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SAMUEL ADAMS LATITUDE 48 IPA AHTANUM

Brewery : *Boston Beer Company - Boston*

ABV: 6.0%

Style: IPA

Updated: 5/17/2011

The first review in our sampling of the Latitude 48 'Deconstructed' series from Samuel Adams features the Ahtanum hop. This hop varietal is similar to Amarillo and Cascade hops, but slightly less bitter. It presents some citrus notes, but for the most part it presents more earthy and floral characteristics on both the nose and in flavor. This beer pours a deep amber/copper color, that is similar to the original Latitude 48, only just slightly darker. The same tan, frothy, 2-finger head with medium carbonation is present in this single hopped version of the IPA. very faint grapefruit notes come through on the nose, while sweet caramel malt battles the earthy notes of the Ahtanum hops for 'most detectable aroma.' The intent of this beer is of course to highlight the nuances of the Ahtanum hop, not only in aroma but in flavor. A slight hop character, defined again by earthy characteristics is the most apparent. However a sweet caramel malt flavor is the most easily detectable. Overall this offering does a nice job in presenting the Ahtanum hop varietal. It's a smooth, easy drink that manages to be refreshing while still pointing out the subtleties of the hop. We would have liked the hop to be a bit more "in your face," as it took a good amount of digging to get it's attributes. Also, the end of the drink was pretty dry, which could just be a product of the hop itself, but it did detract from the overall experience of the beer.

http://www.brewbound.com/reviews/Boston_Beer_Company/Latitude_48_IPA_Ahtanum

BREWBOUND RATING: ★★☆☆☆



SAMUEL ADAMS LATITUDE 48 IPA EAST KENT GOLDINGS

Brewery : *Boston Beer Company - Boston*

ABV: 6.0%

Style: IPA

Updated: 5/18/2011

Our second review in the "Deconstructed" series features the East Kent Golding hop varietal. The pour on this brew is very similar to both the original Latitude 48 and the Ahtanum versions- a copper pale color. However, the amber hue that was present in the last two is not as apparent in this offering. The aroma is almost nothing like an IPA, very sweet and somewhat floral. After digging for quite a while, we began to wonder if the hops were even added. Then we were reminded that this varietal offers notes of earthiness and sweetness and less of the citrus nose that are more accustomed to the IPA style. The flavor is exactly what you would expect after experiencing the aroma- sweet malts combined with a hop addition that only adds to the sweetness. This beer drinks pretty smooth, from start to finish, with almost no "spiciness" that is sometimes present in a hoppy IPA. Low carbonation makes for an easy drink, but the finish is incredibly dry- probably the only way to detect the addition of East Kent Goldings if you didn't know their flavor qualities. Overall, we thought this offering did a much better job in presenting the hop, than did the Ahtanum. That said, it really isn't that pleasing to drink. The beer seems unbalanced and almost unfinished. Obviously the point of the beer is to accentuate the qualities of the beer, but on a drinkability level this wasn't our favorite. 3.5 stars for it's ability to present the hop, not the overall drinking experience.

[http://brewbound.com/reviews/Boston Beer Company/Samuel Adams Latitude 48 IPA East Kent Goldings](http://brewbound.com/reviews/Boston_Beer_Company/Samuel_Adams_Latitude_48_IPA_East_Kent_Goldings)

BREWBOUND RATING: ★★★★★



SAMUEL ADAMS LATITUDE 48 IPA HALLERTAU MITTELFRUEH

Brewery : [Boston Beer Company - Boston](#)

ABV: 6.0%

Style: IPA

Updated: 5/19/2011

The more we drink each of these offerings from the 'Deconstructed' variety pack, the more we recognize the subtle nuances of each hop. This beer pours the lightest color of any we have tried, more of an orange-pale rather than amber-ruby. The same frothy head is there, but this seems to be a bit more white, and not the 'off-white' color that highlighted the previous offerings. The aroma was difficult on this one, not much being offered up other than some earthy hop notes that are very faint. The one characteristic that was most striking however was the "fresh" attribute of the hop. If you have ever put your nose to a handful of whole-cone hops, and picked up that earthy, leafy scent, you know what we are talking about. Of the four we have sampled so far, this one appears to be the most sessionable, and well balanced- making it the most drinkable. A bit of sweetness is present, but the smooth and flavorful quality given by the Hallertau Mittelfrueh hop addition is what makes this beer. It is not super bitter, only on the finish, which tends to linger (but not in a bad way). The hop gives nice taste and bittering qualities without being "in your face," or dry. Overall, we think this beer could easily stand alone and be sold by itself.

[http://brewbound.com/reviews/Boston Beer Company/Samuel Adams Latitude 48 IPA Hallertau Mittelfrueh](http://brewbound.com/reviews/Boston_Beer_Company/Samuel_Adams_Latitude_48_IPA_Hallertau_Mittelfrueh)

BREWBOUND RATING: ★★☆☆☆



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SAMUEL ADAMS LATITUDE 48 IPA SIMCOE

Brewery : *Boston Beer Company - Boston*

ABV: 6.0%

Style: Unknown

Updated: 5/20/2011

If there is a single beer from the entire "Deconstructed" variety pack that to us seems the most complete, our vote is undoubtedly for the Simcoe. This beer pours a copper-pale color, much like the others, with a nice 2-finger tan head. While there were slight variances in each of the others we tried, this seemed to have the most "IPA-like" attributes with respect to color - a bright glowing orange hue. The aroma here presents a fresh citrus scent, most notably grapefruit and a clean lemon zest. On taste, similar characteristics are noticed, grapefruit being chief among them. This beer has a nice balance of slightly sweet malt, which adds to the drinkability of the brew. It is smooth upfront and bitter on the finish, however it is not dry. The bitterness lingers for just a bit and then slowly fades, encouraging another sip. Our favorite part about this offering is that the hop, while its presence was known, did not scorch the palate with spiciness. A bit more flavor on the malt end would have been nice, but this being a single-hopped IPA, we aren't complaining. Of all the styles in the pack, this could probably stand-alone just fine as an IPA. The Hallertau Mittelfruh hop version we sampled yesterday, while very good, did not remind us enough of an IPA to stand alone in that category.

[http://www.brewbound.com/Reviews/Boston Beer Company/Samuel Adams Latitude 48 IPA Simcoe](http://www.brewbound.com/Reviews/Boston_Beer_Company/Samuel_Adams_Latitude_48_IPA_Simcoe)

BREWBOUND RATING: ★★☆☆☆



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SAMUEL ADAMS LATITUDE 48 IPA ZEUS

Brewery : *Boston Beer Company - Boston*

ABV: 6.0%

Style: IPA

Updated: 5/21/2011

Our final installment in the Latitude 48 'Deconstructed' reviews series is "Zeus." Though Zeus, in mythology is the "Father of Gods and men," the hop with the same name really wasn't our favorite. The color seemed to lack the brightness that the other single-hopped Latitude beers had. That "glowing" amber or orange hue wasn't as apparent even though it still had the signature IPA copper color characteristic and off white head. The zeus hop, most commonly used for bittering has a very floral aroma. This offering was certainly floral at first but after digging a bit deeper, a slight citrus scent emerged. An overwhelming earthiness and a slightly sweet malt character was the most apparent attribute of this beer. Interestingly enough, this beer doesn't drink too incredibly hoppy. In fact, an earthy, piney taste is the most noticeable characteristic of the Zeus hop. The Spiciness made this beer less drinkable than we would have liked and also made that 6.0% ABV seem a bit "hotter" than it actually is. The beer was a bit too dry and really left your taste-buds crying for a glass of water (almost like licking a bunch of envelopes). Overall, I think we were able to notice the nuances of the Zeus hop varietal, but of all the beers we sampled from the 'Deconstructed' pack, this was probably our least favorite. It probably couldn't stand alone, and definitely needed the help of some other hops to help round out the flavor profile. Hats off to Jim Koch and the Samuel Adams team for their creativeness with the "Deconstructed" project!

http://brewbound.com/Reviews/Boston_Beer_Company/Samuel_Adams_Latitude_48_IPA_Zeus

BREWBOUND RATING: ★★☆☆☆