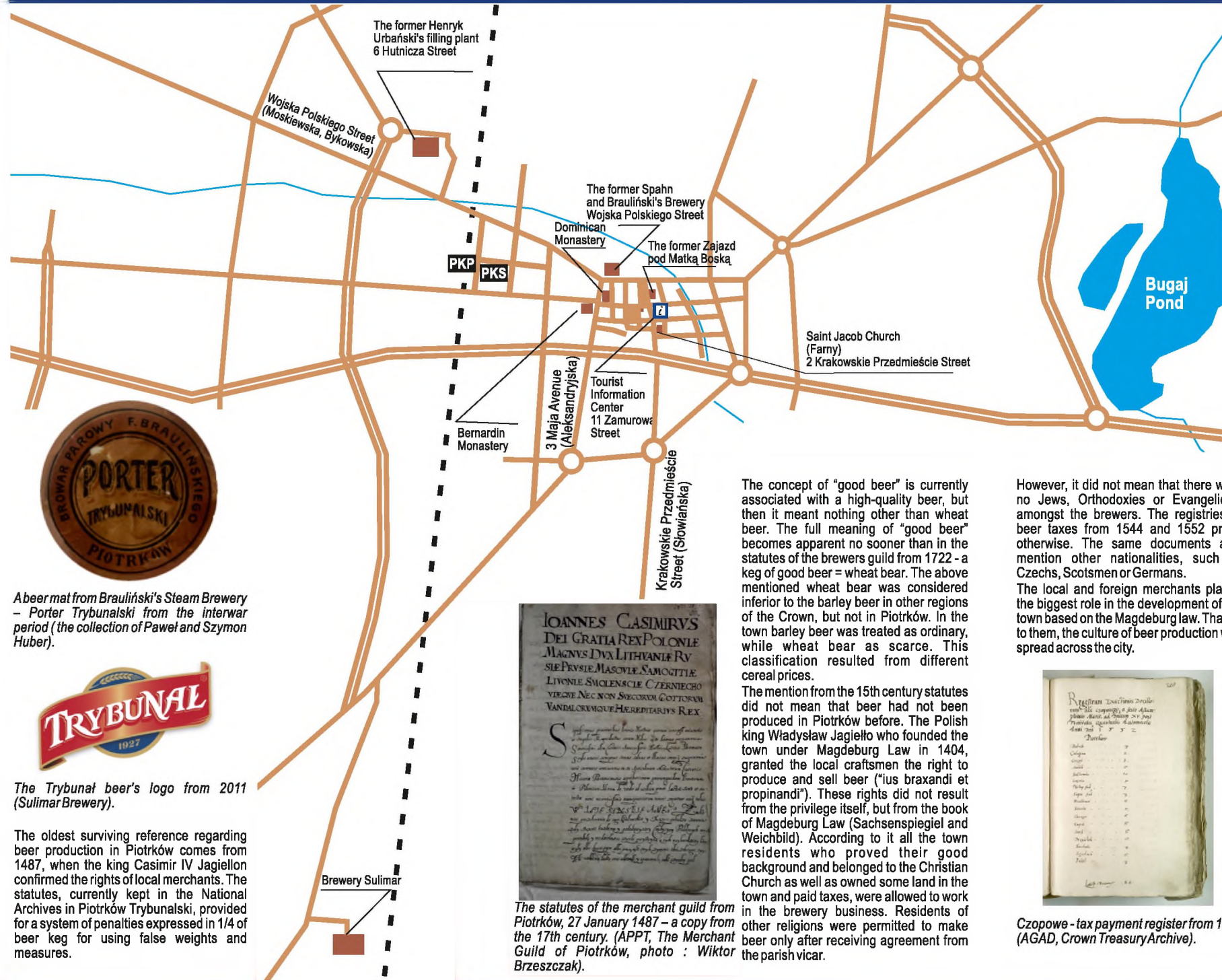


PIOTRKÓW TRYBUNALSKI



A beer mat from Brauliński's Steam Brewery – Porter Trybunalski from the interwar period (the collection of Paweł and Szymon Huber).



The Trybunał beer's logo from 2011 (Sulimar Brewery).

The oldest surviving reference regarding beer production in Piotrków comes from 1487, when the king Casimir IV Jagiellon confirmed the rights of local merchants. The statutes, currently kept in the National Archives in Piotrków Trybunalski, provided for a system of penalties expressed in 1/4 of beer keg for using false weights and measures.

The concept of "good beer" is currently associated with a high-quality beer, but then it meant nothing other than wheat beer. The full meaning of "good beer" becomes apparent no sooner than in the statutes of the brewers guild from 1722 - a keg of good beer = wheat bear. The above mentioned wheat bear was considered inferior to the barley beer in other regions of the Crown, but not in Piotrków. In the town barley beer was treated as ordinary, while wheat bear as scarce. This classification resulted from different cereal prices.

The mention from the 15th century statutes did not mean that beer had not been produced in Piotrków before. The Polish king Władysław Jagiełło who founded the town under Magdeburg Law in 1404, granted the local craftsmen the right to produce and sell beer ("ius braxandi et propinandi"). These rights did not result from the privilege itself, but from the book of Magdeburg Law (Sachsenspiegel and Weichbild). According to it all the town residents who proved their good background and belonged to the Christian Church as well as owned some land in the town and paid taxes, were allowed to work in the brewery business. Residents of other religions were permitted to make beer only after receiving agreement from the parish vicar.

However, it did not mean that there were no Jews, Orthodoxies or Evangelicals amongst the brewers. The registries of beer taxes from 1544 and 1552 prove otherwise. The same documents also mention other nationalities, such as Czechs, Scotsmen or Germans.

The local and foreign merchants played the biggest role in the development of the town based on the Magdeburg law. Thanks to them, the culture of beer production was spread across the city.



Czapowe - tax payment register from 1552 (AGAD, Crown Treasury Archive).

The 15th century brought not only the Magdeburg Law, but also common tax on brewery called czopowe in 1486 (an archetype of the modern excise).



Cabinet Beer's advert from 1896 (Tydzień 1896).

In the 16th century, during a meeting of the Polish Parliament, the first classification of fermented drinks was introduced, including the division into ordinary (local), transportable and foreign beer. The Beer from Piotrków had all the above mentioned qualities, which involved different tax rates and subsequently led to higher state revenues. The beverage from Piotrków was also so-called station beer. In practice this meant the duty to deliver one butt of beer for the district purposes every month. Even more important was the quality of portable beer. Over time, in the legal classification the term portable was linked to foreign beer. This was due to the fact that it was possible to deliver the beer to both closer and more remote places, which required a great knowledge of brewery technology, because beer used to ferment during the transport.

The Beer from Piotrków was present on the tables of all the dynasties ruling the Crown and the Polish lands in the 19th and 20th century. During the partition period, a special brand was produced for Russian officials – cabinet beer.

The earliest reference to Piotrków's art of brewing comes from Warsaw historical records from 1551. The first known brewer from Piotrków was Andrzej Lomisłaff.

The highest number of brewers (154) was recorded in 1564. Quite an impressive number, especially if we consider that this number represented 8 - 10 % of permanent residents. Until the end of 18th century, brewers were the leading group of local manufacturers. In 1578, when the Crown Tribunal was constituted in Piotrków, the town had to pay the highest czopowe tax from the entire sieradzkie region and occupied one of the top places among Polish towns. In Piotrków not only specialized manufacturers (75% of them were males, 25% females and 3% - entire families) worked in brewery, but also other professions as well: dyers, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, merchants, furriers, bakers, fowlers, clippers, saddlers, butchers, weavers and the entire city council with the mayor himself.



The house of Andrzej Wierzbic - founder of Brewers Guild, 3 Rynek Trybunalski (Photo: Tomasz Krusz)

The production and sale of the beer was in the interest of the nobility, the priests and the bunglers. Numerous court affairs caused a brewers guild to be created (on 8th July 1722 the king August II confirmed the rights of brewers in Piotrków). Among the founders of the guild were councilmen (for example Andrzej Wierzbicz), assessors, tailors, shoemakers, publicans, barbers, blacksmiths. The document was used by the brewers from Piotrków until 1816, regardless of their nationality or public administration after the fall of the Polish state. The occupational structure of people engaged in brewery as well as legal disputes of economic nature resulted in the election of Saint Stanislaus Bishop as the patron of the Piotrków's brewers.

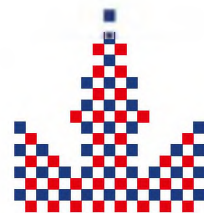
The altar of the brewers guild has survived to this day and can be seen in

the Saint Jacob parish's church in Piotrków Trybunalski. Until the second half of the 19th century there was only craft production of beer (not industrial). This is why there were only few specialized breweries. There is a preserved mention from the 16th century about a brewery belonging to the head of Piotrków district, Stanisław from Tarnów. Later, in the 18th century, not only townsmen owned newly built breweries: Barbara Gozatka, Roman Morawiński, Marcin Teleżyński (2 Rwańska), Kazimierz Górecki, Antoni Vicini (mayor), but also monasteries: the Dominican Order Monastery and the Bernardine Order Monastery. Because of a tightening up of the fire safety regulations, breweries were located outside the town. Jan Godzki, Wincenty Folwark, Barbara Górecka, Roman Morawiński, Ignacy Górecki, Kazimiera Górecka owned the breweries in Krakowskie Przedmieście, Warszawskie Przedmieście and Biskupizna. The rest of beer production took place in town's inns and in the suburban areas: Śródmiejski Zajazd pod Matką Boską (7 Czarneckiego Square), Ostatni Grosz (Wójtostwo - in the 19th century the inn belonged to the Bartenbachs), Gościniec Litewski, Gościniec Stary (behind Wielka Wieś), Kancelaria, Podzamcze, Psia Górka (Wielka Wieś), Pohulanka (Starostwo), Karczma Rakowska, Karczma Krakowska (Przedmieście Krakowskie), Karczma na Bugaju (near the Bugaj pond), Tumidaj (Tumidajka), Karczma ku Bykom (at the road to Wrocław), in Meszcze and in Szczekanica.



Saloon of Augustynowicz -12 Rynek Trybunalski (Photo: Damian Zuzański).

In the first half of 19th century, the brewing deteriorated and only after Piotrków had become the capital of a governorate, the brewing industry began to prosper along with the economic development in the whole Russian zone.

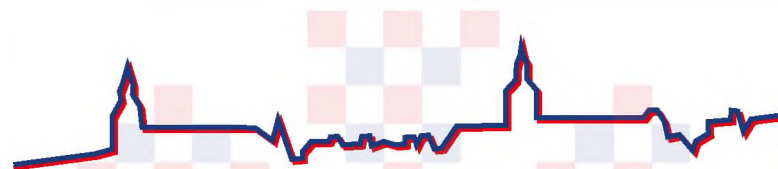


Piotrków Trybunalski

The Brewery Route



Brauliński's Brewery trademark (Klub 66).



The beginnings of brewing in Piotrków can be traced back to the Middle Ages and they are directly linked to the history of the foundation of Piotrków, today called Trybunalski. It is worth mentioning that the brewers from Piotrków connected their products with the name of the town – with both parts of it – "Piotrków" and "Trybunalski" three times. In the 16th and 17th century there was a special brand of beer produced in the town, called by the Polish Parliament "Piwo piotrkowskie" (The Beer from Piotrków). In the interwar period, Franciszek Brauliński's Brewery produced beer named "Porter Trybunalski" (The Porter of the Tribunal) and the Brewery Sulimar currently produces "Trybunał" (The Tribunal).

In the second half of the 19th century, the small breweries of Feliks Kalinowski, Markus Braun, Juliusz Abrahamson, Wojciech Schild, Kazimierz Wróblewski and Josek Windheim were defeated by two potentates: Andrzej and Franciszek Ksawery Spahn (his brewery later becomes Brauliński's Brewery) and lieutenant colonel Andrzej Mroczkiewicz (later Bartenbach's Brewery). The small companies stopped the production and started distribution of beer, which became their main activity. Just after World War I they were joined by Edward Gil (Rynek Maślany) and Izrael Zyskind (Al.3 Maja). At 33 Starowarszawska Street operated the representative of Okocim Brewery, and at Hutnicza Street of Żywiec, and Warsaw Brewery (Henryk Urbański).



Markus Braun's trademark (Tydzień 1893).

Such a practice wasn't anything new in the history of Piotrków – in the Old-Polish period, not only the local brands such as ordinary beer or local beer were sold in Piotrków but also beer from Tuszyn, Pabianice, Piątków, Brzeziny and England. The 19th and 20th century extended the product range to locally produced beers dark and pale beer, Porter, Zdrój, Bawarian, Marzen, Kulbmach, as well as beers imported from Żywiec, Okocim or Warsaw.

In the beginnings of the 20th century, only two breweries played an important role in the Piotrków's brewery market: Wilhem, Rudolf, and Karol Bartenbachs' and Franciszek Brauliński's.

The Bartenbachs' Brewery was the first steam brewery in Piotrków with a 7 hp engine. It was located at Słowińska Street 148/149 (today Krakowskie Przedmieście Street). The brewery was most prosperous in the period of 1896 to 1917.



Rudolf and Wilhelm Bartenbach's Brewery advert (from Leszek Jozefacki's collection).

The largest amount of beer was brewed in 1900 – 38 500 buckets (473 550 litres). In the period of 1910 – 1911 the brewery employed 17 workers. The most important brewers were Aleksander Bosz, Józef Sikorski, Borys Kantor. World War I led to the collapse of Bartenbach's Brewery. In 1917 the they ceased production.

The brewery which lasted for the longest time was Franciszek Brauliński's, whose products won gold medals in 1907 (London) and 1909 (Częstochowa). Brauliński was born in 1868 in Chyżny, a small village near Mińsk Mazowiecki and died in Piotrków in 1945 of cardiac arrest after the soviet army had confiscated the brewery equipment. It is worth mentioning that the Beer from Piotrków was most appreciated by Czech people.



Brauliński's Brewery advertising board from the interwar period (Klub 66's collection).

Franciszek Braulinski gave both in the press and in the official documents different founding dates of the brewery : 1569, 1659, 1817, while the preserved archives mention the year 1904 as its leasing date from Juliusz Abrahamson and the year 1908 as its acquisition date.

The origins of the company are connected with the activity of the Dominican Order, which have produced beer already in the 16th century. After the dissolution of the Order in 1866, Franciszek Ksawery Spahn and Andrzej Spahn bought a plot of land with the brewery in Moskiewska Street (currently Wojska Polskiego Street) for 11 700 roubles.

In 1876, Spahns invested in a new multifunctional cauldron for 41 buckets. In 1878 they bought a mashing tub for 250 buckets, in 1879 a cauldron for 139 buckets, and in 1881 a cauldron for 426 buckets. The owners of the brewery ran the company by themselves until 1866, producing about 70 portions of beer annually. The production remained at the same level for the next few years.



Romuald Tenszert 1851 – 1927 (Leszek Jozefacki's collection).

In 1886, Spahns leased the brewery to Juliusz Abrahamson, who ran the business on their behalf until 1908, when it was taken over by Franciszek Brauliński. After Brauliński's death in 1945, the company was managed by his wife Janina Józefa, the daughter of Franciszek Ksawery Spahn (1881 – 1946). From 1947 to 1970 the brewery was run by Hanna Małgorzata Dityrch – the daughter of Franciszek and Janina Brauliński (1906 – 1985).

Spahn and Brauliński's Brewery employed highly-skilled workers. Since 1890, the main brewer was Romuald Tenszert, since 1892 – Zalewski, 1894 – Leonard Stupka, 1895 – Borys Kantor, 1901 – Otto Brenek.

After acquisition of the brewery in 1908, Franciszek Brauliński focused on beer production, in contrast to Spahns, who also ran a theatre. As a result of a fire on 29th April 1910, the theatre and a part of the brewery burned down. Unknown thieves used the fire to rob the factory. Despite public declarations, the theatre was not reconstructed. The fire forced the owner to modernize the brewery. The modernization allowed the company to increase production capacity. In the period of 1910 – 1914, Brauliński's Brewery produced the largest amount of beer in the Fifth District of the Board of Excise in the Kalisz and Piotrków Province (1/3 of the taxes came from the potentate from Piotrków).

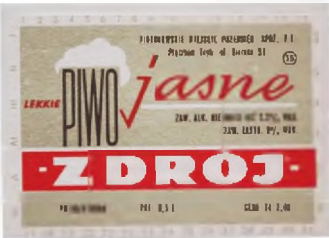
After the outbreak of the First World War the Russian, Austrian and German occupation authorities confiscated metal facilities for military purposes. The delivery of basic raw materials needed for beer production such as : high-quality malt, Munich yeast or coal was stopped. Franciszek Brauliński tried to save the company by signing contracts for the supply of beer for military needs. However, since 1917 the production had been in decline and in 1918 it came to an end. The brewery was not closed though. Thanks to his savings, Brauliński still employed 28 workers , and their families received social assistance. At the request of the town hall, he also provided financial support for the town.



Marzen's label from Brauliński's Brewery from the interwar period (Paweł and Szymon Huber's collection).

Regaining independence by Poland in 1918 encouraged the development of Brauliński's Brewery. Bartenbachs' factory did not survive World War I, because the family feuds resulted in its closure. Brauliński de facto almost monopolized the market. In the interwar period, despite the economical crisis, he introduced a lot of new beer brands and was among the first to use a new type of bottle closure.

Importing beers from Okocim, Żywiec and Warsaw in the 1930s caused a sharp decline in the sales of Piotrków's beers. After the German authorities entered Piotrków, Franciszek Brauliński's name was put on the list of Auschwitz, but he managed to avoid being deported and kept running the brewery. He died in 1945. The company was renamed as "Brauliński's Brewery in Piotrków Trybunalski, the ownership of H. Dityrchowa".



Beer Jasne Zdroj's label from the 1960s (Paweł and Szymon Huber's collection)



A bottle with a crown cap from Brauliński's brewery (Dziennik Narodowy 1938).

In 1951, as a result of the nationalization law, the brewery was taken over by the Central Management of Fermentation Industry in Warsaw, which commissioned the supervision of the brewery to the Łódź Beer Company. They did not invest money in the brewery but only exploited it and produced beer for the local market. In 1958, the authorities demanded to transfer the brewery to state ownership under the management of the Municipal Industrial Company. In this period, the brewery produced 9000 hl of beer annually. Zygmunt Dityrch, the husband of Hanna Dityrch, was employed in the plant as a senior economist. Despite determined reprivatization efforts as well as the attempts to save the production, the authorities considered it unprofitable and commissioned the management to the Brewery Company in Łódź in 1971.

The modern history of the Sulimar brewery is connected with Henryk Urbański, the owner of a small mineral water, lemonade and vinegar filling plant in Hutnicza Street. He started his business in 1927 and in 1938, when his company was granted the right to bottle beer, he began to consider himself a representative of Żywiec beer. Urbański also set up a new point of sale in 3 Maja Avenue where the beer from his brewery was sold.

During World War II and the nationalization of industry after 1945, the company avoided repression thanks to a small business status.

In 1981 the company was bought back with all rights by Henryk Supady and Eugeniusz Lisowski, the founders of Sulimar (1988). In the eighties and nineties of 20th century, Sulimar not only became the biggest bottling plant in central Poland, but they also started brewing their own beer. Their first brand was made in 1988. The designer of the logotype was a visual artist from Piotrków, Stanisław Piotr Gajda.



Copper vat from Sulimar (Towarzystwo Promocji Kultury Piwa).

In 1999, they started building a new brewery. It was finished on 15th June 2000 with brewing the first butt of beer by brewer Ryszard Radzieńczak. Adam Jędrzejewski designed a new logo.

2007 was very important for Sulimar. It was the first time when the wheat beer had been produced in Poland according to the German Beer Purity Law. In the same year they launched a new brand: Cornelius.

In 2011 and 2012, a beer called "Trybunał" was put on the market. The name obviously referred to the history of Piotrków Trybunalski. Like the brewery products from 16th century (Brauliński's Brewery), the Trybunał beer receives numerous awards and is appreciated worldwide.



Cornelius brand's logo (Brewery Sulimar).

Beer dictionary:

Barrel – a vessel used for fermentation, maturation and transport of beer. An Old-Polish barrel had a volume of 271,36 l and was divided into 72 pots (3,76 l), then into 4 quarts (0,94 l), and then in 4 noggins (0,23 l). Under the Russian occupation, one barrel contained 492 l, divided into 40 buckets with 12,3 l each, 1 bucket contained 10 so-called "sztofs" 1,23 l each.

Beer – the world's oldest alcoholic beverage, made of specially selected water, barley malt, hops and yeast. Alcohol-free beer – beer which contains no more than 0,5% ABV.

Light beer – beer which contains no more than 4,5% ABV.

Full of beer - beer which contains no more than 6,2% ABV.

Strong beer - beer which contains more than 6,2% ABV.

Beer extract – extract from brewer's wort, most often expressed as the percentage by weight or in BLG scale (of Karl Balling), less commonly in the Plato scale (of Fritz Plato).



Brauliński's brewery advert (Głos Trybunalski 1930).

Beer fermentation – a process of malt sugar decomposition in brewer's wort using yeast to produce alcohol and carbon dioxide. Depending on type of yeast used we can distinguish high, low, and spontaneous fermentation beers.

Beer filtration – a process in which becomes beer clear.

Beer maturation – a process which can last from 2 weeks to even a few months. During maturation, the beer saturates with the carbon dioxide, clarifies and acquires appropriate aroma and savour. Beer vat – a big container made of wood, concrete, and metal, used for beer fermentation.

Biofilistyka (birofilia) – a Polish term for an interest in braweriana , collecting various beer accessories.

Brewer – craftsman who produces beer.

Brewery – a place where beer is produced. Modern breweries are divided into industrial, regional, restaurant and craft breweries.

Brewer's wort – a solution of water, malt and hop.

Czopowe – a Polish tax on the production and sale of fermented drinks. It was introduced in 1466 by the king Casimir IV Jagiellon. The tax went underwent numerous changes over 600 years. At the end of 19th century, it became what we know today as excise tax.



The oldest Brauliński's Brewery label from before 1914 (Dariusz Orłowski's collection).

Kij – Polish common name for a beer tap.

Malt – grain that has been germinated and then subjected to drying. The length of germination affects the beer colour (pale, dark).

Pasteurization of beer – heating to a high temperature in order to destroy or inhibit the growth of microorganisms. Pasteurised beer has longer expiry date as opposed to non-pasteurized. The latter maintains full flavour.

Volume of alcohol in beer – amount of alcohol in beer, expressed as a percentage and concentration of the extract

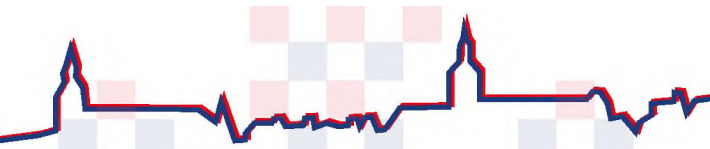


Beer advert from Brauliński's Brewery in Częstochowa (Goniec Częstochowski 1910).

Tekst: Tomasz Kruza. Kolekcjonerzy: Dariusz Orłowski, Paweł Szymon Huber, Leszek Józefacki. Grafiki: za zbiorów Archiwum Piotrkowskie Trybunalski, Archiwum Głównie Akt Dawnych. Foto: Tomasz Kruza, Wiktor Brzeszczak. Opracowanie graficzne: Paweł Malespysz, Maria Janik. Numeryczne: Dominik Wośki © 01.05.2017



Saint Stanislaus – the patron of brewers from Piotrków (photo: the archives of the Saint Jacob's parish in Piotrków Trybunalski).



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