

HALTON HOLIDAY HOPS GUIDE

GET THAT CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WHILE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS WITH THESE TASTY BEERS

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We care about your Christmas.

To ensure you have the best possible holiday season this year, we dispatched our reporter to four local breweries to pick out, sample and highlight the four beers that most embody Christmas. In service of that goal, he meticulously traveled to and sampled numerous locally crafted brews.

1. Festive Fox - Furnace Room Brewery - Georgetown

You'll be sure to feel the Christmas spirit when you try Furnace Room Brewery's Festive Fox spiced ale.

With notes of cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg and molasses, this smooth ale certainly conjures up the flavours of the holidays.

The recently-built brewery offers a fun, cozy environment for beer enthusiasts to taste what they have on tap, get together with friends and enjoy live music.

2. Apocalyptic Elf - Orange Snail Brewers - Milton

I'm normally not a fan of dropping candy canes in a beer, but it works well here. A winter warmer with a complex combination of honey, vanilla, cinnamon and peppermint flavours this elf is a delicious drink that really evokes the

Christmas season.

Notably strong clocking in at 7.3 percent this is the perfect beer for the holiday reveler who likes their flavours bold and interesting.

Also, Orange Snail is a really fun brewery to visit. They have a great tap room with everything from giant Jenga to Connect-4 to keep you busy while you taste.

3. Glory & Gold - Nickel Brook Brewing - Burlington

Decadence comes to beer in this Bourbon Barrel Aged Cuvee. A mix of fruits spices and holiday herbs, Glory & Gold is an ambitious brew sure to impress beer drinkers who likes things a little different.

At 9.5 per cent you are getting a strong beer and as such it has that particular taste I find always comes with this type of brew.

Nickel Brook probably

has the classiest tap room of any of the region's breweries. They've worked hard to develop a real scene there with regular live bands. It's worth a stop on any holiday pub crawl.

4. Cranberry Blackberry Sour - Cameron's Brewing Company - Oakville

If you're into a Sour this is a great way to stay festive with it. It might be a slightly controversial opinion but I thoroughly enjoy a refreshing sour. This beer brings together the lightness with that Christmas cranberry taste.

Cameron's has a tasting room that's on the smaller side but it has some fun features like an arcade table and chalkboard walls.

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Melanie Hennessey/Torstar

Festive Fox from Furnace Room Brewery, Georgetown, has notes of cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg and molasses.

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