Final Countdown to Beer Expo 2011!

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<u>It's the final countdown</u> to Beer Expo 2011 which opens its doors next Friday for what promises to be two days packed with great beers from Sweden and around the world.



IPA is Dead - just some of the new BrewDog beers I'll be tasting and talking about at Beer Expo.

Despite only being in its second year <u>Beer Expo</u>has already established itself as one of the country's most exciting beer events and this year boasts 50% more exhibitors than last year as well as a cracking line-up of beer tastings.

Of course BeerSweden Trev and I will be there in <u>Linköping</u> hanging out and giving it a whirl. We'll be 'hard at work' filming, interviewing, sniffing out new beers, filming for TV (because it is TV, what we do, isn't it?) and generally making a nuisance of ourselves.

I'll also be hosting a series of three awesome BrewDog tastings in which you'll get the chance to hear some juicy insider gossip about the guys from **one of the world's most creative microbreweries** (sorry guys!) as well as be among the very first people in Sweden to try a selection of their latest beers.

Full details of what I'm popping open can be found on the Beer Expo website and tickets for these tastings can only be bought at the festival, so I recommend you get there early and grab your tickets fast!

As well as the BrewDog events there's a great selection of other tastings too, including a selection of top festival picks from fellow (<u>award winning!</u>) blogger Magnus Bark over at <u>Ofiltrerat</u> and a journey to the darker side of beer with the Lord Vice President of the Porter Drinkers Association Otto Lundell!

Tickets to Beer Expo, which runs from 8-9th April, are going fast so to get yours visit Beer Expo's website and follow all the last minute action on their **Facebook page**.

Looking forward to meeting loads of you next weekend!

Linköping Beer Expo – Tastings Announced.

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In just a little over one month the <u>Linköping Beer Expo</u> gets underway with a packed line-up of beers and events that should keep the extreme hopheads among us happy as well as those of you just curious to find out a little bit more about what makes the world's favourite drink tick.



Over the past few hours BrewDog has confirmed it too will have its beer there, joining a roster of well-known names including **Oppigårds**, **Sigtuna**, **Wicked Wine**, **Great Brands** and the **Bishops Arms**.

Tickets to the two-day festival, which runs from 8-9th April cost 145 SEK (which includes a tasting glass) and are available to purchase in advance. If availability permits tickets may also be bought at the door on the day. BeerSweden will of course be at the show, where I'll be blogging live to bring you with all the latest festival news, interviews and live tastings.

As well as cruising around the stands sampling beers you'll also be able to sign up for a number of themed tastings, early details of which I've managed to tease out of the festival's head organiser Richard Lindblad.

More precise details will following over the coming days (it's a good idea to keep track of **Beer Expo's Facebook page** for the latest developments) but here's what I know right now:

The BrewMaster's Art

Do you want to know more about how beer is made? Swedish Home Brewing medal winner Patrik Andersson will guide you through the brewing process, explaining how brewers transform hops, water, malted barley and yeast into the drink you know and love as beer.

Discover your Favourite Beer Style

A tasting designed for those of you just starting out on the road to beery discovery, where you'll be taken on a whirlwind journey to several different brewing nations to try some of their most famous beer styles. Experienced freelance beer taster Johan Midbjer will be your tour guide.

Battle of the Atlantic

Great Britain, the home of pints and beer tradition, mixes it up with the USA, where anything older than a week is considered old fashioned. Patrik Andersson will again be on hand as referee in this heavyweight beer contest between old and new world beer styles.

Ofiltrerat's Top Picks

It's great to see fellow blogger Magnus Bark from the unmissable <u>Ofiltrerat</u> in action sharing some of his favourite and most interesting beers with us. As well as running the blog and giving regular beer tastings at <u>De Klomp</u> Magnus has recently qualified as a beer judge. He'll be giving three tastings over the two days and will be changing the beer line-up for every one.

Into The Dark!

Brace yourselves for a journey over to the dark side of beer with stout and porter expert, beer book author and Lord vice President of the Porter Drinkers' Association Otto Lundell, If anyone can tell you the difference between a porter and a stout, he can! (I'm going to this one!)

Great Danes

Per Olaf Huusfeldt from <u>Djävlebryg</u>, Martin Jensen from <u>Raasted Bryghus</u> and Bill Endersen from <u>Black</u> <u>Rooster Brewery</u> will be on hand to take you through a selection of their amazing beers and describe the explosion in craft beer in Denmark in recent years.

And last but not least.....



BrewDog Does Linköping!

It's just been confirmed that <u>BrewDog's</u> Swedish importer <u>Cask Sweden</u> will be attending Beer Expo and true to form BrewDog will be ripping up convention and provoking extreme reactions with a tasting of some of their most talked-about beers led by.....me!

That's right, I'm hooking up with BrewDog to host three tastings in which I'll tell you all about the maverick Scottish micro that has taken the brewing world by storm with its punky attitude and revolutionary beers.

I'm keeping the exact list of beers we'll be trying a secret for now, but lets just say a favourite lady friend of mine might be there and I'm busy persuading BrewDog founders James and Martin to send over some very special bottles from their secret stash!

Some of these details may be subject to last minute changes so for more details of exactly when and how much each tasting costs remember to stay tuned to Beer Expo's website and Facebook page.

See you in Linköping!