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THE DISH ON FOOD, WINE & RESTAURANTS



DOWN TO BRASS TAPS

New Craft Beer Bar Opens In Boynton Beach With Plans For More

Cheers to franchisees Michael and Stephanie Gilbert, married Boston transplants who came to South Florida for the sole purpose of creating a premier beer bar with a neighborhood feel in Boynton Beach. They opened The Brass Tap recently, and plan to open additional locations in Boca Raton, Delray Beach, Palm Beach Gardens, Miami and Fort Lauderdale.

The upscale venue offers more than 100 imported and domestic beers on tap, 150 bottles and at least 30 local brews. This distinguishes the bar from other local nightlife establishments, as well as from its entire franchise, which typically includes just 60 or 70 taps per location, says Michael Gilbert.

"[We've been] able to put in more taps," he says. "It's kind of an experiment."

The Brass Tap offers a rotating variety of beers for every taste. Prefer something fruity? Gilbert suggests a Belgian Lambic beer, which is sweeter and available in a variety of flavors. For those who enjoy the taste of hard liquor, he recommends a Kentucky Bourbon Barrel Ale, which is aged in a barrel to achieve the whiskey flavor reminiscent of the Bluegrass Region. With so many flavors, one could visit The Brass Tap every day for a year



and still not be able to try every one, Gilbert insists.

The bar also serves premium wines and an assortment of cigars to be enjoyed on an outdoor patio. There's a full menu too, with soups, salads, entrees, pretzel pizzas and more. Popular starters include the Pepper Jack Mac (tender macaroni with a blend of pepper jack and cheddar cheeses topped with bacon) and Amsterdam Street Fries (twice-fried street fries served with balsamic ketchup and malt-vinegar aioli). Entrees include a French Onion Burger (a 1/2 pound of fresh Angus beef served on a butter brioche bun with brie cheese, grilled onions, lettuce, tomatoes and pickles served with fries) and Yuengling Beer-Battered Fish & Chips (beer-battered haddock served with fries and coleslaw).

There's also live entertainment and plenty of sporting events patrons can watch on one of several flat-screen TVs. ○

The Brass Tap is located at 950 North Congress Avenue, Ste. J100, Boynton Beach. For more information, call 561-413-3782 or visit brastapbeerbar.com.

— Chris Maiorana