



Introducing the *The Trenton IPA* *Commemorating The Battle of Trenton*

Our Trenton IPA is a light, refreshing IPA made using a single malt barley (Premium 2-Row) and a single hop (Centennial). It is well balanced with a clean fresh citrus finish. The Trenton IPA is dedicated to, what many historians consider, the most pivotal battle of the Revolutionary War.

In early December 1776, American morale was very low. The Americans had been ousted from New York by the British and their Hessian auxiliaries, and the Continental Army was forced to retreat across New Jersey. Ninety percent of the Continental Army soldiers who had served at Long Island were gone. Men had deserted, feeling that the cause for independence was lost. Washington, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, expressed some doubts, writing to his cousin in Virginia, "I think the game is pretty near up."

At the time a small town in New Jersey, Trenton was occupied by three regiments of Hessian soldiers commanded by Colonel Johann Rall, numbering about 1,400 men. Washington's force comprised 2,400 men, with infantry divisions commanded by Major Generals Nathanael Greene and John Sullivan, and artillery under the direction of Brigadier General Henry Knox.

Before Washington and his troops left, Benjamin Rush came to visit the General. While he was there, he saw a note Washington had written, saying, "Victory or Death." Those words would be the password for the surprise attack. Each soldier carried 60 rounds of ammunition, and three days of rations. When the army arrived at the shores of the Delaware, they were already

behind schedule, clouds began to form, and it began to rain. As the air's temperature dropped, the rain changed to sleet, and then snow.

The Americans began to cross the river, with John Glover in command. The men went across in Durham boats, while the horses and artillery went across on large ferries. The 14th Continental Regiment of Glover manned the boats. No one died during the crossing, and all the artillery pieces made it over in good condition.

The terrible weather conditions delayed the landings in New Jersey until 3:00 am; the plan was that they were supposed to be completed by 12:00 am. Washington realized it would be impossible to launch a pre-dawn attack.

The army then marched 9 miles south to Trenton. Many soldiers did not have shoes and as they marched they left a visible blood trail in the snow.

After having a Christmas feast, the Hessians fell asleep, not expecting an attack at Christmas. Washington's forces caught them off guard and during the intense forty five minute battle that ensued the Hessian forces suffered 22 fatalities, 100 wounded, and 1,000 captured. The Americans suffered only two fatalities and five injuries from war wounds.

With the success of the revolution in doubt only a week earlier, the army had seemed on the verge of collapse. But the dramatic victory at Trenton was a turning point in the revolution, inspiring soldiers to serve longer and attracting new recruits to the ranks.