## **Irish Red Ale**

This medium-bodied, Irish standard epitomizes popular imported beers with its with a thick off-white head, residual sweetness, and slightly fruity interplay of hops and Irish Ale yeast. The subtle addition of roasted barley provides a mild richness and a distinct red color.

IngredientsStatistics6.6 lb. Canadian Light Liquid Malt ExtractOriginal Gravity1.052.75 lb. Briess Crystal Malt 80° LFinal Gravity1.014.125 lb. Roasted Barley 675° LAlcohol Content4.7%

1 oz. Northern Brewer Hops (Bittering) with 60 minutes left in the boil.

1 oz. Fuggles Hops (Flavoring) with 10 minutes left in the boil.

Wyeast #1084 Irish Ale Yeast

4 Muslin Bags 5 oz Priming Sugar (for bottling)

## **Procedure**

A *few hours before you begin to brew*, prepare your liquid yeast according to the package instructions. We assume that you are familiar with basic homebrewing techniques, so these procedures are abbreviated.

- 1. Divide the cracked grains between 2 muslin bags (no more than ½ pound per bag and add them to your brew kettle along with up to 2½ gallons of cold water (keep enough head space to avoid boil overs). Heat slowly.
- 2. Steep the grains in hot water (about  $145^{\circ} 160^{\circ}F$ ) to extract flavor and color do not allow to boil. After about 30 minutes, remove the grain bags and then bring the water to a boil.
- 3. Remove the pot from the heat and add the pouches of malt extract. Keep the kettle off the burner and stir until the malt extract is completely dissolved.
- 4. Put the pot back on the burner and bring it to a boil. Once boiling, place the bittering hops in a muslin bag, add them to the pot, and set your timer to boil for 60 minutes. Keep an eye on the pot to avoid boil-overs.
- 5. After 45 minutes of boiling, add ½ teaspoon of Irish moss, or 1 Whirlfloc tablet, to help clarify your beer (optional).
- 6. After 50 minutes of boiling, add the flavoring hops (in a muslin bag).
- 7. After 60 minutes of boiling, turn off the heat. Put a lid on your pot and cool it in an ice bath (use your sink) for about 30 minutes. Remove the hop bags from the kettle.
- 8. Pour 2 gallons of cold water into your *sanitized* fermenter, add the cooled wort (the stuff in your pot), and top up with additional water to 5 gallons. Aerate the wort with vigorous stirring, rocking the fermenter, etc.
- 9. Make sure the wort is below 80°F before adding yeast. Take a hydrometer reading if desired. Add the yeast to the wort.
- 10. Store the fermenter where the temperature will be a fairly constant 65° 70°F. Active fermentation may take only a few days, or it can last up to 2 weeks. A hydrometer reading is a great way to determine when the fermentation is done. Keep the beer in the primary fermenter until active fermentation is done (no signs of active fermentation for the last 2-3 days).
- 11. When ready to bottle, siphon the beer into your sanitized bottling bucket, leaving the sediment behind. Boil the priming sugar in 1-2 cups of water for a few minutes, gently stir into the beer, and bottle as usual.

<sup>\*</sup> The malted grains are all **crushed together** in the clear plastic bag.