



2017 Summer Gathering

Boise, Idaho

July 27-30

## **Proposed Itinerary**



## \*\*ABOUT US\*\*

The Boise RateBeer crew has more than tripled up to a pretty consistent 15 people over the last few years. Good people who appreciate great beer. After going to the Winter Gathering and RateBeer Best the past few years, we decided to give back.

We love our adopted hometown and feel that it is time to share. Boise is a beautiful virtually crime-free city that embraces individuality while maintaining a tight community; that allows you to have a beer with your close buddies while sharing the same table with the Mayor or Governor. The Boise RateBeer Summer Gathering will allow all newcomers to feel that same inclusiveness and know they will always be invited back.



## \*\*WHAT MAKES THIS BID DIFFERENT\*\*

You begin in a hop-field tour while the sun is still drying the dew off the bines. Hand-picked tours of the best breweries and brewpubs are after that.

Beer-centric restaurants and bars are already preparing to make everyone feel welcome and bring the best draft and bottles to the table.

The Grand Tasting will be one your friends will forever call the “one that got away”.

## **\*\*WHY YOU WANT TO COME TO BOISE\*\***

Flights are dirt cheap into Boise. Right now, Southwest has direct flights for as low as \$110 round trip from many hubs around the country; and if you fly SW, you get 2 checked bags/styros for free!!

We have the full support of the beer community/business owners and the brewers are all on board so far (a few more need to be contacted, but we've only been greeted with enthusiastic approval). State/local tourism and industry groups have been overwhelmingly helpful and vow to only do more as July approaches. The Downtown Boise Association has pledged support and we are told the Idaho Brewers Association, Boise Valley Economic Partnership and the Idaho State Tourism Dept. are simply waiting for us to win the bidding process to begin the discussion on how to make this **bigger/better**.

We suspect that most if not all of the big events will be highly subsidized (*perhaps free to our traveling friends*). Grand Teton Brewing Company, a yet unnamed master of the Alpha Acid and even Pips Meadery (*Yep... That "Pips" ... and yes, we know Matt is not a local, but he is coming if we win the bid and is bringing a special bottling*) are on board to provide one-off bottles for people to take home and share with their own tasting groups.



Tickers will only be limited by their livers and the hours in the day... Oh, yeah... It stays light LATE in Boise. The sun doesn't set until well after 9:00pm in the middle of summer. The party can go from sun-up to head-down.

**So... Let's move on to the plan!!**

**Thursday July 27<sup>th</sup>**

6pm to 8pm  
Meet and Greet

**Bittercreek Alehouse:** (<http://www.bcrfl.com>)



Boise's quintessential gastropub offers as many interesting micros as it does unique takes on local, seasonal pub grub ... Great locally sourced food from the best producers. Bittercreek also has an aggressive take on green sustainability. The restaurant is the only one in the country that has an onsite vermiculture (*worm composting*) program. 40+ taps are always well curated and an extensive cellar allows beer connoisseurs to choose from deep PNW roots or pull select bottles from Europe.

Owner, Dave Krick has offered up cocktail snacks and the use of the restaurant's cellar room or bottle sharing (*Please do not bring more than one bottle per person*).

Downtown Boise location – 4 minutes by car or 16 minutes walk from the preferred hotel.

**10 Barrel Brewing:** <https://10barrel.com/pub/boise/>

8pm-9pm



Love or hate 10 Barrel Brewing, a beer nerd still appreciates the amazing beers being made at their Boise pub. Shawn Kelso called the famed Barley Browns home for years until relocating to Boise. Here he is continuously improving on the already amazing PNW hop scene. You can expect higher-quality bar food and two dozen extremely tasty brews.

**\*\*Looking for a cool downtown venue to host from 9pm to whenever\*\***

## **\*\*OTHER NEARBY FOOD / GOOD BEER SELECTIONS\*\***

- **Prost!** <http://www.prostboise.com/main/>  
Guten Tag! Finally a proper German bar for Boise. Prost! Brings a great line up of German Bier to downtown with each bier poured in its proper traditional glass.
- **The Taphouse** - <http://taphouseboise.com/>  
About 50 thoughtful taps with standard pub fare... The Taphouse has cheap (*for the most part*) flight glasses.
- **Bar Gernika** - <http://www.bargernika.com/> -  
Bar Gernika has been a fixture on the Basque Block since 1991 and serves authentic Basque foods, wine and desserts. Eight thoughtful taps with about as many special rotating bottle options.
- **Front Door** - <http://www.thefrontdoorboise.com/tfd/>  
Downstairs pizzeria & bar offers specialty pies, pub grub & rotating specialty brews in a spacious venue.

**Friday July 28<sup>th</sup>**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Stop**

#### **Hop Field Tour Sponsored by Mother Earth Brewing**

Caldwell Transportation will depart from the Red Lion Hotel at **8:30am sharp**. The bus holds about 50 people and allows beer onboard. Amenities include a restroom.

#### **Tour Time: 9:30-10:15**

We will take a short tour of the SW Idaho hop region and of the new Mill 95 Hop Processing plant. <http://mill95hops.com/> We are asking 3x of the PNW Big-Hop brewers to collaborate and make a special brew with hops from the new facility.



**2<sup>nd</sup> Stop**  
10:45 - 12:15

**Mother Earth Brewing :** <https://www.motherearthbrewco.com/>



Tour the MASSIVE production brewery and sample 11 different taps... We were there recently and none disappointed. Catered brunch/lunch inside the brewery.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Stop**  
12:45 - 1:30

**Sockeye Brewing Company:** <http://sockeyebrew.com/grill-brewery-on-fairview/>



Sockeye has been crafting solid beers for more than two decades. The years have been good to them, a new production facility will welcome us for a tour and samples at the brewpub next door. Aggressive PNW hop-bombs, and monster BA RIS to subtle lagers.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Stop

1:45 - 2:30

- **County Line Brewing:** <http://www.countylinebrewing.com/home.html>

County Line is one of the new kids on the block but is certainly not to be missed. Our personal favorite of the new school.



- **Homebrew Stuff** (next door to County Line): <https://www.homebrewstuff.com/>  
300ish bottles and 12 taps

## 5<sup>th</sup> Stop

**Barbarian Brewing and Meriwether Cider** (*same parking lot*)

2:45 - 3:45

- **Barbarian Brewing:** <https://www.barbarianbrewing.com/home>  
Old World Style with New World Flavor. A unique collaboration of traditional and experimental barrel aged beers. Nice assortment of BA sours and Belgian styles
- **Meriwether Cider:** <http://www.meriwethercider.com/home>  
Family owned hard ciders. Try the beautifully juicy Blackberry Boom and the botanical infused Gin & Juice.



**6<sup>th</sup> Stop**  
**Payette Brewing**  
**4:00 – 5:00**

Payette has quickly grown to be the largest output brewery in Idaho. They make good brews with exceptional quality. The taproom has 28 handles that focus on rotating favorites and innovative small batch brews. A food truck will most likely be on hand for anybody starting to get hungry.



**\*\*\* FOR THE REST OF THE NIGHT WE ARE WALKING/UBERING\*\*\***

**7<sup>h</sup> Stop**  
**White Dog Brewing and LongDrop Cider (same building)**

- **White Dog Brewing:** <https://www.facebook.com/whitedogbrewingboise/>  
White dog is a new second location for a brewery out of Bozeman, Montana. Word is they make good brews. They are expected to be open by the RBSG dates. White Dog will have food available.
- **Longdrop Ciders:** <http://www.longdropcider.com/>  
These guys are producing innovative ciders using NW apples and some special varieties grown here in the Treasure Valley. Their food menu is an eclectic mix of small bites that focuses on the gluten-free consumer.



**Saturday July 29<sup>th</sup>**

**10am to noonish**

BitterCreek is hosting us upstairs for special breakfast poutine (local cheese curds, rich gravy and famous Idaho potatoes!!) and will have all the special beers brewed for the Boise RBSG on tap at one place (we are hoping for a **minimum** of 15-20 one-offs).

**Bittercreek Alehouse:** <http://www.bcrfl.com>



**9:00am - noonish**

Tour Boise's vibrant Saturday **Farmers Market:** <http://capitalcitypublicmarket.com/>  
Pick up a nice gift for your mom or S.O. and **eat some fruit for the love of god.**



A few blocks walk to the **Basque Block** for a cider tasting of rare ciders from the old country at noon... **This should be super cool.** [https://localwiki.org/boise/The\\_Basque\\_Block](https://localwiki.org/boise/The_Basque_Block)



**1:00pm** (*walk a couple blocks to...*)  
**Boise Brewing Company:** <http://www.boisebrewing.com/>

Boise's only completely community supported brewery. True "farm-to-glass" beer making with an emphasis on top-shelf local ingredients that translate into spot-on high-quality interesting brews



**2:00ish** (*walk about 5 blocks to...*)  
**PreFunk Beer Bar:** <https://www.facebook.com/PreFunkBeerBar/>

What started as a growler fill station has blossomed into one of Boise's premiere beer destinations with 40ish taps of extremely curated kegs from all over the PNW and West Coast. PreFunk also has a deep cellar with OUTSTANDING low prices that I'm sure you can get a nice look at if you are interested in taking bottles home; Brothers Justin and Jordan Flynn always swing for the fences with a fantastic beer selection.



**3:00ish** (*walk next door to...*)

**Woodland Empire:** <http://woodlandempire.com/?age-verified=a53460018a>

If I had to pick, Woodland would be my top brewery in the Boise area. Great IPA, proper lagers, innovative barrel program and hugely interesting Berliners (Carrot Berliner... or perhaps one made with beets fresh from the field? You won't believe the flavor and color!)



**4:00-??:??**

## **The Boise RateBeer Summer Gathering Grand Tasting (Sponsored by Grand Teton Brewing and more to come)**



Woodland Empire's owners Rob and Keely Landerman have graciously opened their brewery area for an EPIC bottle share. All of the Boise nerds are going to open their cellars and traveling/trading hauls for a tasting that will go down in history. We expect food will be catered, there has been talk of sushi, oysters, croquettes, tamales etc. You won't be disappointed.

**There will be custom glassware**, but the mock-up isn't ready yet.

Along with the bottle share, each attendee (*must be active RateBeer member*) will be given the opportunity to purchase a swag bag that will contain a **special one-off by Grand Teton and a one-off bottle from Pip's Meadery (and hopefully a one-off PNW hop monster)**.

We are also looking at having a t-shirt designed. If this happens, it will likely be available for a nominal fee and screen-printed right in front of you at the Grand Tasting.

## Sunday July 30th

### Other stuff to do:

-A couple of beer folks are putting together a beer festival to coincide with the dates of the Boise RBSG. RateBeer members will be given a nice discount for admission... Details to follow.

-Detox and cool off. Rent a bike <https://boise.greenbike.com/> , go on a hike, float the Boise river.



-Go see Idaho's high country. McCall, Sun Valley or the Sawtooths. Boise is only a couple hours from some of the most pristine mountains the west has to offer. We can offer a lot of resources and insider information to anybody interested. Plus there are some great breweries hidden in the hills too.



### Mountain breweries:

#### **-McCall (2.5 hours away)-**

- **McCall Brewing:** <http://mccallbrew.com/>
- **Broken Horn Brewing:** <http://www.brokenhornbrewing.com/index.html>
- **Salmon River Brewing:** <http://salmonriverbrewery.com/>
- **Sushi Bar** (not a brewery, but a great beer selection and some of the best sushi / pho you will have, PLUS IT IS OWNED BY RateBeer's BückDich): <http://www.sushibarmccall.com/>

#### **-Sun Valley area (~3 hours away)-**

- **Sawtooth Brewery:** <http://sawtoothbrewery.com/>
- **Sun Valley Brewing:** [http://www.sunvalleybrewery.com/The\\_Sun\\_Valley\\_Brewery/Welcome.html](http://www.sunvalleybrewery.com/The_Sun_Valley_Brewery/Welcome.html)
- **River Bend Brewing:** <https://www.ratebeer.com/brewers/river-bend-brewing/5298/>
- **Warfield Brewery and Distillery:** <https://www.warfielddistillery.com/>

### \*\*\*Preferred Hotel\*\*\*



**Red Lion Hotel:** <https://www.redlion.com/boise/map-directions>

Free Wi-Fi  
Free Parking  
Complimentary Boise Airport Shuttle  
Fitness Center  
Outdoor Swimming Pool & Spa  
Coffee Garden & Characters Sports Bar

We will have a discount rate of **\$81-90** a night  
With breakfast the rate will be **\$99**

If we book 10 rooms or more Red Lion will provide us with a  
**FREE 900 sq ft Hospitality Suite for relaxing and bottle sharing**

**Uber or Lyft cost from hotel to downtown is only \$5.00 each way**

#### -Other stuff-

- Cost for most things will be VERY minimal. We are attempting to get the bus tour, grand tasting swag bag and various lunches/brunches covered by sponsors and various tourism boards. Even if an attendee pays for all incidentals out of pocket, we suspect it will be less than \$100 (not counting hotel of course).
- Plenty of other hotels are in the downtown corridor and Boise has an active AirBnB and VRBO scene if you'd like a full house.
- Uber and Lyft are easily available and get way too much of the Boise Crew's money. We will also have an Uber discount code for folks.

**Great breweries we had to leave out because of location / timing...  
but you should definitely check out if you find time--**

- **Crescent Brewery:** <http://www.crescentbeer.com/>
- **Slanted Rock Brewing:** <http://www.slantedrock.com/>
- **Edge Brewing:** <http://www.edgebrew.com/>
- **Mad Swede Brewing:** <http://madswedebrewing.com/>
- **Cloud 9 Brewery:** <http://www.cloud9brewery.com/>
- **Bella Brewing:** <http://bellabrewing.com/>
- **Powderhaus Brewing:** <https://www.powderhausbrewing.com/>
- **Highlands Hollow:** <http://www.highlandshollow.com/>

**\*\*\*The best of the rest: bottleshops and beer-centric restaurants\*\***

- **Boise Community CO-OP:** <http://www.boise.coop/>
- **BierThirty:** [http://bierthirty.com/Bier\\_Thirty\\_Bottle\\_%26\\_Bistro/Home.html](http://bierthirty.com/Bier_Thirty_Bottle_%26_Bistro/Home.html)
- **Brewer's Haven:** <https://www.brewershaven.com/>
- **Whole Foods:** <https://www.ratebeer.com/p/the-river-room-whole-foods-market-boise/45299/>
- **Prefunk Nampa:** <https://www.facebook.com/PreFunkBeerBarNampa/>
- **Messenger Pizza:** <http://www.messengerpizza.com/>
- **Tres Bonne Cuisine (crazy European ticks)** <http://www.tresbonnecuisine.com/>

## Vote Boise!



Thanks from your humble hosts: **BuckeyeBoy** and **JohnGalt1**