

San Diego Brewery Timeline

The Fourth Wave, March 2020-Present

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2020 mid-March (COVID closure order)-December

Note: Closures may or may not be due to the impact of government-mandated restrictions and closure orders that began March 2020. See 'State of California and Breweries During COVID Timeline' page for details on legislation and business' responses.)

Following a complete shutdown of non-essential businesses at the end of May, a partial easing of shelter-in-place restrictions allowed beer on site with food purchase and social distancing. Further reduction of opening restrictions, e.g., physical distancing protocols and masks while moving around a location put in place as of June 12, 2020. Summary of changes in California law for 2021-2022 are at <https://www.abc.ca.gov/new-laws-2021-22/>.

Barrel and Stave detailed plans to develop shared brewing space in Vista (CoLab) with Laguna Beach Beer and Breakwater Brewing.

Blind Lady Draft took over Automatic Brewing space, will brand as BLAH Draft.

Brew Zone opened in Miramar district in conjunction with All About Brewing homebrew supply.

California Spirits distillery filed for brewery type 23 license in Poway (second type 23 license withdrawn.)

Craft Coast Brewing opened in Oceanside with taco-focused brewpub.

East Village Brewing filed for ABC license.

Embolden Beer/New Beverages opened in space previously occupied by 32 North Brewing.

Five Suits opened in old Barrel Harbor Brewing location (Vista).

Hannegan's House Beer Co. & Creamery opened in National City. Only SD-area brewery with ice cream made on site.

Itza Brewing filed for license in Ocean Beach and started with online-only sales due to COVID.

Laguna Beach Beer Company (out of county) announced plans to participate in the CoLab shared space in Vista.

McIlhenney Brewing began remodeling the old Alpine Beer space in Alpine. This is the family that founded Alpine Beer Co and purchased the site back from WC-IPA/Green Flash.

Mujeres Brew House opened in old Alta Brewing space as sister operation of Border X Brewing with plans to establish a non-profit educational brewing operation.

Oceanbrook Brewing (owner is General Ag & Produces LLC) applied for ABC license.

One Season Brewing applied for license as expansion of product offerings from TRVLR Coffee Roaster.

Paradise Hills Brewing as part of Serbesa Filipino Kitchen announced as looking for location, brewed under contract by Home Brewing, later Savagewood/Voodoo Child.

Puesto Cerveceria opened their brewpub in the former Gordon Biersch location.

Red Sauce Company files for brewpub license to open in La Mesa, withdrawn same year.

Three Frogs Beer opened in Santee.

Tipping Pint Brewing applied for a license to share space with Carruth Cellars Winery and a restaurant.

Space to be called "The Hangar" in the Airport district of Oceanside (opened 2022.)

WestBrew opened locations in Vista, shortly followed by Del Mar, with plans for San Diego and Oceanside locations to open in 2021.

--10 Barrel Brewing closed.

--North Brewing vacated premises but continued contract brewing with new occupants Embolden/New Beverage, transferred ABC license to Embolden.

--Align Brewing closed with new owners (2019) reassessing a possible move.

--Alpine Beer/Green Flash closed Alpine location, continued at Green Flash production site.

--Amplified Aleworks left Miramar HG Fenton Igniter location, planned to open in Lemon Grove but later withdrew the application.

--Attitude Brewing opened Chula Vista tasting room.

--Automatic Brewing (in Blind Lady Alehouse) closed (revived as Blind Lady Draft by remaining partner).

--Ballast Point Brewing sold to Kings & Convicts Brewing of Illinois. Planned continuation of BP brand.

--Barrel Harbor closed, Five Suits moved into space and took brewing equipment.

--Bay City Brewing opened satellite tasting room on 8th Ave, San Diego, temporary closure due to COVID.

--Bear Roots Brewing is sold to new ownership

--Bolt Brewing closed their satellite Spirits distillery location.

--Booze Brothers opened downtown Vista event space (Vistonian), added pizza kitchen to original site, and planned joint venture in Fallbrook.

--Breakwater Brewing planned additional brewery in Co-Lab shared space in Vista.

--Burgeon Beer planned Little Italy satellite tasting room, also took over Escondido Brewing location as small brewery/tasting room.

--Circle 9 announced owner's decision to retire, placed brewery up for sale.

--Creative Creature withdrew license application for East Village location.

--Culture Brewing closed their Ocean Beach tasting room.

--Eppig Brewing opened pop-up (temporary) tasting room in North Park, not the same space as they started (closed 2021.)

--Escondido Brewing closed (Burgeon Beer takes over space).

--Hillcrest Brewing closed brewery operation to become a restaurant only.

--Horus Aged Ales planned collaboration with Mason Ale in venture called Ferrous Falcon.

--Indian Joe Brewing began to sell off equipment several months after closure.

--Karl Strauss Brewing closed Santa Fe Ave tasting room location.

--Legacy Brewing closed Miramar location.

--Little Miss announced plans for Lakeside tasting room.

--Local Roots Kombucha planned space in San Diego's East Village area.

--Novo Brewing opened tasting room with kombucha emphasis in Ocean Beach.

--Piston Pete's set up temporary to-go beer sales at production site.

--Pure Project opened Carlsbad location, took over Iron Fist (Vista location) for new production site, and expanded their Bankers Hill location with a biergarten across the street.

--Regenerate Brewing (formerly Degenerate) license application cancelled.

- Resident Brewing planned to take over the old Iron Fist location in Vista, did not work out.
- Rouleur Brewing took over Papa Marce's space for expansion, converted their Igniter lease to a standard lease.
- San Marcos Brewery & Grill closed due to COVID-19. This was the oldest North County brewery.
- Societe Brewing increased their production capacity with additional tanks.
- South Park Brewing permanently closed due to kitchen fire in companion business (Hamilton's.)
- SouthNorte applied for license to brew in San Diego, withdrew application, and moved brewing operations into former Gordon Biersch brewery location in San Jose.
- Stave and Nail begin search for larger location
- Thunderhawk Alements closed.
- Tiger! Tiger! Tavern of the Automatic Brewing group, closed.
- Two Roots (CBD-infused beer) closed their Ocean Beach tasting room, continued Kearney Mesa production site.

Recent Applications/Unclear status: **Baja Connection**, **Bear Down Brewing** (Chula Vista), **Beerfish** [seafood restaurant], **Casa Marquez Brewing**, **Hip Hops Beer**, **Oceanbrook Brewing** (Fallbrook), **Outbound Brewing**, **Pacific Storm Brewing** (Ramona).

Related

In the Weeds food and resource distribution system began at breweries around the county for hospitality workers in need. Expanded to include virtual sessions on financial and mental health, jobs, etc.

San Diego Beer News website launched by Brandon Hernández.

Tiny Bubbles line is released by Lost Abbey as an additional brand based on sour beer recipe purchased from Hollister Brewing.

2021

Breweries began reopening and new breweries opened. Guidance on serving, distancing, and masking fluctuated rapidly with spread of the Delta variant of COVID-19 and enforcement agencies' interpretations. Temporary allowances for sidewalk dining continued.

Ataraxia Brewing took over Circle 9 brewing location.

Barrel and Stave opened tasting room in downtown Vista in former Mother's Provisions space.

Blue Fire Brewery opened San Marcos location.

By the Sea Brewing filed business entity paperwork with the State of California.

Dreamscape Brewing planned for the former Iron Fist location in Barrio Logan (withdrawn 2023.)

El Cid Brewing took over the vacated Home Brewing location.

Encinitas Ale House applied for a small brewery permit to install a brew system in their existing restaurant (part of the Acoustic Ale and Carlsbad Brewing group.)

Grantville Brewing/Lemon Grove Brewing/Sunny Grove Brewing filed for an LLC to open a brewery in La Mesa, later changed to Lemon Grove.

Laguna Beach Beer officially partnered in pending CoLab space in Vista.

Mac Daddy Brewing granted license in Escondido for distribution only, no on-site sales allowed by ABC.

Municipal Beer opened in Oceanside with distillery operation inside Municipal Taco.

Niuihi Brewing (was Hapa Ale) filed ABC permit for former Latchkey location on Hancock St.

Seek Beer planned for Igniter space (Eppig's original location.)

Sham's Brewing began distribution of contract-brewed Iranian-style beer, no tasting room.

Shootz Beer filed for type 23 license at AleSmith address where it was contract brewed, withdrawn although plans continued for Oceanside bottle shop location that opened in late fall.

Ten-75 Brewing began remodeling space vacated by Hebe Kombucha in San Marcos. Owner was brewer for Hebe.

The Swan (restaurant and distillery concept) replaced Beerfish during COVID shutdown in North Park.

YaNo LLC contracted with AleSmith for brewing their products while filing for a small brewery license (application withdrawn 2023.)

--32 North Brewing appeared to have ceased all operations.

--Align Brewing reopened with new ownership with previous founder acting as remote consultant.

--Amplified Ale Works issued call for contract brewing services (closed their Igniter location in 2020.)

--Attitude Brewing announced two additional sites, one in North Park Igniter suite being vacated by Juneshine, the other in Chula Vista and introduced new gluten and dairy-free kombucha called kombuchol.

--Bagby Beer reopened to-go sales and then fully reopened.

--Barrel and Stave opened taproom in downtown Vista.

--Beach Grease closed and sold brewing equipment to the McIlhenneys for their new brewery.

--Beerfish closed to reopen as The Swan.

--Belching Beaver expanded their North Park tasting room with a hard seltzer speakeasy.

--Black Plague Brewing expanded their production capacity with eight additional tanks.

--Booze Brothers added tasting room in family restaurant operation in Fallbrook.

--Burgeon Beer opened their Little Italy location (The Arbor) including kitchen.

--California Wild Ales opened tasting room in Ocean Beach (former Helm's/Two Roots.)

--CAVU Brewing closed, date uncertain.

--Chula Vista Brewery opened a second location with an onsite kitchen in Eastlake neighborhood.

--Circle 9 Brewing closed (owner retired and sold brewery to Ataraxia.)

--Creative Creature (El Cajon) announced plans to take the space formerly occupied by Stumblefoot in San Marcos.

--Ebullition Brew Works reopened Carlsbad (brewery) location to the public.

--Fall Brewing opened a second location in the South Park neighborhood.

--Harland opened tasting room in the former Benchmark Brewing Bay Park tasting room.

--Jacked Up Brewing continued expansions, additional building space with larger brewing system.

--Karl Strauss Brewing closed La Jolla brewpub location.

--Latchkey Brewing closed their Mission Brewery building site while searching for new space.

--Little Miss opened tasting room in Lakeside with WWII US ally Australian theme and applied for a license for Poway tasting room.

--Longship Brewing closed due to pressures from COVID restrictions. Brewing equipment sold but the owner retained Longship identity.

--Lost Abbey opened The Church tasting room and launched a hard tea beverage line.

--Mason Aleworks moved operations to TAPS brewery in Tustin as Urge (San Marcos restaurant operation) sold to Draft Republic.

--McIlhenney Brewing announced May opening for their tasting room in Alpine with equipment purchased from Beach Grease.

- Mike Hess Brewing closed North Park location and opened Seaport Village location.
- Mikkeller Brewing applied for distilling permits.
- My Yard Live reopened from COVID-19 hiatus.
- Northern Pine Brewing opened a tasting room in northern San Diego/Del Mar area (adjoining suite to Rough Draft in collaborative space named the Brewer's Deck.)
- Novo Brazil opened National City location.
- Oceanside Ale Works reopened by one of original partners under Oceanside Ale Warehouse license.
- One Season Brewing opened as San Diego's smallest nano-brewery in the Trvlr Coffee Roastarito. Additional products are kombucha and sports gear.
- Pure Project opened their new production site/tasting room in Vista at former Iron Fist site and a beer garden space across the street from their Bankers Hill district tap room.
- Ripcurrent Brewing saw one founding partner leave and added two new partners.
- Rough Draft Brewing opened in northern San Diego/Del Mar area (adjoining suite to Northern Pine in collaborative space named the Brewer's Deck.)
- Rouleur opened tasting room in North Park (closed 2023.)
- St. Archer brand put on hiatus by MillerCoors.
- Stone announced plans to return to San Marcos with expanded distribution and office complex at former Markstein Beverage distribution site.
- Stumblefoot Brewing (San Marcos) closed with space to be taken over by Creative Creature.
- Thorn St. Withdrew their application for a brewery tap room in North Park.
- Wavelength Brewing in Vista closed due to COVID pressures.
- WestBrew announced plans to open additional sites in San Diego's East Village and Oceanside.

Recent Applications/Unclear status: **Brigade Beer** (Encinitas), **By the Sea Brewing**, **Idiot Brothers Brewing**, **Niuhi Brewing** (was **Hapa Ale Works**), **Pivovar West** (Oceanside), **Social Skulls Brewing**, **Unpaved Brewing**, **Valley Center Brewing** (not to be confused with earlier Valley Center Brewery), **Wise Brewing** (Carlsbad?)

Related

Hop Talk column by Sara Butler debuted in *San Diego Union Tribune* following Peter Rowe's retirement from "Brewery Rowe" column.

Voodoo Child Brewing kept their public name but renamed their company as **Last Frontier Brands**.

2022

Artifex Brewing planned a tasting room in Oceanside as expansion from Orange County.

Backyard Brewery opened (Escondido.)

Barley and Sword Brewing planned to move into North Park location vacated by Pariah.

Big Country Foods pulled ABC license for contract brewing hard seltzer with Protector Brewery.

Blind Lady Ale House Draft Beer brewed by remaining partner in former Automatic Brewing's location.

Brewery X's failed purchase of Modern Times was followed by announcement of tasting room planned for Sheraton Shelter Island Hotel intended for 2023.

Docent Brewing of San Juan Capistrano pulled license for tasting room (Carlsbad.)

Draft Republic opened in former Urge Gastropub (San Marcos) with Rouleur Brewing operating the brewery.

GOAL. Brewing subleased Attitude Brewing's Igniter space on El Cajon Blvd.

H3 Brewing applied for Type 23 license for National City location.

Heritage BBQ & Brewery took over the vacated Municipal Taco location in Oceanside.

InZane Brewing began remodel of vacated Wavelength space in Vista and opened in October.

Kings & Convicts, current owners of Ballast Point, purchased St. Archer properties (San Diego and Leucadia tasting room) from Molson Coors to begin brewing Kings & Convicts branded beers in San Diego.

Maui Brewing bought Modern Times, unknown as to future of MT and Maui presence in San Diego.

Open Brewing filed as a business entity, terminated and re-started within the year.

Prey Brewing in Vista planned as expansion by Stave and Nail Brewing.

RBTH Inc applied for and withdrew an application for a Type 23 license in East Village area of San Diego.

Roadies Brewing filed as a business entity with the intention to open in North County.

Shootz II, affiliated with Shootz applied for, and withdrew, an application for a Type 23 license in favor of contract brewing with AleSmith.

South O Brewing opened in a new Igniter location (Oceanside.)

Sunny Grove Brewing (former names Grantville/Lemon Grove Brewing) moved location search to Lemon Grove.

Voodoo Child Brewing entered alternating proprietorship with Savagewood.

Wings&Arrow Beer contract brewed for California distribution along with several alternative hard beverages.

--3R (Rincon Reservation Road Brewery) opened tasting room and restaurant in former Belching Beaver tasting room in Ocean Beach.

--AleSmith applied for license for Mucho Aloha brand then withdrew as name is used for a hard lemonade line by another company.

--Attitude Brewing opened both North Park and Chula Vista locations then subleased their North Park location to GOAL.

--Backstreet Brewing (Lamppost Pizza) changed ownership.

--Barn Brewery cancelled their brewing license which they had not used.

--Barrel and Stave, located in the CoLab hub in Vista, vacated the location to focus on operations outside the county but announced they continued to look for a local site.

--Bay Bridge Brewing closed in Chula Vista, began parting out equipment.

--Bay City expanded food service at East Village location.

--Bear Roots announced plans to open tavern in Escondido with a Type 23 license to allow on site brewing.

--Belching Beaver filed fictitious business name of Brew Crew and filed for a Type 23 license as Hop Habit to be located at the Belching Beaver Park Center, Vista location.

--Belching Beaver applied for distillery-focused licenses with the ABC for the Oceanside HQ location.

--Bitter Brothers Brewing closed with Facebook page statement as 'temporary.'

--Black Market of Temecula closed its San Diego location. Originally a brewpub, it had reopened as a tap room post-pandemic.

--Black Plague opened a tasting room in Escondido.

--Bootstrap Kombucha closed.

--California Wild Ales closed their Sorrento Valley location, Ocean Beach open.

- CoLab opened with Barrel and Stave, Breakwater Brewing and Laguna Beach Brewing along with a winery and burger kitchen.
- Duck Foot Brewing closed their East Village taproom.
- Ebullition Brew Works closed their Cades Way Carlsbad production site with plans to move to Temecula. In the meantime, contract brewed at WestBrew (Vista.)
- Encinitas Ale House added a type 23 license (small brewery) to their existing business.
- Eppig opened a La Jolla tasting room (closed 2023.)
- Gravity Heights planned a second location in the Mission Valley area for Spring 2023.
- Green Flash/Alpine in San Diego closed as brewery sold to SweetWater Brewery (Atlanta, GA). Operations moved to Colorado. Equipment and other assets remain with WC IPA LLC at the Miramar location.
- Jacked Up Brewery planned expansion to additional suite space for entertainment venue.
- Kensington Brewing closed (space taken by Mission Brewing in 2023.)
- Legacy Brewing closed Oceanside location following the 2019 closure of Miramar location.
- Little Miss purchased a 30-barrel brewing system with plans for shared brewing operations and applied to the ABC for a production location in Barrio Logan district. Opened a tasting room in Chula Vista. Operated a small tasting room in the lobby of the San Diego History Center as part of a small San Diego beer history exhibit "Taste San Diego: Craft, Community, and Culture."
- Mike Hess Brewing filed a Type 23 license for former Alpine/Green Flash Tavern location.
- Mikkeller Brewing ceased local brewing, contracted with Alesmith to supply last open tasting room.
- Mission Brewery opened revamped tasting room and increased entertainment area with a rebrand as Mission Brewing under new ownership.
- Modern Times put on market due to financial difficulties following non-San Diego location closures. Purchase by Brewery X (Anaheim) in auction for \$20 million fell through and Modern Times was purchased by Maui Brewing.
- Municipal Taco closed all operations in Oceanside.
- North Park Beer opened a brewpub in the Bankers Hill neighborhood.
- Novo Brazil opened a location in Imperial Beach.
- Piston Pete's moved to San Marcos with plans for a distillery.
- Pizza Port opened their Imperial Beach brewpub without on-site brewing that is still pending.
- Pure Project opened North Park tasting room.
- Rincon Reservation Road (3R) Brewing closed their Ocean Beach tasting room.
- Rip Current Brewing announced interest in acquiring new partners or sale.
- Rouleur entered agreement with Draft Republic to operate the brewing facility in the former Urge/Mason Aleworks location in San Marcos.
- St. Archer brand discontinued by MolsonCoors (AKA Miller Coors.)
- Savagewood Brewing announced plans to bring on homebrewers Voodoo Child as owner moves out of state to continue as alternating proprietorship.
- Seek Beer opened.
- Societe Brewing opened a tasting room in Old Town area of San Diego.
- Stave and Nail announced temporary closure (February-summer) to install brew system and update tasting room after 'gypsy' brewing and a planned restaurant and tap room in downtown Vista under the Prey Brewing name.
- Stone Brewing won a lawsuit against MolsonCoors over branding.

- Stone Brewing and Sycamore Brewing (North Carolina) sue and countersue regarding use of “Keep it Juicy” phrase, case dismissed.
- Stone Brewing announced sale to Sapporo (Japan) with expectation that production and existing staffing will remain intact.
- Ten-75 opened in San Marcos.
- Tipping Pint opened in The Hangar (Oceanside).
- WestBrew opened San Diego East Village tasting room and kitchen.
- YaNo Brewing withdrew license application and moved contract brewing to Mason Ale Works.

Recent Application/Unclear status: **Hoperation Planet A Brewing**, **Soundscape Brewing** (was Merriweather), **Valley Farm Outpost** (Mt. Laguna, part of Valley Farms Market), **Vista Brew** (may be coffee, not alcohol.)

Related

Beer industry #metoo movement gained international attention after an Instagram posting by #ratmagnet (Brienne Allan) elicited over 800 reports in less than 10 days. Many were anonymous but several individuals and businesses were named including some San Diego area breweries and personnel. Responses ranged from brewery personnel changes and departures, messages of support, and threats of legal action. 2022 follow-up responses included Modern Times (revamped its leadership team) and Mikkeller (established a reconciliation plan.)

Brewcycling Collaborative launched to divert brewery-produced waste products from landfills.

Brewery Rowe column by Peter Rowe returned to *San Diego Union Tribune* to report on local beer activity.

San Diego Estate Beer Project launched through a collaboration of breweries, San Diego Brewers Guild, local farmers, and slow food advocates to create a beer using only local ingredients.

--In the Weeds support for hospitality industry workers closed as employment opportunities improved.

2023

Outdoor sidewalk and parking seating reduced or eliminated by many cities.

All Things Agave contracted with Fall Brewing for an agave-infused beer to augment their agave distilled product line.

BeerDad’s Brew Works (contract brewed) began serving at beer festivals and distribution to tap rooms.

Breeds & Brews filed incorporation papers as non-profit with dog and veterans focus and a non-brewer ownership and no identified location.

Cerveza California entered alternating proprietorship arrangement with Atraxia Ale Works.

Cerveceria La Bichola submitted license application for Chula Vista brewing location.

Chicago Bros Pizzeria applied for brewpub license in former Artisanal Brewers Collective/Owl Drug space.

Flawless Beer brand contract brewed by WestBrew in Vista.

Fox Point Farms applied for a license as part of a planned ‘agri-hood’ development in Encinitas.

Michi Brew to be brewed at Carlsbad Brewing Company by CBC brewer as separate operation.

Night Parade Brewing was chosen as the new name of Voodoo Child.

Niuih Brewing granted an ABC license for the location formerly occupied by Latchkey Brewing.

Skyduster Beer was granted a license for brewing in Mission Brewery production facility.

Wild Ride Brewing began looking for alternate proprietorship opportunities to brew non-traditional beers.

- 13 Point Brewing closed citing pandemic-related pressures.
- All Hands Brewing terminated their LLC without ever opening.
- Amplified Ale Works turned over portion of East Village location to become modbom restaurant and event space, which closed after a brief period.
- Artifex Brewing opened in Oceanside, as an expansion from Orange County.
- Attitude Brewing temporarily closed, followed by announcement looking to sell or partnership.
- Barrel and Stave left their Main Street location in Vista to concentrate on the CoLab location.
- Belching Beaver switched their distillery license applications to Vista.
- Black Plague opened a third location (Dearly Departed tasting room) in San Diego.
- Bolt Brewery granted license as the second tap room in the Old Town district.
- Breakwater Brewing announced closure of Oceanside location by April 2024 due to city's revitalization plans.
- Burgeon Beer applies for license for tasting room in Vista with anticipated early 2024 opening.
- California Wild Ales opened a tasting room in the Point Loma district.
- Coronado Brewing closed its Imperial Beach location.
- Craft Coast Beer & Tacos took over Rip Current Brewing's San Marcos location with plans to open taco cart dining and expanded production in 2024.
- Dreamscape Brewing withdrew their Type 23 application.
- Duck Foot Brewing took over the Leucadia tasting room vacated by Kings & Convicts.
- Ebullition Brew Works closed their Cades Way production facility and began brewing at Westbrew's Vista facility, leaving their Carlsbad dining location open.
- Eppig hired a consultant group to manage daily operations and closed their La Jolla tasting room due to difficulty with outdoor seating permits. Shortly thereafter, the Vista tasting room was temporarily closed for assessment.
- Fall Brewing planned to take the Miramar production site vacated by Kings & Convicts.
- Invoak Brewing & Blending applied, then withdrew a license for a Barrio Logan location.
- Karl Strauss submitted license for San Marcos location originally planned in 2019 but delayed due to Covid.
- Kings & Convicts closed the tasting room in Leucadia as well as Miramar production facility to move all production to the Ballast Point location.
- Latitude 33 became Latitude Brewing LLC with distributor license only and contract brewed by Thorn Brewing which took over from Green Flash Brewing.
- Little Miss prepared to open a new larger production facility in Logan Heights neighborhood.
- Lost Abbey closed operations in San Marcos and began brewing at Mother Earth's production site in an alternating proprietorship.
- Mason Ale Works applied for Type 23 (small brewery) license in addition to their existing ABC licenses in the Urge Taphouse Rancho Bernardo location under new ownership.
- Mike Hess Brewing opened Seaport Village tasting room.
- Mikkeller Brewing closed their Little Italy location, completely leaving San Diego.
- Mission Brewery took over space previously operated by Kensington Brewing.

- Mujeres Brew House filed a new brewery license to clarify ownership (formerly listed as Border X.)
- New English Brewing filed and withdrew an ABC application for second tasting room in San Diego.
- Novo Brazil closed tasting room in Market on 8th (National City) location, announced anticipated tasting room in San Diego Airport (2028.)
- Oceanside Ale Works including the building is put on market.
- Piston Pete's moved from Vista to San Marcos location and added distilling to operations.
- Plan 9 Alehouse closed.
- Port Brewing (Pizza Port/Lost Abbey/Port Brewing) assumed the vacated Lost Abbey location and continued production of Hop Concept line.
- Protector Brewery applied for Type 23 license for the downtown San Diego InterContinental Hotel.
- Puesto Cerveceria announced plans to open a tasting room in San Diego Airport Terminal 1 in 2028.
- Pure Project applied for winemaker license (02) for several locations. This would allow for wine and mead production and service.
- Quantum Brewing announced closure with brand and equipment up for sale.
- Rip Current Brewing closed both locations, Craft Coast Beer & Tacos took over the San Marcos site.
- Roadies to take over former Toolbox>Local Roots>Kookslam>Shred location in Vista with extensive renovations planned.
- Rouleur closed their North Park location.
- Second Chance Beer closed both production and tasting room sites due to lease renewal issues of production facility. Collaboration brewing planned at alternative sites to maintain distribution.
- Taproom Beer submitted a license application for a location on Garnet Avenue, San Diego to be called The Collective.
- Ten-75 Brewing temporarily closed due to location renovations by landlord.
- Tipping Pint owners applied to the ABC for a taproom permit in their Carlsbad coffee business (Vinaka Café)
- Voodoo Child Brewing changes name to Night Parade Brewing to avoid conflict with out of state brewery.
- Wild Barrel Brewing closed both its San Marcos production/taproom and Temecula taproom.

Related

Mesa College launched a brewery education program.

Number One Brewing applied for distributor license (distilled spirits.)

2024

Breweries saw continued pressure from Covid-19's impact on the economy, rising ingredient costs, rents, and changes in consumer patterns, leading to a 'shake-out' across the region.

All My Friends are Rappers (AMFAR) launched their beer, contract-brewed by Chula Vista Brewery. **Brewjeria Company** (Pico Rivera brewery) opened tap room in Chula Vista.

California Hot Sauce Solutions, founded in 2018, granted type 23 license (small brewer) in Oceanside to produce low ABV ginger beer.

Green Cheek Beer (Orange County) entered the San Diego region by purchasing Bagby Beer and retained Jeff Bagby as head brewer.

Hop Habit Brewing launched as co-brand owned by Belching Beaver employees in Belching Beaver's Vista business park location.

Koakai Brewing applied for a Type 23 license to augment the current off-site sale license held by Kyoto Market in Oceanside.

Shogun Brewing brand developed by Embolden collaboration with Matcha Café Maiko.

Tarantula Hill Brewing of Thousand Oaks takes over brewing operations at Draft Republic from Rouleur.

Weir Beer Company purchased Helia Brewing's equipment and tasting room and opened on a quick turnaround.

--AleSmith became the contract brewer for Eppig and Mason beers.

--Amplified Kitchen and Beer Garden's closed their original location in the Pacific Beach neighborhood as final step in closing business.

--Ataraxia Aleworks placed up for sale by owners.

--Bagby Beer announced sale to Green Cheek Beer of Orange County.

--Ballast Point/Kings & Convicts sold its Miramar production facility to Athletic Brewing (non-alcoholic beverages) and contracted with Athletic while seeking a smaller production site. Their hospitality venues continued.

--Bear Roots Tavern opened in Escondido by owners of Bear Roots Brewing.

--Bolt Brewing put its La Mesa headquarters location up for sale and closed brewing operations but retained the Little Italy and Old Town restaurant locations.

--Booze Brothers opened Party Burgers in Fallbrook with tasting room. This followed closure of The Mill restaurant venture also in Fallbrook.

--Border X Brewing announced leasing issues led to vacating their old location and moved to Mujeres Brew House to continue brand under Mujeres Brew House license.

--Breakwater Brewing closed its Oceanside location.

--Breeds & Brews announced plans to move to vacated Bolt La Mesa location.

--Brew Zone (part of All in Brewing Home Brewing Supply) closed temporarily.

--Brewery X opened in the Sheraton Hotel Harbor Island.

--Burgeon Beer opened The Grove taproom in Vista.

--Cerveza California withdrew its license application to brew at Ataraxia Aleworks.

--Chicago Brothers withdrew their brewery application.

--Citizen Brewers suffered damage to its equipment and building due to severe El Niño flooding.

--Craft Coast Beer & Tacos opened in Rip Current's vacated San Marcos location and announced plans to open in Encinitas.

--Culture Brewing was purchased by DellaWolfe Brewing and announced plans to add kitchen to the Solana Beach location.

--Docent Brewing opened their tasting room in Carlsbad.

--Double Peak Brewing in San Marcos announced for sale.

--Ebullition Brew Works closed its last location, the Carlsbad restaurant.

--El Cid announced intention to sublease their space (former Home Brewing location) and expanded the overall space.

--Embolden announced plans to open kitchen in their Miramar location and new tasting room in Sipz collaboration space.

- Eppig briefly opened a taproom in the J St. San Diego location formerly occupied by Stone Brewing. Also closed, then reopened, the Vista location under Mason Ale Works. Plans announced for expansion into Arizona late in the year.
- Five Suits put their brewery up for sale.
- Fox Point Farms' brewery in Encinitas opened.
- Gravity Heights' Mission Valley location opened.
- Helia Brewing announced it was for sale and sold to Weir Beer Company.
- Heritage BBQ in Oceanside sold location with understanding new ownership to change the business name (did not happen until late 2025.)
- Home Brew Mart was sold by Kings & Convicts to former HBM employee with plans to install small brew system in renovated space. Home brew supply portion re-opened shortly after sale while brewery license was pending.
- Hopononymous Brewing planned a tasting room in vacated Little Miss site in Normal Heights neighborhood.
- Invoak Brewing's which included Kove Hard Yerba Mate, closed. Miramar location taken by their former brewer.
- Jacked Up Brewery closed due to retirement.
- Karl Strauss opened wholesale/distribution location in Poway (not open to public) and reorganized their Rose Canyon location's operations. Karl Strauss also closed their San Marcos Outpost tasting room location and reactivated plans for Santee location.
- KnB Brewery's Bistro expanded operations.
- Laguna Beach Brewing closed their taproom in the Vista CoLab location.
- Latchkey opened in the space formerly occupied by Bitter Brothers and ended contract brewing at Viewpoint Brewing.
- Little Miss Brewing announced plans to open a tasting room in the Kearny Mesa neighborhood.
- Lost Abbey opened a tap room jointly with Mother Earth Brewing in Vista. Plans announced to begin production at Eppig/Mason's Vista unused brewing plant with separate serving space.
- MacDaddy (no tasting room) obtained a new license in private property.
- Mission Brewing purchased production site and both tasting room locations from Rough Draft Brewing with intention to move production from L St. location and operate tasting room at that location on month-to-month basis for undetermined period.
- Modern Times management turned over by Maui Brewing to outside group and Kurtz St. headquarters closed.
- Mother Earth reopened their taproom in Vista with Lost Abbey sharing the space.
- My Yard Live in San Marcos closed citing pandemic-caused problems.
- Niuhi Brewing ended attempts to open brewery in the original Mission Brewery building.
- North Park Beer opened a pizza shop/taproom in the Crown Point neighborhood of San Diego.
- Northern Pine opened a new food venue at their Oceanside location called The Lodge.
- Novo Brazil opened new location in Mission Valley.
- Oceanside Ale Warehouse (AKA Oceanside Ale Works) closed again, describing the closure as temporary.
- One Season Brewing placed equipment up for sale with intention to close the brewery portion of the coffee roaster/brewery business. Sale suspended when severe storm flooding damaged the entire business.

- Pizza Port opened a tasting room in the former Lost Abbey location in San Marcos AND a taproom in Belmont Park, taking over a former Round Table Pizza location.
- Prey Brewing (part of the Stave and Nail Brewing operation) opened a restaurant in Vista.
- Protector Brewing opened tasting room called the Hide Site in Intercontinental Hotel's BRIC space.
- Pure Project applied for 02 licenses for all locations (this would allow cider, mead and wine production.)
- Resident Brewing opened location in Chula Vista AND added a jockey box service setup to their production space.
- Roadies Brewing opened in Vista.
- Rough Draft closed with sale of all properties to Mission Brewing.
- Rouleux announced plans to add a restaurant at their Carlsbad location AND stopped brewing at the Draft Republic location in San Marcos then closed all operations.
- Second Chance Beer brand sold to Mason Ale Works group and made available at Mason taprooms and contract brewed by AleSmith.
- Smoking Cannon Brewery in Ramona up for sale due to ownership impending retirement.
- Stone Brewing and Sapporo Beer publicly launch the new entity Sapporo-Stone. The purchase by Sapporo removed Stone Brewing from the Brewers Association's craft brewery category.
- Sunny Grove Brewing opened in Santee, in former Pacific Islander location.
- Thorn Brewing announced closure of their Mission Hills location due to rising rents and closure of Barrio Logan site due to property sale. Thorn Brewing brand sold to Latitude Brewing. Owners of North Park tasting room planned to continue as new brand.
- Tipping Pint opened tasting room in Carlsbad in tandem with owner's coffee business.
- Westbrew closed East Village and Del Mar locations, then closed Vista headquarters later in year.

Related

San Diego International Beer Festival expanded and extended to tasting room and presentation space in the San Diego County (Del Mar) Fair from the previous separate event.

Brandon Hernández of San Diego Beer News discusses the record number of closed breweries over the year on [NBC 7](#).

2025

The 'shake-out' across the region begun in 2024 continued. Some breweries closed, others went up for sale as either complete operations or brands, and others pivoted to new collaboration and shared-space models.

Agrusa's Rincon, a sandwich shop in the Harrah's Casino on the Rincon Reservation acquired a small brewery license as part of the Rincon Reservation Road Brewery.

Asylum Brewing of Anaheim took over the former Black Plague location in North Park.

Blue Honey, a Fallbrook-based meadery, applied for a Type 23 brewery license for a location in Vista.

Der Achmë Industrial Smoothing (or Der Achmë Secret Brewhaus) announced by ownership as a new version of El Cid Brewing with planned speakeasy (closed shortly after.)

Hill Street Brewing (AKA Hill Street BBQ) soft-opened with new owner after Heritage BBQ reactivated their suspended ABC license for continued operation.

Koobrew took over the Kove Hard Yerba Mate location in Miramar area of San Diego.

Little Bird Brewing became new name for Thorn Brewing as the owners sold the Thorn brand to Latitude Brewing LLC. Little Bird remained in former Thorn Brewing's North Park location.

Lyons Peak Brewing in Jamul granted a small brewery license as well as 02 (winemaker) license.

Villains Brewing (Anaheim, CA) took over the Half Door Brewing location and announced a planned remodel once the ABC license transferred.

--AleSmith Brewing added 06 and 74 licenses (distilling-related) to their existing brewing license and planned acquisition of space in Poway.

--Ataraxia Ale Works closed but announced they were in discussion with interested parties.

--Ballast Point, under Kings & Convicts ownership, contracted their beers with Gordon Biersch, announced closure of their hospitality venue on Carrol Way in San Diego and retained their Little Italy location and small brew system there.

--Belching Beaver withdrew 2022 joint distillery and brewing license application in Vista.

--Black Plague closed both remaining locations (Oceanside and Escondido.)

--Burning Beard announced impending move to new location due to loss of their lease.

--Chula Vista Brewery's main location got an ABC suspension while they protested based on claims of discriminatory treatment.

--Division 23 Brewing closed.

--Double Peak Brewing closed and location turned over to Michi Brew which had started at Carlsbad Brewing.

--El Cid announced impending closure, then announced a rebrand to Der Achmë Industrial Smoothing (or Der Achmë Secret Brewhaus) with plans to operate as a speakeasy, then closed.

--Eppig Brewing ownership change to group that also holds Mason Ale Works, Second Chance, and other beverage manufacturers.

--Five Suits Brewing in Vista closed after a failed sale.

--Guadalupe Brewery closed their homebrew supply store and brewery in Carlsbad and moved all operations to their microsystem in the Vista tasting room.

--G.O.A.L. Brewing vacated their sub-leased Igniter space while looking for new location, then decided to not pursue re-opening.

--Half Door Brewing closed and Villain Brewing from Orange County took over location.

--Harland Brewing closed their One Paseo location in northern San Diego.

--Heritage BBQ made a public statement regarding the delay in the name change by the new owner to clearly separate themselves from the Oceanside location.

--Latitude Brewing LLC, formerly Latitude 33, bought Thorn Brewing brand after having been contract brewed by Thorn.

--Little Miss Brewing closed all locations after failure to find a buyer or investors.

--Lost Abbey began brewing in their new leased space in the former Eppig brewing space in Vista and opened their separate tasting space in the brewhouse. Upon Mason's departure from the location, Lost Abbey took over the entire space.

--Mason Ale Works, contract brewed by AleSmith, took over the Border X brewery in Barrio Logan as a tasting room and applied for distillery license for the Vista location. Then the Mason Ale Works group (Mason, Second Chance, Eppig, etc.) vacated the Vista taproom.

--Michi Brew took over former Double Peak location.

--Mission Brewing opened their new headquarters in the former Rough Draft brewery.

- Northern Pine Brewing closed their tasting room at the Sky Deck (north San Diego) and then were forced into closure by landlord at the Oceanside location.
- Oceanside Ale Works closure became permanent.
- Oceanside Brewing Company closed.
- Prey Brewing (AKA Stave and Nail) canceled the license for their San Marcos brewery location.
- Puesto reported to be planning an additional location in Sorrento Valley.
- Resident Brewing closed.
- Three Frogs Beer in Santee closed.

--Timeline begins with "The First Wave, March 1868-1919" at <https://archives.csusm.edu/beerchive/record/1-->

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