



tastemakers

Get Cerv'd

There's a pint-size revolution sweeping Mexico, with a wave of microbreweries introducing tasty new ways to fill your glass. From the bars of Baja to Mexico City, look out for these local-hero labels. By Freda Moon

The Brewery:
MINERVA



JESÚS BRISEÑO TRIED his hand at home brewing and pub ownership before founding this Guadalajara-area brewery four years ago. Today, he devotes his time to bottling beers. Although his product line mines European traditions, with a dry Irish *Imperial Stout*, a German *Kölsch*, and a Vienna lager, Briseño adds his own local twists—like naming his Czech-style Malverde pilsner after a notorious 19th-century Mexican bandit. cerveceriaminerva.com.

The Brewery:
CUCAPÁ



A GOLD-MEDAL WINNER in the World Beer Championships of 2007, *Cucapá Obscura*, a brown ale with notes of toffee and toasted nuts, is the star of Cucapá's seven-beer lineup. The Baja brewery, established in 2002 by Mario García, also makes one of Mexico's hoppiest beers, Chupacabras pale ale. It's a rarity in a country dominated by lagers—and a likely factor in García's designation as one of *Draft* magazine's 2009 "beer innovators to watch." cucapa.com.

The Brewery:
PRIMUS



RODOLFO AND JAIME ANDREU'S TINY, 4-year-old *cerveceria* in Mexico City produces just four beers, all worth trying: *Tempus Alt*, a woody brown ale that was the duo's first; *Tempus Dorada*, a blond ale with citrus undertones; *Tempus Doble Malta*, a robust double-malt stout; and the *Tempus Reserva Especial* Scottish-style ale. The label's output may be small, but its following isn't: Primus already claims more than 1,450 Facebook fans. primus.com.mx ■

travelers' toolbox

Four Made-to-order Apps

reviews



The gold standard for user-generated reviews, **Yelp** uses GPS to map your location and pinpoint nearby restaurants in the U.S., Canada, the U.K., and Ireland. A handy feature also allows users to compose and upload their own 140-character critiques right from the table (free).

reservations



Instead of calling 12 restaurants to find your table for four, let **OpenTable** do the work. Search more than 11,000 restaurants in Canada, the U.K., and the U.S. by cuisine, neighborhood, price range, and number in your party, and then make your reservation—all in about a minute (free).

translations



Foreign phrases can be unforgiving—and that's where **On The Menu** comes in. A database of more than 1,400 terms from all over the globe allows users to solve culinary conundrums with a quick Google-style search. *Bagna cauda*? That would be Italian for anchovy fondue (\$2).

wine



With more than 17 million bottles of wine cataloged, the new **Cor.kz** app is like a pocket-sommelier. Search by region or varietal, peruse an exhaustive glossary, store tasting notes, or (coolest feature) scan a bottle's bar code with your smartphone for info (\$4). —*JD Rinne*