

Kölsch

A RHINE RUNS THROUGH IT



Köln

Largest city in North-Rhine Westphalia

Located on the Rhine River

4th largest city in Germany

Situated between Bonn and Düsseldorf

Produces the BEST style of beer



History of Köln

Founded in the 1st century as a Roman city as Colonia Claudia Ara Agrippinensium

Came under the rule of the Franks in the 5th century and then the Holy Roman Empire

Free Imperial City from late 1400s till Napoleon

Part of the unification of Germany in 1866 and then the German empire

~95% of the city was destroyed during WWII

Rebuilt in the late 1950s



History of Kölsch

Brewers in Köln brewed top-fermenting beer

Early 17th century, bottom-fermenting beer gained popularity

1603 – town council made brewers swear to only produce top-fermenting beers

1945 – Uniform rules produced for the production and sale of Kölsch

1960 – Agreement between West Germany and France as a geographic designation of origin

1986 – Köln Brewery Association create the Kölsch-Konvention



Kölsch-Konvention

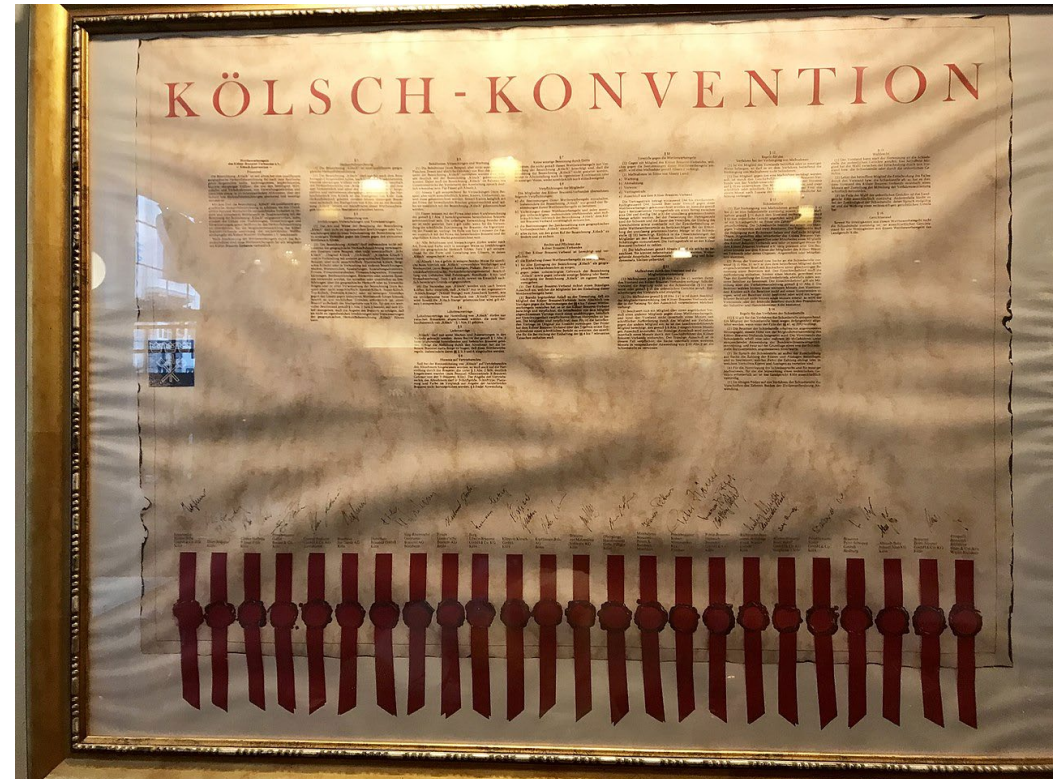
Kölsch-Konvention

- Kölsch must be brewed in the city of Köln
- 24 breweries signed on to Konvention
- Also follows the Reinheitsgebot

Kölsch defined as:

- Top-fermented
- Bright
- Filtered clear
- Highly fermented dry, fully bodied

Since 1997 a protected geographical indication



Breweries

Brewery	Place	Brand
Altstadt-Bräu Johann Sion	Cologne	Sion
Bergische-Löwen-Brauerei	Cologne	Gilden
Brauerei Gebr. Päßgen	Cologne	Päßgen
Brauerei Gebr. Sünner	Cologne	Sünner
Brauerei Peter Schopen	Bedburg	Severins
Brauerei Robert Metzmacher	Frechen	Rats
Brauerei Zur Malzmühle	Cologne	Mühlen
Brauhaus zur Garde	Dormagen	Garde
Cölnener Hofbräu P. Jos. Früh	Cologne	Früh
Dom-Brauerei	Cologne	Dom
Erzquell Brauerei Bielstein Haas & Co.	Bielstein	Zunft
Friedrich Giesler'sche Brauerei	Brühl	Giesler
Ganser Brauerei	Leverkusen	Ganser
Hubertus-Brauerei	Cologne	Gereons
Küppers-Kölsch	Cologne	Küppers
Kurfürsten-Bräu	Bonn	Kurfürsten
Monheimer Brauerei Peters & Bambeck	Monheim	Peters
Privatbrauerei Gaffel Becker & Co.	Cologne	Gaffel
Privat-Brauerei Heinrich Reißdorf	Cologne	Reißdorf
Privat-Brauerei Sester	Cologne	Sester
Rheinische Bürger-Brauerei	Cologne	Bürger
Richmodis-Bräu	Cologne	Richmodis
Römer-Brauerei J. Roleff	Thorr	Römer
Sieg-Rheinische Germania Brauerei	Hersel	Germania

Brewery	Established	Annual output in hectolitres
Heinrich Reissdorf	1894	650,000
Gaffel Becker & Co	1908	500,000
Cölnener Hofbräu Früh	1904	440,000

Kölsch Kultur

Served in a stange, 200 ml glass

Köbes – traditional Kölsch waiter

Empty glasses are automatically refilled,
unless coaster is on top of glass

Düsseldorf Alt and Kölsch are “rivals”



BJCP Style Guidelines

Aroma

- Low to no Pils malt aroma
- Subtle fruit aroma from fermentation is acceptable but not always present
- Low noble hop aroma is optional

Appearance

- Very pale gold to light gold
- Delicate white head that may not persist

Flavor

- Soft, rounded palate comprising of a delicate flavor balance between soft yet attenuated malt, an almost imperceptible fruity sweetness from fermentation, and a medium-low to medium bitterness with a delicate dryness and slight pucker in the finish (but no harsh aftertaste)

Heinrich Reissdorf



Gaffel



Cölner Hofbräu Früh

