

## 5 TOP...

beers at Oktoberfest in the Gardens: Volume 2, today.

By BREWER STEVE

### 1. HB Lager - Hofbräu Brewery (Germany)

The definite granddaddy of the bunch, Hofbräu is synonymous with Oktoberfest around the world. The world-class original brew; light mouth-feel, easy drinking and looks beautiful in a stein.

### 2. Hofbräu Oktoberfest - Hofbräu Brewery (Germany)

The festival special edition, full-bodied, rich and toasty, designed for festive quaffing with friends and fräuleins.

### 3. Weißenstephaner Hefeweissbier Dunkel - Weißenstephaner Brewery (Germany)

From the oldest commercial brewery in the world, this one's for the dark beer lovers, a flavoursome wheat beer that's dark and complex ('Dunkel' means dark in German).

### 4. Last Drop Marzen - Last Drop Brewery (Canning Vale)

Before refrigeration, Oktoberfest marzens were brewed in March (Marzen means "March" in German) and left in ice caves to lager and settle before the celebrations in September. A lovely toffee orange coloured maltu lager, with a



Picture: Sean Middleton

## BAR FLY

ANDREW BENNETT



## QUARTER ON HAY

93 WILLIAM ST, PERTH.

☎ 9322 2424, [THEQUARTER.NET.AU](http://THEQUARTER.NET.AU), OPEN MON: 7AM-3PM; TUE-FRI: 7AM-LATE; SAT: 6PM-LATE

**For Queen and country** Her Majesty will be in town for CHOGM soon and it got me thinking about where I'd take her for a few bevies. For me it would be Quarter on Hay.

**Hidden gem** Quarter is the beautiful inner-city bar/restaurant imagining of hospitality wunderkind Ryan Taylor. Tucked secretively behind Wesley Church, this decadent small bar takes some finding but is worth the effort. Walk through a small alfresco area into the main space where thick fabrics seep into wall-mounted banquettes, intricately patterned wallpaper dances across the room and gleaming glassware and cutlery paint a sophisticated, contemporary scene. A small bar hides the rear kitchen and to the left a collection of lounge chairs offer a quieter respite from the main dining room.

**Bubble and squeak** Other commentators have rightly lauded Quarter's excellent restaurant menu, but the drinks list also shows imagination and flare. Cocktails here are at their whimsical best in the Bubbleabooza, a bubblegum-infused vodka spin on a martini with a bubblegum strap wrapped around the glass. Less successful was my Ye Olde Fashioned. Too much dilution had washed away the richness of the Cuban rum, but the deft touch of cherry bitters salvaged what was left. The wine list is the other star, with New World choices such as Bella Ridge's excellent Fino sherry from the Swan Valley joining Old World styles like sancerre from Christian Salmon.

**Fit for a queen** Quarter is an excellent find and its beautiful room and drinks make it fit for a king - or queen.

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BETH RIVERS