

GIN

DEFINITION

Gin is a flavored alcoholic beverage produced by redistilling high proof spirits with juniper berries and other botanicals.

- Gin originated over three centuries ago in Holland when Franciscus 'de la Boe' Sylvius, professor of medicine in Holland's University of Leiden mixed juniper berries and alcohol to cure kidney complaints.
- The word "Gin" is an abbreviation either derived from the French word '*genievre*' or the Dutch word '*junever*' both meaning juniper berry.
- British soldiers took the drink before going into battle in the Netherlands which gave them 'Dutch Courage'.
- They developed liking for the taste and took the art of making this spirit to England.
- By 18th Century Gin became a cheap remedy for London's poor and there was no control over the production of Gin and was produced all over London.
- The famous phrase came about because of the cheapness of Gin. "Drunk for a penny and dead drunk for two pence, clean straw or nothing".
- Some employers even gave Gin to their employees as part payment of wages.

STYLES OF GIN

- Dutch Gin / Holland Gin / Schiedam Gin / Genevar Gin / Geneva Gin
- London Dry Gin / Dry Gin / English Gin

MANUFACTURING PROCESS OF DUTCH GIN

Equal quantities of malt, corn & rye are mashed and fermented



Distilled in Pot Still (2 or 3 times)



Redistilled with addition of Juniper berries and other aromatics



Stored in glass lined containers and then bottled

CHARACTERISTICS OF DUTCH GIN

- Full-bodied with clear and pronounced malty aroma and flavor
- Not ideal for mixed drinks/cocktails as its own taste is predominant
- Maturation is not required
- Color is adjusted with caramel
- It is best enjoyed straight and chilled
- Bottled in stone crocks – excellent bar display

MANUFACTURING PROCESS OF LONDON DRY GIN

75% Corn + 15% malt + 10% others mashed and fermented



Distilled in Patent still (90% to 95% al v/v)



Dilution with distilled water (60% al v/v)



Distilled in Pot Still with juniper berries and other botanicals

(85% to 90% al v/v)



Dilution to marketing strength and bottled

CHARACTERISTICS OF LONDON DRY GIN

- Originally made in and around London (most English gins are still made there). Now it's a generic term.
- Dry means nothing as all gins are dry.
- It is colorless and light bodied.
- It is used mainly in the preparation of mixed drinks/cocktails.

BRAND NAMES

Dutch Gin – Bols, Kokma, De Kuyper, Hasekamp, Jonga Graan Jenver

London Dry Gins - Booth's, Gordon's, House of Lords, Calvert, Tanqueray, Gilbey's, Beefeaters, White Satin