

Peak Pints

○ Taste what's on tap at these high-country brew pubs. By Linda Hayes

Beer is good. Especially after a day on skis, tucked into a seat at the bar, trading tall tales of that day's heroics with anyone who'll listen. (You'll be far more likely to find an audience if you're buying.) But with small batches of artisan beers made on premises, brew pubs aren't your average watering holes. Here are our ski-town faves.



ESKE'S BREW PUB & EATERY > TAOS, N.M.

An 80-year-old adobe just off Taos Plaza is home to this eclectic brewpub that's been handcrafting ales since 1992. **On tap** Taos Green Chile Beer, 10,000 Foot Stout, Mesa IPA **Menu pick** The Fatty, a whole-wheat tortilla filled with beans, mashers, onions and cheddar smothered with green chile turkey stew. eskesbrewpub.com

WASATCH BREW PUB > PARK CITY, UTAH

The first brew pub in Utah, this top-of-Main Street spot is a locals' favorite for award-winning draft beers with names that take liberties with local lifestyles. **On tap** Polygamy Porter, 1st Amendment Lager, Evolution Amber, Devastator Double Bock **Menu pick** Spicy Wasatch wings or half-pound buffalo burger with bacon and provolone. wasatchbeers.com

THE ALCHEMIST > WATERBURY, VT.

This brew pub in downtown Waterbury crafts seven beers in what used to be the town's old post office. Caskmaster John Kimmich specializes in various styles of Belgian brews. **On tap** Pappy's Porter, Donavan's Red, Holy Cow IPA **Menu pick** Hand-cut French fries with spicy ketchup or Prince Edward Island mussels. alchemistbeer.com

SNAKE RIVER BREWING CO. > JACKSON, WYO.

Set inside a remodeled warehouse in downtown Jackson, SRB serves up award-winning ales and lagers brewed in a 15-barrel brew-house. **On tap** Smoke Jumper Lager, Hoback Hefeweizen, Indian Paintbrush Pilsner **Menu pick** Wild game chili, with slow-cooked elk, buffalo, beans, tomatoes and chiles and topped with green onions. snakeriverbrewing.com