

THE BILLINGS BREW TRAIL — MONTANA'S ONLY WALKABLE BEER TRAIL

There are many walkable trails in Billings, but one of the favorites among locals and visitors alike is the Billings Brew Trail, Montana's only walkable beer trail.

Billings **BREW TRAIL**

Six breweries along with a cider mill and two distilleries dot the 1.5-mile trail that weaves a path through historic Downtown Billings and its many galleries, eateries and boutiques. There are many paths visitors can forge through the town to hit all the stops along the Billings Brew Trail. Perhaps the easiest is to keep the compass stowed away in your pack and just follow the loop, beginning at Park Two Garage, i.e., the parking garage on 1st Avenue North and your base camp if you've driven into Billings for your adventure.

The first stop along the trail - **THIRSTY STREET AT THE GARAGE** - is the official home of Thirsty Street Brewing. Known for not only producing around 16 styles of beer ranging from dark ales to sours and even some reduced-gluten varieties, Thirsty Street is also a place where locals can check out talented local and touring musicians on the weekends.

As you forge forward along the brew trail, the next three stops you encounter are actually two distilleries and a cider mill.

UNDAMNED DISTILLING COMPANY is one of the newest stops on the Billings Brew Trail and pays tribute to the majestic Yellowstone River by naming each of its hand-crafted spirits after streams in the Yellowstone watershed. Stop by to sample "Hole-In-The-Rock Gin," "Thief Creek Straight Bourbon Whiskey" and "Ghost Creek Vodka" as you get to know the people and processes behind these local spirits.

LAST CHANCE PUB AND CIDER MILL treats patrons to a variety of fresh ciders and artisanal foods set in a repurposed industrial warehouse that retains its rugged, industrial aesthetic which is nicely contrasted by the dining area's floor-to-ceiling fireplace that creates a sense of warmth and comfort. The owners of Red Lodge Ales also are the owners of this cider mill, so in addition to the various ciders, visitors can sample Red Lodge Ales beers that are featured on tap.

Just next door, locally-crafted Straight Jacket brand spirits are served at **ASYLUM DISTILLERY**, a distillery and tasting room adorned with décor intended to mirror life inside an asylum (including an electric chair). Be sure to sample the variety of Montana Moonshine available, or a signature cocktail like the Electric Lemonade.



If you manage to escape Asylum Distillery with your wits about you, head on to **ÜBERBREW** to fuel up from their menu of delicious foods that includes smoked wings, burgers and mac 'n cheese. There's a wide variety of brews like the bright and refreshing Margarita Gose and the hop lover's Groovis Hazy IPA to compliment the eats, and be sure to ask about their current seasonal offerings.



Your next stop is **CARTER'S BREWING**. Carter's is a family-owned brewing operation dedicated to promoting craft beer culture. Choose from several handcrafted beers, including their Coldwater Kolsch, De-Railed India Pale Ale, Black Magic Porter, Farmhouse Ale, StationMaster Pale Ale and Boxcar Brown Ale. Their newest offering is Equal Parts Pale Ale, brewed with equal amount of El Dorado and Cashmere hops and punctuated by aromas of watermelon and pineapple.

As you start to turn the corner down the home stretch of the trail, your next visit will be with **ANGRY HANK'S**. Originally located in an eclectic, repurposed garage-turned-brewery, the business expanded and opened a second location at a vacant 1916 carriage house just eight blocks away, which is now their full-time brewing facility and taproom. Angry Hank's was founded on the idea of reconnecting with the person across from you over a delicious beer, like Angry Hank's Blonde Ale or Anger Management Belgian Wheat, along with a bevy of seasonal offerings. With \$3 pints and often free snacks, Hank doesn't seem like such an angry guy after all.

THIRSTY STREET AT THE TAPROOM is the second location of Thirsty Street Brewing along the trail, and is home to Thirsty Street's mixed-culture, barrel-aging program. You'll find the same great Thirsty Street beers at the Taproom, along with a fun assortment of wines, ciders and seltzers.

Your adventure along the path of the Billings Brew Trail concludes at **MONTANA BREWING COMPANY**, the last stop along the walkable trail. Fresh local beers along with salads, pastas and wood-fired pizzas are the perfect way to cap off your journey through Downtown Billings.



If you're up for more sampling, there are four additional breweries and a distillery located off the walkable trail.

TRAILHEAD SPIRITS is a craft distillery located on the west end of Billings. They create one-of-a-kind spirits that reflect the soul of the Billings community. **CANYON CREEK BREWING** is Billings' first brewery and taproom built from the ground up and offers a variety of delicious brews. **DIAMOND X BEER** is part of one of Montana's most successful restaurant groups and offers a dozen or more beers on tap. **MEADOWLARK BREWING** is a newer addition to the Billings brew scene and offers year-round craft beers as well as varieties inspired by everything from local agriculture with the Fruits & Fields Series to the universe's stars with the Constellation Series. And finally, head to **BY ALL MEANS BREWING**, which offers exceptional beer and great food.

Now, hikers of the Billings Brew Trail can take advantage of the free **BILLINGS BREW PASS**. Simply download the pass to your mobile phone and check in at different stops along the trail to win merchandise like stickers, T-shirts and pint glasses.

