

6 Best Breweries and Distilleries in Hudson County

While New Jersey is known as the Garden State, it's no stranger to top-notch breweries and distilleries. The state has a storied history with alcohol production and for years the industry thrived, with distilleries and breweries numbering in the hundreds. However, following Prohibition and the Great Depression, many of New Jersey's producers suffered a downturn and had to close their doors.

With loosened regulations in recent years, New Jersey is once again playing host to a surge of thriving distilleries and breweries. If you're looking for award-winning libations to wet your whistle, you won't have to venture far. We've rounded up the six best distilleries and breweries in Hudson County, serving up some seriously great stuff right in our backyard!

All Points West Distillery | Newark

Located in Newark's historic Ironbound district, [All Points West Distillery](#), founded by former architect Gil Spaier, offers an award-winning lineup of spirits including whiskey, gin, vodka, and a unique rum distilled in a distinct mid-Atlantic, harbor-style technique. The distillery takes its name from the Jersey Central Railroad, which connected Ellis Island with "All Points West," as an homage to its New Jersey roots. Among other awards, their All Points West Malt and Grain Pot Still Whiskey received a Gold Medal for "Whisky of the Year" in 2019 by the Beverage Trade Network.

Corgi Spirits | Jersey City

[Corgi Spirits](#) is a family-owned distillery in Jersey City's Bergen Lafayette neighborhood, offering creative small-batch spirits including vodka and whiskey, though they are best known for their unique line of gins. Corgi has been named the NJ Distillery of the Year two years in a row by the New York Institute's Spirits Competition, and their highly-awarded Earl Grey gin was named the 2019 Gin of the Year by the John Barleycorn Society of Spirits Writers. In addition to regular tours and tastings, Corgi also frequently hosts events including comedy shows and live music, and they have food trucks parked on-site in their outdoor patio space every week from Friday Sunday.

Departed Soles Brewing Company | Jersey City

[Departed Soles Brewing Company](#) is Jersey City's first brewery, named as a tribute to founder Brian Kulbacki's friend Chris Ward. After Chris' passing, Brian was determined to bring their shared dream of a career in beer to life. Thus, Departed Soles was born. Situated in the heart of Downtown Jersey City, this brewery features an extensive tap list including an internationally acclaimed line of gluten-free beers in honor of Ward, who had Celiac disease, and a diverse range of #DefinitelyNotGlutenFree beers ranging from IPAs to Sours to Cold Brew Milk Stouts. Can't decide which to try first? Stop by their tasting room to sample a flight of their latest offerings.

North Jersey Beer Co. | North Bergen

The folks at [North Jersey Beer Co.](#) take their Jersey roots quite seriously. Founded by a small group of local beer lovers, the brewery focuses on making beer by New Jerseyans, for New Jerseyans. Their offerings are hyperlocal, with exclusive distribution available only within the state, and with names like the LBIPA, Parkway Pilsner, and Garden State Stout, the Jersey pride is strong here! Their tasting room is open Wednesday to Sunday, and tours are available. With weekly trivia, a jukebox, and stacks of board games, the taproom offers an inviting atmosphere to enjoy a flight (or two) and stay a while.

902 Brewing Company | Jersey City

While [902 Brewing Company](#) now calls Jersey City home, this brewery got its start in Hoboken. It was founded by roommates Colby Janisch, Tucker Littleton, and Andrew Brown when they started homebrewing in their shared apartment on Washington Street. They've grown from those humble beginnings, and 902 now has a sprawling tap room in Jersey City's Bergen Lafayette neighborhood, complete with a rooftop tasting area featuring killer views of the Manhattan skyline. Stop by the taproom to sample the ever-rotating tap list while you catch some live music or a comedy show, or pick up a fresh growler to go.

Newark Local Beer | Newark

[Newark Local Beer](#) is a new arrival to the Hudson County beer scene, having just opened their doors in November 2021, but they are already making a splash. What started as a passion for homebrewing shared by husband and wife team Steve and Miller Hughes, eventually led to the creation of this independent brewery and taproom in the heart of downtown Newark. The tap list currently features seven beers ranging from IPAs to Saisons, with more on the way. They even offer their own alcoholic seltzer, the Weekender, featuring notes of mango and passionfruit.