1999. **Beers:** Richard Coeur de Lion.

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#### PAYS DE LA LOIRE

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**BRASSERIE NANTAISE**, 23 Boulevard de Chantenay, 44100 Nantes  
Small, new brewery not to be confused with the huge, defunct Brasseries Nantaise of old. Based in heart of the city of Nantes and producing two tasty and interesting beers with a maritime identity. **Beers:** Liger Ambrée, Liger Blonde.

**BRASSERIE ARTISANALE DU BOUFFAY**, avenue du Bouffay, 44240 La Chapelle sur Erdre  
Run from a barn by two farmers (also offering smoked duck, confit de canard and goats cheese). Ingenious self-build brewplant taking the best from other micros. In a peaceful rural location north of Nantes' urban bustle. Characterful beer displaying a clean but artisanal taste. **Beers:** Blanche de Bouffay, Blonde de Bouffay.

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#### PICARDIE

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**FERME-BRASSERIE DE ST-RIEUL**, 10 rue de Drucy, 60800 Trumilly  
New brewery in village E of Senlis. **Beers:** St-Rieul, Bière Blanche.  
**ALE FACTORY**, 18 Port Amont, 80000 Amiens  
**Beers:** La Pic, La Pic Hard.

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#### PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR

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**MICRO-BRASSERIE ALPHAND**, Place du Village, 05290 Vallouise  
Characterful brewery tap in chalet-style building in ski village in stunning location. Lionel Alphand is a mountain guide and ski instructor as well as a brewer running the beautiful cellar bar below his restaurant. Inspired by the U.S. micro scene. Interesting beer range which are also occasionally available in local bars. **Beers:** Blonde (Pils), Ambrée (Rousse) and Noire (Stout).

**BRASSERIE ARTISANALE DES GRANDS COLS**, 5 avenue du Dauphiné, 05100 Briançon – Purpose-built, small commercial brewery run from an industrial unit on the main road through Briançon and obviously the result of major investment. Bland, inoffensive beers which should sell well through the owners' long-time experience in drinks distribution. Génépi, an Alpine flower often used to flavour local spirit, is added to one of their beers. **Beers:** La Tourmente au Génépi, La Tourmente Pils.

## RHÔNE-ALPES

**BRASSERIE DES CIMES**, 152 avenue de St. Simond, 73100 Aix les Bains – Largish, state-of-the-art brewery in Savoie fronted by Mike Sweeney, from Boulder, USA, who has attracted major investment to bring it to fruition in a large industrial unit. A modern, low-energy, decoction brewing system promises interesting beer despite being an overtly commercial operation. First brew was June 1999. With partners in beer distribution and import/export, hopefully the two beers initially planned will be widely available. Ambitious project and possibly one which could make an immediate impact on the national beer scene. Mike has done his homework and believes that France is ripe for a beer renaissance. With hands-on experience of the North American micro revolution, it will be interesting to see how the application of the successful U.S. formula fares in the very different world of France. The name translates as Brewery of the Peaks. **Beers:** L'Aiguille Blanche, Le Baton de Feu.

**BRASSERIE FER ROUGE**, La Chapelle d'Abondance – Brewpub we have few details of. Fer Rouge means 'red iron' as in iron ready to be shaped in a blacksmith's shop. Situated SE of Evian.

**LES BRASSEURS SAVOYARDS**, 74200 Marin  
Another very new brewery which has not been visited. Marin is a small village just SW of Evian near the southern Lac Léman shore. Marketed very much under the Savoie banner. **Beers:** La Cordée.

**NINKASI ALE HOUSE**, 267 rue Marcel Mérieux, 69007 Lyon  
Like Brasserie des Cimes, the concept of this brewery has its origins in the U.S. micro scene, where partners Christophe Fargier (a Lyonnaise) and Kurt Hoffmann (an American) trained after meeting in university. Returning to Lyon, they took on two more partners and opened the Ninkasi in an old transport depot in the southern suburbs. Originally it only supplied the brewpub – a cavernous affair holding 600+ people (it is famous as a live music venue) – but now supplies bars in Lyon and St. Etienne. The bar itself sports a fixed stage, island bar and food servery with eating area. With a new metro station soon to open closeby there are plans to build a bakery, a 200-seat beergarden and a dedicated concert hall. An admirable philosophy of the brewery is to gradually increase hopping levels of the beers (educating the local French palate to appreciate less sweet, more bitter beers). Overall the operation is professionally run with various quality touches (such as the mats on the six-beer dégustation trays giving tasting notes and ingredients of each brew next to where the glass is placed), and the beers are clean, crisp and very tasty. Ninkasi is the Sumerian god of beer. **Beers:** Ambrée (English Pale Ale), Blanche (Bavarian Weizen), Blonde (Rye Ale), Fruitée (Ruby Ale, flavoured with blackcurrant), Noire (Porter). Also a seasonal beer.

**LES BRASSEURS DU SORNIN**, 42720 Pouilly/Charlieu  
Few details on this very new brewery. **Beers:** Pierre Blanche.

## NEW BEERS (by Brewery)

**BRASSERIE D'ALAUNA – Brune D'Alauna** (8%) – Dark, interesting beer full of red fruit acidity with a very artisanal character. **La Trinquette** (6%).

**BRASSERIE DES AMIS REUNIS – Germinal Ambrée de St-Sylvestre** (8%) – Also relabelled as Bière de Noël for Carrefour. **Germinal Ambrée RCL** – Labels have been used on Ambrée and Froment (and maybe others) with the badge of the Racing Club de Lens football team. **Germinal Bière au Froment** (8%) – Spiced wheat beer. **Germinal Blanche de Noël** (8%) – Launched Christmas 98. **L'Abbaye de Marquette** (6.5%).

**BRASSERIE BAILLEUX – Ange Ale** (7%) – Launched 1999.

**BRASSERIE BERNOVILLE – Blanche de Bernoville** (6%) – An addition to the growing range of French white beers.

**BRASSERIE CASTELAIN – Blonde des Sept Vallées** (5.6%) – A full pale malt bière de garde which is the bottled version of the St-Poloise beer. Sept Vallées refers to the seven river valleys

around the village of St-Poloise. **Bourganel, Bière aux Marrons** (6%) – Made for a distributor in the Ardèche region. Strange taste from added chestnut (presumably flour) with a dry, light bitterness. Probably made for a future brewery attempting to develop its market share. **Bourganel, Bière aux Myrtilles** (6%) – Another contract beer for the Ardèche distributor. Flavoured with bilberries giving it an understated, lightly bitter fruitiness. **Cerveoise des Sept Vallées** (6.4%) – A very honeyed blonde beer which is the bottled version of the St-Poloise beer. **Oldarki** – Produced for a distributor in St.-Jean de Luz (in the Basque region SW of Bayonne). Interesting, clean-tasting beer flavoured with prune liqueur, a Basque speciality. May well be for a potential brewery testing the market. Widely available.

**BRASSERIE DES CHAMPS – Blonde de Bourgogne** – An impressive blonde beer with a generous helping of coriander amongst its ingredients.

**BRASSERIE LA CHOLETTE – Blanche de Cambrai** (5%) – Unusual white beer with typical Choulette artisanality. **Framboise** (6%) – A drop of 1% since the book was published. Ingredients now declared include vegetable extracts, flavourings and E163 for colour. Still very full and interesting. **Pêche** (5%) – Intensely fruity but with far more interest than just about all the commercial Belgian peach beers. **Millénaire** (9%) – Formidably strong and warming Millennium beer with an impressive depth.

**BRASSERIE DE CLERCK – Bière de Mars** (7%) – Launched Easter 98. **Colvert de Noël** (7%) – Launched Christmas 98.

**BRASSERIE DES DEUX RIVIÈRES – Coreff Stout** – A marvellous unpasteurised stout launched in June 99. Thick, soft and very tasty – far more depth than Guinness. Served on draught only with mixed gas. Developed with an Irish brewing consultant.

**MICRO-BRASSERIE DES DIAOULIGS – La Diaoul** (6.5%) – Great, quite complex honey beer with a huge mouthful of taste.

**BRASSERIE DUYCK – La Fraiche de l'Aunelle** (5.5%) – Unfiltered organic beer very similar to the Bière Fraîche sold in the Jenlain Café in Lille. **Reflets de France** (6%) – Contract brew for a distributor, possibly a tweaked Fraîche de l'Aunelle or Sebourg.

**ENTRE TEMPS – Bière de Mars** (5%) – Launched Easter 98. **Bière de Noël** (7%) – Launched Christmas 98.

**BRASSERIES FISCHER & ADELHOFFEN – Blanche de l'Été** (5%). **HEINEKEN – Bière de Noël** (6.8%) – Only available on draught in season. **Buckler Blanche** – The first alcohol-free white beer.

**BRASSERIE JEANNE D'ARC – Grain d'Orge Blanche** (4.5%). **Latina** (6%) – A beer flavoured with tequila. **Samba** (6%) – Another flavoured beer.

**BRASSERIE LANCELOT – Bonnets Rouges** (5.5%) – Wonderful, red-coloured beer flavoured with elderberries yet still retains a beery character. The name is from the Breton militia in the 1675 peasants revolt. A popular beer attracting much interest.

**CAFÉ DE LA POSTE – Bière de Noël** (6.2%) – Launched in 1998. **Blanche** (5%) – Launched in 1999.

**BRASSERIE STE.-COLOMBE – Bière de Froment** – Has undergone a change of recipe to become closer to a German weizen.

**BRASSERIE ST.-POLOISE – Cuvée de Noël** (7%) – Only available on draught at the brewpub. **Cerveoise des 7 Vallées** (6.4%).

**BRASSERIE DE ST.-OMER – Bière de Noël Spéciale Ambrée** – Launched Christmas 98.

**TAVERNE DE L'ECU – Bière de Noël** (7.5%) – Launched in 1998.

**BRASSERIE TERKEN – Bière de Noël de Terken** (7%) – Launched Christmas 98.

**BRASSERIE THIRIEZ – L'Esquelbécoise** (5.6%). **Brassin de la St-Jean** (6.3%).

## CONTRACT BEER NEWS

The IFBM in Nancy is brewing **Mor Braz** (made with sea-water) for the company **Brasserie Mor Braz** (Big Sea Brewery) in Sarzeau, Brittany. This is probably a pilot brew for a new brewery.

Castelain now brews the **Rouget de Lisle** beers (**Fourche du Diable**, **Grande Rivière** and **Millefleur**), a beer sold around Hesdin

(L'Hesdinoise), **Bière de la Braderie de Lille Ambrée & Brune**, **Bière du Géant** and a beer for a confrerie called **D'Milo**.

There are two beers under the brand name of **Bière des Alpes** (or **Mont Blanc**), which we think are made by Du Bocq in Belgium.

A company called **Brasserie Olympe** sells a beer called **Aphrodite Bière de l'Hydromel** (hydromel is mead). The company is based in the Lourdes area, but we believe the beer is made at the IFBM.

Two beers are sold in the Chartres area - **La Bière de Chartres** (a bland pils from Jeanne d'Arc, distributed by Heineken), and **Gothic** (brewed in Belgium, distributed by Kronenbourg).

A beer called **Tonnerre de Brest** (8%) is brewed in Belgium and sold widely in Brittany.

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

**BRASSERIE LANCELOT** has apparently moved its brewery to a new location (an old gold mine) not far from the original site at the Manoir. A sign at the manor gate gives details of where to go.

## NEW RECOMMENDED BARS (by Region)

### ACQUITAINE

**BORDEAUX** - **Le Lucifer**, 35 rue de Pessac. *Canardou*.

### BRITTANY

**BREST** - **Café de la Plage**, 32 rue Massillon. Small, old and traditional brown bar, nowhere near the beach! Draught Coreff and Coreff Stout. On corner of Place Guerin. *Authors*

**CONCARNEAU** - **Les Moutons**, Port de Plaisance. Welcoming bar at end of car park for Ville Close. Draught Coreff. *Authors*.

**HUELGOAT** - **Le Cornouaille**, rue A. Briand. *An Alarc'h*.

**LANDERNEAU** - **Le Broceliande**. *An Alarc'h*.

**MORLAIX** - **L'Aurore**, place Alliende. *An Alarc'h*.

**MORLAIX** - **Ty Coz**, place Alliende. *Arnaud Clech, An Alarc'h*.

**PLEYBEN** - **La Blanche Hermine**, 1 place Charles de Gaulle. Good Lancelot range in cafe with excellent local dishes. *Authors*.

**PLONEVEZ-DU-FAOU** - **Le Triskell**. *An Alarc'h*.

**PLOUYE** - **Ty Elise**. *An Alarc'h*.

**TRÉOGAT** - **L'Estaminet**. Excellent, small beer bar with draught Coreff; Hini Du, Penhors and some Lancelot beers in bottle. On main road (D2) north of Pont l'Abbé. *An Alarc'h, Authors*

**RENNES** - **Claddagh Inn**, 35 rue de Dinan. Tiny, old & characterful boozer, like a Belgian brown bar. Coreff on draught. *Authors*.

**VITRÉ** - **Bar de Guy XVI**, rue d'Embas. Off rue de la Baudmirie. Draught Coreff, bottled Lancelot range & others. *Philip Holness*.

### CENTRE

**CHARTRES** - **L'Academie de la Bière**, 8 rue de Cheval Blanc. A C13th gem of a bar. Good list. Ring bell to gain entry. *Authors*.

### LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON

**BÉZIERS** - **Le Korrigan Pub**, 9 rue Paul Riquet. Welcoming speak-easy with Lancelot range. Ring to gain entry. *Tim Duquénoy*.

### NORD/PAS-DE-CALAIS

**GRUSON** - **L'Arbre**, route de Cysoing.

**VALENCIENNES** - **Pub St-Georges**, Pont Jacob. Piano bar with good list. Closed Sunday and throughout August. *Authors*.

### MIDI PYRENÉES

**ARIÈGE** - **Bar Olympique**, Les Cabannes. Météor beers. Friendly bar with occasional bands. *Martin Tate*.

**TOULOUSE** - Various possibly promising bars. **Le Dubliner** (closed lunchtime) *Martin Tate*; **Café Belge**, 25 boulevard de Strasbourg; **Le Bar Basque**, 7 place St-Pierre; **L'Ancienne Belgique**, 16 rue de la Trinité; **Le Flippero**, 8 rue des Frères-Despont, Castanet (an out-of-town bar, 10km SSE on N113) which allegedly stocks 150 beers; **Why Not Café** 5 rue Pargaminières.

### PAYS DE LA LOIRE

**NANTES** - **Le Graslin**, 1 rue Racine. Superb, small but friendly bar. Huge, interesting list. A must visit. Closed Sun. *Authors*.

PROVENCE/ALPES/CÔTE D'AZUR

ARLES - Le Tropical, 28 rue Porte de Laure. Tiny place but a good list. Reasonably priced food (paellas, mussels). Authors. BRIANÇON - Eden Bar, rue Centrale. Boisterous, well-run bar. Rare outlet for both Alphonse & Grands Cols. Authors.

RHÔNE-ALPES

ANNECY - Le Milton, rue Ste Claire. Small bar in vieille ville with reasonable list. Authors. ANNECY - Le Munich, Quai Perrière. Prominent, large bar on canal front. Can get very loud & brash at night. Authors.

LORRAINE

BAR LE DUC - Le Café du Nord. Brasserie Henry.

READER REGISTRATION FORM

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