

100 Bars in 100 Days

Hops MacBarley's 2012 Key West Bar Boondoggle
"The Peace, Love, and I.P.A. Tour"

BAR 25:

Tattoos & Scars Saloon
www.tattoosandscarsalloon.com

512 Greene Street
Saturday 8/5, 11:45 pm

Tattoos & Scars 5.8 Ale (draft)

Another fairly new place on the KW barscape, Tattoos & Scars brought some biker vibe to town. The tables sport the logo in black and red and a gearhead font, and the ashtrays are piston heads. I don't know if you have to be well-inked to get a barkeep gig here, but they all boast an extensive array of body art.

In some places, all of that can be intimidating, but in here it's part of the design. If the building was dark and smoky and smelled like goat blood, then, yeah, that stuff

would be daunting. But you walk in here and immediately see that this interior is brand new, and the room is brighter than expected.



I sat down around mid-bar – right at the taps, of course -- and a kinda heavy late-20s dude with shaggy blond hair and a baseball cap eventually came over. To be fair, he had been checking stock and didn't see me; he wasn't just blowing me off. He came over and I asked, *Hey, (his name was Hey) who makes the Tattoos & Scars 5.8 Ale?* I knew they didn't brew their own. It was like when I tended at Uno's; we sold Uno Amber Ale, but it was Sam Adams Boston Ale with a contracted label. I figured that had to be the case here.

I dunno, he replied, *Kinda like an IPA*. That wasn't what I asked, but I think he might've been lacking the info I was after, so I just thumbs-upped it. It wasn't

bad (I suspect it was Red Hook IPA), and when he said, \$3.50, *please*, I thought, *yeah, not bad at all!* Kinda sad, though, when you think that \$3.50 is a good price for a mystery beer, but such is the life of a drinkin' man in the Conch Republic.

I totally dig the ceiling here. Big thick wooden beams span the long narrow room, and the peaked ceiling is planked with clean light wood that looks sharrrrrp. It's one of my favorite ceilings in KW. Honestly. What are yours?

Another reason I love this ceiling is the way it sounds. T&S has a treeemendous sound system. It's mostly classic rock that they play – including video concerts on the big TVs – and it just downpours onto you. Those huge box speakers built right into the beams give strong and ballsy sound. Second to none in K-Dub.

As I sat there being thrummed by the music and enjoying my kinda-IPA, I scoped out the decorations. Posters of naked, tattooed bodies clung to the sloped ceiling, four electric guitars are displayed in glass cases behind the pool table, a big wagon wheel chandelier dangles in the middle of the room, and, I noticed finally, a full-size, honest-to Murgatroyd Harley-Davidson motorcycle was suspended jusssst about right above me. I sure hoped it was well attached.

