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Griffin Claw Brewing Company Announces Opening Date Offering Local Beer Aficionados a New Venue to Enjoy Michigan Craft Beer

Written by [Paul Starr](#)



Griffin Claw Brewing Company will officially open to the public on Thursday, July 18, 2013 introducing the community to the area's newest taproom, biergarten, brewing and distributing facility.

Griffin Claw Brewing Company is the new home for Big Rock Chophouse's award-winning beer and its Brewmaster, Dan Rogers, who will oversee all the brewing, distributing, and operations of the 12,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art building.

Located in the heart of Birmingham's Rail District, Griffin Claw Brewing Company features a taproom that will seat approximately 100 people with oversized garage doors that open to the restaurant's traditional German-style biergarten and outdoor patio. The authentic biergarten is in a gravel-covered yard, offers seating for 75 guests at mostly communal tables purchased from Germany, and is home to an outdoor fire pit. The taproom's menu includes a variety of casual food items, with a special focus on the beer and will offer 12 seasonal and specialty brews.

Griffin Claw Brewing Company is owned by Bonnie LePage and Mary Nicholson. The two women are also partners and co-owners with their husbands (Norman LePage and Ray Nicholson) of Birmingham's popular Big Rock Chophouse, Got

Rocks Diamond Crown Cigar Lounge and The Reserve.

“It’s really all about our award-winning beer at our new hometown brewery,” said co-owner Bonnie LePage of Griffin Claw Brewing Company. “When our talented Brewmaster, Dan, kept going away and winning awards for his beer, we knew we were on to something. The increasing demand for his beer and his growing fan base were instrumental in why we decided to open Griffin Claw Brewing Company. We’re really looking forward to the opening and everyone being able to enjoy Dan’s beer in a very unique and fun setting.”

“We focused on and embraced using Michigan made products and companies when designing and constructing the brewery,” added LePage. The custom-made brewery equipment was created and purchased from Michigan-based Craftwerk Brewing Systems in Lake Orion, Michigan. The brewery was designed by Birmingham, Michigan-based Ron and Roman Architects. Kelly Building and Development Company, also located in Birmingham, oversaw and managed the entire construction process this past year.

Four of Griffin Claw Brewing Company’s beers, Norm’s Raggedy Ass (IPA), El Rojo Amber Ale, Grand Trunk Pilsner and Grind Line Pale Ale will also be distributed through Orion, Michigan-based Powers Distributing and available for purchase at a variety of local restaurants, bars, neighborhood liquor stores and specialty stores.

Griffin Claw Brewing Company’s taproom will be open Tuesday through Thursday from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m., Fridays from 3 p.m. to 1 a.m., Saturdays from noon to 1 a.m., Sundays noon to 9 p.m. and closed on Mondays. The brewery will also include a distillery for making high-end vodka, gin and other liquors with a martini bar scheduled to open late fall 2013.

Griffin Claw Brewing Company is located at 575 S. Eton Street in Birmingham. For more information, call [248.712.4050](tel:248.712.4050), visit www.griffinclawbrewingcompany.com or find us on facebook at www.facebook.com/GriffinClawBrewingCompany.

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