

# THE NORTHWEST BREW PAGE

## ELYSIAN BREWERY

### Elysian Brewing Co. and Public House

1221 E. Pike Street, Seattle

Tel: (206) 860-1920

#### ● Beer:

Since opening in May 1996, the Elysian's initial selection of three house ales - pale ale, ESB, and stout - has expanded considerably. Owner- brewer Dick Cantwell, formerly with the Big Time Brewery and Alehouse (unaffiliated with the Elysian) has expanded the selection considerably since then, including a hoppy IPA, a porter, a strong ale weighing in at around 1080 OG, a wild rice ale, and a couple of lagers, including an exceptional export-style Dortmund, as well as an ever-expanding assortment of seasonal and specialty beers. Recent additions have included a Weizenbock and a wintertime barleywine, and a handpump has been added for serving a cask-conditioned ales. Elysian beers are also brewed at a small brewery downtown, in the Gameworks entertainment complex. Assistant brewer Markus Stinson works with Cantwell in brewing the current line of distinctive Elysian brews. Guest taps are also featured, and then there's the obligatory megalager: canned Black Label for those who want it.

#### ● Food: *← Could be suspect!*

The original menu featured distinctive ethnic accents, especially from the mediterranean, and there was a bit of Indian and Caribbean influence too, like hummous platters with crispy pita, curry-roasted Cornish hen, spiced ground-lamb patties, and such. The menu has since been revamped a couple of times, but the quality is decent, prices are reasonable, and the food is an excellent accompaniment to the ales.

#### ● Atmosphere:

Huge open room, informal atmosphere, brewery clearly visible in back, industrial design with exposed ductwork in the ceiling. Nice textured- copper decor on the bar, too. Is this Seattle's answer to Portland's Lucky Labrador? Well, perhaps not really. It's a bit more fancy, quite a bit bigger, but similarly unpretentious and just a touch rustic, although the menu here is more varied. There's a second bar at the back "downstairs" area, a "living room" seating area back there, too, and a deck for warm-weather quaffing. Want to know more? Have a look at Elysian Brewing's homepage.

#### ● Smoking Policy:

Allowed, but the high-ceilinged room is well-ventilated.

#### ● Happy Hour, Specials:

Specials are available sporadically, especially if one beer needs to make way for the next seasonal specialty. Prices here are already quite reasonable.