

The 12 Best Bars in NYC, According to Bartenders

We asked the experts to weigh in on their favorites

Who better to recommend the best bars in any given city than the people who spend more time in them than anyone else? Welcome to our Best Bars in the United States series, where we've asked our favorite bartenders in the nation to select their most beloved drinking establishments in their city.



Mother's Ruin Punch from Death & Co

Death & Co

Death & Co

Amir Babayoff actually started out as an actor but fell in love with mixology while working in restaurants to support himself in-between auditions. Now, as the bar director at Ophelia, he's inspired by the bar's historic home to create its eclectic drink menus. "There are many bars in New York City that I have personally experienced and go to regularly that fit my personality and that I connect to, which is what makes a bar great, in my opinion," he says. "First is Death & Co, as I love their attention to detail with technique and the spirit matching and layering of their cocktails. The space is small and intimate, which goes perfectly with the meticulously created beverage offerings, really presenting a great experience through and through."