

B - Beverage

A beverage is normally defined as a drink specifically prepared for human consumption. It specifically excludes plain water, but can refer to soft drinks, teas, coffees, juices or milk-based drinks such as shakes. Except to satisfy the basic human needs, beverages are part of the cultural richness of human societies. Generally speaking, wines, beers and spirits are classified specifically as alcoholic beverages.

The word beverage comes from the Old French word *beverage* (modern version *boivre*), meaning 'to drink'. The modern French equivalent is 'breuvage'. Other expressions include 'bebida' in Spain and Portugal, 'bevanda' in Italy, 'getränk' in Germany and 'drank' in Dutch.