

THE
PACKHORSE

ABSINTHE FESTIVAL

1 FEB - 14 MAR

WHAT'S YOUR
POISON?



WHAT IS ABSINTHE?

Originally produced as a medicine in the latter half of the 18th century, absinthe became a popular aperitif and eventually an icon of France's Belle Epoque. Unfortunately, bad press and the rise of temperance early in the 20th century led to its almost universal banning across the world. The bans have now been overturned and the spirit is legally available again – the resurgence of absinthe in the UK and further afield is gaining pace.

Absinthe is a distilled spirit flavoured with bitter wormwood and a variety of other botanicals, including sweet anise and fennel, as well as many others. The two main types of absinthe are verte and blanche (green and clear). Immediately after distillation the spirit is clear and can be bottled as a blanche; vertes are traditionally coloured green by infusing the spirit with more botanicals before bottling.

"After the first glass of absinthe, you see things as you wish they were. After the second you see them as they are not. Finally, you see things as they really are, and that is the most horrible thing in the world." ~ Oscar Wilde

La Fée NV 40% £3.00

The culmination of a detailed process starting with the gathering and harvesting of key natural ingredients including grand wormwood, anise, fennel, peppermint, cocoa, and vanilla for a modern twist on a French classic.

François Guy 45% £3.50

Distilled in Pontarlier by François Guy, this absinthe has a light green olive tint and offers a fresh, herbal nose and palate.

Sebor 55% £6.00

An incredibly popular spirit, made by blending 13 herbs to a century-old Swiss recipe. The result is a rich, mellow, spicy absinthe, complemented by the warmth given by the pure 55% alcohol.

St. George Verte 60% £4.00

A heady, herbaceous smack to the senses. It opens with spicy black liquorice and then slowly evolves into citrus and grass profiles with a dose of sarsaparilla.

La Fée Parisienne 68% £5.00

Distilled in Paris based on a 19th century recipe containing wormwood, this is the only absinthe authenticated by Marie-Claude Delahaye, founder and curator of the absinthe museum.

Pernod 68% £3.50

A herbal, intense absinthe from Pernod – famous today for being a top producer of France's beloved Pastis – but once renowned as the first absinthe distillery, opening in 1805. This was inspired by an original recipe that was created before the 1915 ban.

Eternal 69% £5.00

Along with wormwood, fennel and anise, creators Gin Kitchen selected an enchanting mix of botanicals for their flavour and magical properties. The addition of rose petals creates a light amber colour which you might associate with a delicate rosé wine.

Please note drinks in this section can only be purchased with a mixer due to their ABV%.

La Fée Bohemian 70% £3.50

A modern absinthe with a vibrant bright green colour and an electric blue rim. Highly aromatic with eucalyptus and mint flavours, its palate offers a powerful and bold style, typical of Bohemia.

Hapsburg X.C Original 89.9% £6.00

The label says extra strong, and they're not wrong. The bright green liquid makes a statement. Smooth yet feisty. Be warned, it's not for the feint-hearted.

Hapsburg X.C Red Summer Fruits 89.9% £6.00

Expertly prepared to a traditional recipe and infused with wormwood, this superior high-strength absinthe is flavoured with juicy red summer fruits.

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for the facts about alcohol