

# The world's most expensive beer

People who appreciate wine enjoy their drinks. They like savouring different textures and fragrances and choosing according to the year or region of harvest. Every detail matters and any gourmet who enjoys *fine cuisine* knows this like no other. On the other hand, beer has always been seen as the poor relative. A brewed drink, ostracized from luxurious menus, with differences solely at the level of brewing, alcohol percentage, colour or bottle.

Nothing could be more wrong! As wine, beer has its own rules for a good tasting. It all depends on the shape of the glass, the pouring temperature, the way of brewing or the way in which maturation occurs.

For the great lovers of this evermore exquisite beverage, Carlsberg has commercialized the most exclusive Jacobsen Vintage no. 1 in a limited edition of 600 bottles, produced in the original cellar of Jacobsen, the legendary Danish beer. A nectar aged for six months in oak casks, giving it a brown colour and a soft vanilla and caramel flavour. There are voices suggesting this is a drink to accompany cheeses and desserts, but why not drink it to savour a nice chocolate, oysters and seafood or even in a delightful snack at the end of the afternoon?

Be that as it may, the truth is that Vintage no. 1 costs around 270 Euros per bottle, a price that by itself is worth the reputation of the world's most expensive beer. Its bottle resembles a bottle of exquisite champagne with a cork and four different labels, all hand drawn by Danish designer, Frans Kannik. Despite its fame – that has already alerted the Australian and USA's markets – for now, the exclusive nectar can only be tasted in its home land – Denmark – in handpicked restaurants or acquired via Internet ([www.visitcarlsberg.com](http://www.visitcarlsberg.com)). And when it comes to drinking it, there seems to be no problem whatsoever. Vintage no. 1 has acquired so many fans that Carlsberg has announced another edition of this luxurious beer. Vintage no. 2 is on the making and it will have the same limited edition and the same care in brewing. The difference will be in its flavour, since it will have a slight touch of vanilla and cocoa, and in its labels that will now be drawn by designer Marco Evaristi.

Why not save a small space in the cellar as of now? A Vintage beer always looks good next to a special reserve wine, and the beer can only benefit from aging for at least 50 more years. Rita Saldanha da Gama

Vintage no. 1 was launched in 2008 and it is considered to be the world's most expensive beer. Gourmet, cheer up because this year Vintage no. 2 is arriving (see below).

