



First MA Women-Owned and Operated Brewery Opens in Boston

Ladylike Brewing Company aims to change the narrative for women in the beer industry.

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BOSTON, MA When Rebecca Schmaeling started her first job at a Turtle Swamp brewery she knew she had found what she was meant to do. She loved the excitement of brewing a new style of beer, the interactions with customers, and the camaraderie with her coworkers. It would be the perfect job - if only she was treated like her male coworkers. As the only female employee, she noticed that men hesitated to ask her questions about beer, assuming she didn't know anything about the products she helped make. As more women joined the team, she realized that many of them had similar experiences. She and her female coworkers daydreamed about opening their own brewery where they could brew based on their tastes and honor the women that inspired them through their can art.

In March of 2020, Turtle Swamp was forced to shut its doors temporarily. With more down time than she knew what to do with, Rebecca started to think more about the brewery she and her coworkers had imagined. "Even though it was a scary time for breweries, I knew that this forced downtime was the best opportunity I would have try and make this dream into a reality."

Enlisting the help of her fellow female beer-lovers, Rebecca began to sketch out the plans for a completely women-operated brewery. They knew it would be a huge risk in such a male-dominated industry but also knew that there were lots of women just like them who loved craft beers but were turned off by the gender stereotypes the industry perpetuated. By June of 2021, Rebecca and her small team had found the perfect space for their daydream to come to life: a renovated textile mill. "Most of the people who would have worked here at the height of the textile manufacturing era were women, and we like to imagine that they might stop in for a beer after their shift if they were still here." Their first beer, called Ella's Song, pays homage to Ella May Wiggins who helped organized striking mill workers by writing ballads for the strikers to sing. "We hope this beer and the women who brewed it would make Ella proud," wrote Rebecca in an Instagram post announcing the opening of Ladylike Brewing Co.

Ladylike Brewing Company opens this summer at 123 Tremont St. Inquiries can be sent to Kelly Walsh at kwalsh@ladylike.com or 617-456-8324.

About Ladylike Brewing

Ladylike Brewing is the first women-owned and operated brewery in New England. We aim to change the narrative that beer is a man's drink by showing that women can brew a great tasting beer that anyone can enjoy. All Ladylike beers are brewed onsite by an all-female brewing team. We invite people of all races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, and genders to come enjoy a beer with us.

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