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## **Beer from Melbourne's La Sirène Brewery to be Launched in New Zealand**

The 2015 Pacific Beer Expo will host the launch in New Zealand of beer from the Melbourne brewery La Sirène.

La Sirène is dedicated to making ales in very traditional Belgian and French styles. It was founded in 2011 by brewing consultant Costa Nikias and James Brown and moved into its current facility in 2014. La Sirène's beers are fermented with a carefully selected Belgian yeast strain, they're made in small batches and are unfiltered and unpasteurised, and they're naturally conditioned in champagne bottles.

While plenty of brewers occasionally brew in this fashion, there is no other brewery in New Zealand or Australia dedicated to using these techniques and operating on the scale of La Sirène.

The results have been acclaimed critically. In 2014 they not only produced the Champion Belgian and French Ale at Australia's Craft Beer Awards, their cocoa, vanilla and hazelnut beer called Praline was named the People's Choice Winner at the Great Australasian Beer Spectacular.

Beer Without Borders were so impressed by La Sirène's beers that they are bringing them to New Zealand. Initial supplies will be in bottles only, with the exception of a handful of kegs being brought to Wellington for Labour Weekend's Pacific Beer Expo.

At the Pacific Beer Expo the beers **Belgian Praline, Belle French Ale, Saison Nouveau** and **Botanique** will be served.

After Labour Weekend, the beers **Belgian Praline, Saison, Wild Saison** and **Fleur Folie** will be available in bottles at a few of New Zealand's best beer vendors.

The Pacific Beer Expo takes place at The Boatshed and Wellington Rowers Club on Wellington's waterfront between 2pm and 7pm on the Saturday and Sunday of Labour Weekend. It is a showcase of some of the best and most adventurous beer produced in the Pacific Rim and is a joint venture between Wellington bar Hashigo Zake and its importing and distribution arm, Beer Without Borders.

[www.pacificbeerexpo.co.nz](http://www.pacificbeerexpo.co.nz)

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