

Best bars

The Best Places to Grab a Drink in New York City



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East River views from Ophelia | Credit: Ophelia

Every night in New York City is bar night. With thousands of excellent drinking establishments to choose from, bar hopping never gets boring, whether you're in the mood to taste trending cocktails, sip through a well-curated wine menu, or even sulk with a paperback in the corner of a dark dive. The NYC bar scene is unparalleled for its diversity, high-quality drinks, and bartenders who truly know their booze. Skip the hour-long sidewalk waits and awkward conversations by reaching for a reservation instead—here are some of New York's best bars to sip a drink.

Ophelia (Midtown East)



A cocktail at Ophelia | Credit: Ophelia

An Art Deco-inspired cocktail lounge on the 26th floor of the historic Beekman Tower, Ophelia is a delight overlooking the East River. The bar feels nostalgic yet contemporary, serving creative riffs on classic cocktails such as a martini smoked with palo santo wood and a negroni mixed with strawberries and black tea. A chic menu features bites like truffle fries, foie gras toast, and burrata caprese.