

WIE TRINKT MAN BIER? / GERMAN BEER CUSTOMS

OVERWHELMED BY THE BEER MENU? HOW TO MAKE THE PERFECT BEER ORDER IN GERMAN

3. Not Bothering Your German Bartender

Woraus trinkt man Bier? (How can you drink beer?, drinking wares)

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| 1. das Bierglas, die Biergläser (0,3 l / 0,5 l) | (beer glass) |
| 2. der Bierkrug, die Bierkrüge (0,5 l / 1 l) | (beer mug) |
| die Maß, die Maße | (beer mug) |
| 3. die Flasche, die Flaschen (Fl) | (bottle) |
| 4. die Dose, die Dosen | (beer can) |

So you know how to order and you're not confused by the *Getränkete* (drink menu). That's a start.

But then your bartender says, "*Groß oder klein?*" (large or small?). Huh? What now?

Most of the time, a small beer is about a third of a liter and a large is a half-liter. If you're at Oktoberfest, the traditional *Maß* (mug) is a full liter.

Sizes must be marked by law. There's a legal pour line on every single glass in every German bar, so you know you're always getting your money's worth.

Depending where you get your drink on, you may be charged a Euro or two more than the price on the menu. This is common at events like concerts or festivals where people walk around with their beers, but shouldn't come up at a sit-down bar. If it happens, don't freak out: this is just the *Pfand* (glass deposit). If you bring your empty glass, mug or bottle back to your bartender without breaking it, you'll get your coin back.