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Griffin Claw to open July 18

BY MITTENBREW / JULY 1, 2013



BIRMINGHAM — Griffin Claw Brewing Company has announced an opening date of July 18, introducing the community to the area's newest taproom, biergarten, brewing and distributing facility.

Griffin Claw is the new home for Big Rock Chophouse's award-winning beer. Its brewmaster, Dan Rogers, will oversee the brewing, distribution and operations of the 12,000 square foot building.

Located in the heart of Birmingham's Rail District, Griffin Claw 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 biergarten offers seating for 75 additional guests at mostly communal tables purchased from Germany, and is also home to an outdoor fire pit.

"When our talented brewmaster, Dan, kept going away and winning awards for his beer, we knew we were on to something," said co-owner Bonnie LePage. "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."

The custom-made brewery equipment was purchased from Michigan-based Craftwerk Brewing Systems in Lake Orion, while the brewery was designed by Birmingham firm Ron



and Roman Architects. Kelly Building and Development Company, also located in Birmingham, oversaw and managed the construction process.

Four of the brewery's beers — Norm's Raggedy Ass (IPA), El Rojo Amber Ale, Grand Trunk Pilsner and Grind Line Pale Ale will be available through distribution. Griffin Claw's taproom will be open Tuesday through Thursday from 3-11 p.m., Friday from 3 p.m. to 1 a.m., Saturdays from Noon to 1 a.m. and Sundays from Noon to 9 p.m.

Griffin Claw is located at 575 S. Eton Street in Birmingham.