



# SIBA GUEST BEER PORTAL - WWW.GUESTBEER.CO.UK

## GUIDE FOR BREWERIES

### MARCH 2025 - VERSION 1

## What is the Scottish Guest Beer Agreement?

From 31 March 2025, a Guest Beer Agreement is being introduced in Scotland as part of its Pubs Code. This is a new policy and does not exist in England, Wales or Northern Ireland and only applies to tenanted pubs in Scotland.

The Guest Beer Agreement allows a Tied Pub Tenant (TPT) to sell at least one beer chosen by them at a price they determine and change this as frequently as they wish. The beer must be a brand where no more than 5,000 hectolitres (hl) was produced in the previous production year or if it's a new brand, reasonably expects to produce no more than 5,000hl in the current production year. Further information can be found [here](#).

## What is the SIBA Guest Beer Portal?

To help Scottish pub tenants to identify which beer brands are eligible under the Guest Beer Agreement, the Society of Independent Brewers and Associates (SIBA) has launched an online portal which is free for pub tenants to use and can be found at [www.guestbeer.co.uk](http://www.guestbeer.co.uk)

The screenshot shows the SIBA Guest Beer Agreement Catalogue website. At the top, there is a search bar and a 'Search for a beer...' input field. Below this, the page title is 'Guest Beer Agreement Catalogue'. The main content area is titled 'Filter Your Results' and includes several filters: 'ABV %' with a slider from 0 to 15, 'Filter by Delivery Area PostCode', 'Taste / Smell / See...', 'Style...', and checkboxes for 'Vegan', 'Vegetarian', 'Gluten Free', 'New', 'Special', 'Seasonal', and 'keg'. Below the filters, there is a disclaimer: 'The brand owning breweries have confirmed that the following brands can be delivered in Scotland and it shows which brands are available in keg, cask, bottles and cans. For subscribing brand owning breweries further information is shown including beer details, contact details and delivery areas. Please contact the brewery directly for further details on price, availability and delivery.' The main display shows a grid of beer products, including 'HURRICANE JACK', 'EASY TRAIL', 'WORKBENCH', 'FYNE ALES LAGER 4,7', and 'FYNE ALES HIGHLANDER 4,8'. Each product card includes the brand name, the beer name, the ABV percentage, and the available packaging options (Cask, Keg and Small Pack). There are also 'Further Information' links for each product.

This allows breweries with eligible brands that are no more than 5,000 hl and that wish to make them available in Scotland to list them for free. A premium listing is also available for a small fee which is free for SIBA members (and for those who join SIBA).



This portal allows:

- Scottish pub tenants to search for brands and breweries and know that the beers are eligible for the scheme and that the brewery also wishes to make them available in Scotland. This is free for all Scottish pub tenants who register for the website.
- Breweries with eligible brands who wish to sell into Scotland to provide a list of brands that are available for pub tenants to search. This is free for all breweries that provide their brand details and confirm they meet the scheme's production criteria.
- Allows SIBA members, and those non-members opting for premium listing, to list further details on the brands and on the brewery including contact details.
- Allows Business Development Managers from Pub Operating Businesses in Scotland to check that the brands of beer chosen by the tenant are eligible under the scheme. This is free for eligible managers and staff from Pub Operating Businesses operating in Scotland.

## How do I add my brands?

If you're a **non-SIBA member** you can add your brands via the [sign up form](#). On the form you will be asked to provide your contact details including company name, trading name, company number, address, phone and email and brewery logo.

You will also be asked to choose your portal access level and have three choices:

1. **Free brewery name only listing.** To only list your brewery name for free and not each of the brands. This is only applicable to breweries where all of the brands that you sell are no more than 5,000hl in a production year. This will mean that only your brewery name is listed on the website for free and no information is provided on each brand.
2. **Free brewery and brands listing.** To list all the brands that are eligible for free. This allows you to provide a list of all brands that you sell that are no more than 5,000hl in a production year. This will mean that your brewery name and each of your brands are listed on the website for free with limited information. This is limited to brand name, logo, ABV and format available.
3. **Premium brewery and brands listing.** To pay for premium access and list all the brands that are eligible with full information. This allows you to provide a list of all brands that you sell that are no more than 5,000hl in a production year along with further information on the brand and contact details of the brewery. This includes tasting notes, delivery information and brewery contact details.

If you choose the brands listing (option 2 or 3) you will be asked to provide details of each of your brands. These must meet the production criteria detailed in Regulation 20 (2) of the Scottish Pubs Code Regulations 2024. This specifies that no more than 5,000hl of the brand of beer was produced in the previous production year or where the brand of beer was not in production for a full production year, the producer reasonably estimates that no more than 5,000hl will be produced in the current production year.



Production year is defined in reference to the Finance (No 2) Act 2023 which states that a Production Year is a period of 12 months beginning with 1 February. You will need to provide the brand name, ABV, format and images.

If you select the premium brewery and brands listing you will be asked to provide additional information on each of the brands including delivery area and tasting notes. You will also be asked to complete the Direct Debit form for the fee.

### **What happens after I've submitted?**

SIBA will confirm that your listing has been made and they will be added to the portal. Then it's up to the pub tenants if they wish to contact you directly for more information on your beers.

### **What if I've got new beers to add?**

We understand that sometimes you might stop brewing a brand or introduce new beers and so it's important to keep the list updated. If you want to change your listings please let us know by emailing [info@guestbeer.co.uk](mailto:info@guestbeer.co.uk).

### **What happens in the next production year?**

At the beginning of the next production year (after 1 February each year) you'll be contacted and asked to confirm the brands that you have are still accurate. If you don't respond then we'll have to remove your listing from the portal.

### **How do I become a SIBA member?**

Please visit the SIBA website to view the membership criteria and details - <https://www.siba.co.uk/about-siba/siba-membership/>