



Introducing the *John Adams* *New England Common*

The “John Adams” is our New England Common, a darker, more roasted version of “Steam Beer,” made using 2-Row, Crystal, Northern Brewer hops, and a lager yeast strain fermented at ale temperatures. Our version of this classic is more malty and less hoppy with a nice clean finish.

John Adams was a Founding Father, the first vice president of the United States and the second president. His son, John Quincy Adams, was the nation’s sixth president.

John Adams was born on October 30, 1735, in Quincy, Massachusetts. He was a direct descendant of Puritan colonists from the Massachusetts Bay Colony. At age 16, Adams earned a scholarship to attend Harvard University, where he received his undergraduate degree and master’s, and in 1758 was admitted to the bar. In 1774, he served on the First Continental Congress and helped draft the Declaration of Independence. Adams became the first vice president of the United States and the second president.

Adams quickly became identified with the patriot cause, initially as the result of his opposition to the Stamp Act of 1765. Adams argued that the Stamp Act deprived American colonists of the basic rights to be taxed by consent and to be tried by a jury of peers. Adams publicly denounced the act as invalid in a speech delivered to the Massachusetts governor and his council.

In 1770, Adams agreed to represent the British soldiers on trial for killing five civilians in what became known as the Boston Massacre. He believed that every person deserved a defense, and he took the case without hesitation.

The jury acquitted six of the eight soldiers, while two were convicted of manslaughter. Reaction to Adams’s defense of the soldiers was hostile, and his law practice suffered greatly. However, his actions later enhanced his reputation as a courageous, generous and fair man.

Adams was elected to the Massachusetts Assembly and was one of five to represent the colony at the First Continental Congress, in 1774.

In May 1776, Congress approved Adams’s resolution proposing that the colonies each adopt independent governments. On June 7, 1776, Adams seconded Richard Henry Lee’s resolution of independence, and backed it passionately until it was adopted by Congress on July 2, 1776.

In 1796, Adams was elected as the Federalist nominee for president and won the election by a narrow margin, becoming the second president of the United States.

Adams married Abigail Smith. They had six children. Both Adams and Thomas Jefferson died on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of American independence. Adams’s last words were, “Thomas Jefferson survives.”