



May all your fermentations be Great Fermentations!

## Night Sky – A superb Czech Dark Lager from our own Steve Kent!

Dark and delicious! Night Sky is a clean and crisp Czech style dark lager from our own Steve Kent! Munich, aromatic and Carafa II combine to give malty and toasty flavors and a dark color, and traditional Saaz hops lend their character to this beer. Truly an outstanding version of this classic style!

### BEER SPECS

Original Gravity: **1.044—1.047**

Final Gravity: **1.010—1.013**

IBU: 28 - 32

ABV%: 4.1% - 4.9%

Yield: 5 Gallons

### NOT INCLUDED IN KIT

Irish Moss (*for clarity, optional*)

Yeast

Bottle Caps (*53 caps needed*)

Priming Sugar (*5oz or 3/4 cup*)

### USEFUL INFORMATION

Wort = unfermented beer

Rack = to transfer from one vessel to another

Pitch = to add yeast to the fermenter

OG = Original Gravity: Specific Gravity Before Fermentation

FG = Final Gravity: Specific Gravity After Fermentation

ABV = Alcohol by Volume

ABW = Alcohol by Weight

IBU = International Bittering Units

**Alcohol by Volume Equation:**

**$\%ABW = (OG-FG) \times 105$**

**$\%ABV = ABW \times 1.25$**

### RECIPE DETAILS

5.0 lbs. Light Dry Malt Extract

2 lbs. Light Munich Malt

0.75 lb. Aromatic Malt

0.50 lb. Carafa II Malt

### FERMENTABLES

### SPECIALTY GRAINS

#### 60 Minute Boil

2.0 oz. Saaz hops, added 45 min from the end of the boil

1.0 tsp. Irish moss (*optional*), added 20 min from the end of the boil

1.0 oz. Saaz hops, added 10 min from the end of the boil

### BOIL SCHEDULE

YEAST SUGGESTIONS: Imperial Yeast L28 Urkel Yeast, White Labs WLP802 Czech Budejovice Lager Yeast, Wyeast 2278 Czech Pilsen Yeast or Omega Labs Lutra dry yeast

### EQUIPMENT

#### REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

- 3 gal or larger Brew Pot
- 6.5 gal Primary Fermenter
- Siphon Hose/Racking Cane
- Large Spoon or Paddle
- Air Lock
- Hydrometer
- Thermometer
- Cleanser
- Sanitizer
- Bottles or Kegging System

#### RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

- 7.5 gal Brew Pot
- Wort Chiller
- 5 gal Secondary Fermenter
- Thief
- Oxygen Cylinder
- Aeration Stone

#### Included Muslin Bags

Grain = 2

Hop = 0



# Brewing Instructions: Night Sky

## PRIOR TO BREWING

1. **Clean and Sanitize** all equipment, tubing, etc.
2. If using Omega, Imperial Organic or White Labs liquid yeast, remove package(s) from fridge and let warm for 4-8 hours at room temperature. If using a Wyeast Activator pack, remove package(s) from fridge and 'smack' the pack to release the nutrients. Allow pack to swell for 4-8 hours at room temperature. If making a starter, prepare it 1 to 3 days before pitching.

## BREWING DAY

1. Fill kettle with water and heat to 160F.
  - Partial boil method: fill kettle with as much water as possible while leaving room for grains, malt extract, and boil volume.
  - Full boil method: fill kettle to approximately 6.5 gal water for a volume of 5 gal post-boil.
2. Rehydrate Irish moss in 1/2 cup warm water. Set aside (*optional, for clarity*).
3. Turn off burner (remove kettle from heating element if using an electric stove). Place crushed specialty grains in a muslin bag and soak in **150-155F water for 30 minutes**. Remove bag, and allow remaining water in grains to drain into kettle. Do not squeeze the grains.
4. While stirring, add malt extracts until fully dissolved.
5. Turn the heat on and bring wort to a boil. **WATCH OUT!** Just before the boil, the wort rapidly rises.
6. Follow **Boil Schedule** on opposite page under 'Recipe Details'
7. At end of boil, chill wort as quickly as possible to **60-70F** with a wort chiller or an ice bath. Place lid on kettle while chilling.
8. Siphon or pour cooled wort into fermenter leaving as much sediment behind as possible:
  - Partial Boil: Add sterile water (packaged drinking water) to fermenter to reach 5.25 gal
  - Full Boil: Siphon entire volume of wort into fermenter.
9. **Aerate wort** well by stirring, shaking or oxygenating.
10. Sanitize yeast package and use sanitized scissors to open package. Pitch yeast and attach airlock. If using a yeast starter, pitch entire contents of yeast starter into wort.
11. Move fermenter to a dark place with a steady temperature of **64-72F** if using Lutra or Star Party yeast, or **46-54F** if using Urkel or another traditional lager yeast.

## FERMENTATION

We recommend a primary fermentation of two weeks at 64° - 95°F if using Lutra. A secondary fermentation can be used to improve clarity and reduce sedimentation, if desired.

If using a traditional lager yeast, ferment at 46-54F during primary fermentation. Once the gravity has dropped 3/4ths of the way to the expected final gravity, raise the temperature of the beer by 8-10 degrees for 2-3 days until primary fermentation completes, then lager at 38-42F for 2-6 weeks. (Reference Final Gravity under 'Beer Specs')

## BOTTLING

1. Ensure there is no bubbling in the airlock, and that your beer has reached final gravity.
2. **Clean and sanitize** all bottles, caps, bottling equipment and bottling bucket.
3. Dissolve **3/4 cup (5 oz) priming sugar** in 2 cups boiling water. Boil for 5 min then chill to 70-80F and add to bottling bucket.
4. Siphon beer from fermenter into bottling bucket, being careful not to rouse up sediment on bottom of fermenter.
5. Stir thoroughly but gently to avoid introducing oxygen.
6. Using the bottle filler, fill bottles and cap them.
7. Store bottles at room temperature for **2 weeks** or until carbonated

## TIPS FOR SUCCESS

1. Clean AND Sanitize!
2. Avoid using softened water or Reverse Osmosis water.
3. Make sure the specialty grains are loose inside the muslin bag to ensure water reaches the entire amount.
4. Tie muslin bag to handle of kettle to prevent potential scorching on bottom of kettle.
5. Be sure not to exceed 155F while steeping grains to avoid unwanted flavors.
6. Turn off heat source and stir well while adding malt extract to avoid scorching on the bottom of the kettle.
7. Keep a spray bottle of water at hand to spray top of wort if it nears a boil over.
8. While racking, be sure not to introduce oxygen into your beer by splashing or shaking.
9. Maintain a constant temperature during fermentation.
10. Visit [www.greatfermentations.com](http://www.greatfermentations.com) for more brewing tips and tricks.

