

THE WORLD'S

TOP BARS

Discover the best bars the world has to offer.



Barts

87 Sloane Avenue, Chelsea
London, England

Hidden in the depths of a faceless 1930s apartment building, this American speakeasy is as swanky as it is secret, so dress to impress. Whisper the password to the wall's peeping eyes and find yourself transported back to the Prohibition era – think upholstered wallpaper, antique furniture and soft jazz tunes. An extensive list of cocktails, bubbles and wine will have you shaking off the dreary London cold in no time. Try the tobacco-infused cocktail Holy Smoke, a velvety concoction of Perique Tobacco Liqueur, cognac, rum and vanilla, or share one of Barts's signature teas – a cocktail served in a teapot. When the weather permits, plonk yourself in the outdoor garden area and enjoy your 'tea' in the sunshine.

barts-london.com



Cabana Pool Bar

11 Polson Street
Toronto, Canada

Toss on your togs and head to Toronto's showiest pool party on the city's waterfront. With its Miami vibe and flashes of tanned flesh, the Cabana will have you feeling as though you've jumped the border and landed in sunny Florida. Top DJs pump out electronic dance music, and punters splash out on shisha, cocktails and costly cabanas – \$1500 a pop for those willing to part with their cash. The prime real estate is found poolside on a warm summer afternoon and is the spot to see and be seen. The cover charge and drinks prices can quickly empty your wallet, but when you're drying off with a mojito in hand enjoying the gorgeous views of Toronto's skyline, will you really care?

cabanapoolbar.com



Rosa Bonheur

2, Allée de la Cascade, Parc des Buttes Chaumont
Paris, France

Tucked away in one of the many parks Paris is famous for, this leafy find pulls masses of patrons who pack the dance floor and spill onto the patio at night. The bar and bistro is named after a feminist French artist renowned for her animal paintings, so it's no surprise it draws artistic types, including a queer choir on Sundays, as well as professionals, bohos and everyone in between. Explore the park's lake, cliffs and grassy fields then nab yourself one of the patio picnic tables and replenish your stores with French-style tapas and lashings of wine. Don't leave your entry too late – lines snake down the path as soon as the sun sets and a drink can be a long time coming. The park-side setting is unusual but it ensures there are few tourists among the mostly Parisian crowd.

rosabonheur.fr



Zhou Zhou

455 Chapel Street, South Yarra
Melbourne, Australia

For a slice of Shanghai chic in Melbourne seek out the Oriental Teahouse in trendy Chapel Street, climb the stairs and enter Zhou Zhou. You'll find yourself surrounded by colourful upholstery and wicker chairs – a nod to Shanghai of the past with a modern twist. Beer is king here and you'll be spoilt for choice with more than 50 Asian brews and specialist craft beers on offer. That's not to say the menu lacks variety. The 30-page drinks list has a tippie for every taste, with offerings ranging from sake and wine to Asian-inspired cocktails. If you need something to line your stomach, chow on yum cha direct from the Oriental Teahouse, whose famous morsels include the chocolate-filled Chinese Wonka Dumpling.

zhouzhou.com.au



1-Altitude

One Raffles Place
Singapore

A leafy watering hole in the middle of an urban jungle. A rooftop bar with spine-tingling views. 1-Altitude is the kind of bar that crosses genres, but is most famous for its

knee-quaking position on the 63rd floor of One Raffles Place – one of the tallest skyscrapers in Singapore. Shoot up the elevator and step out onto the alfresco courtyard lined with swaying palm trees and tropical plants. Climb the lit staircase, grab onto the handrails and prepare to be gobsmacked. The gallery takes you to the edge – literally – with uninterrupted views of the

city skyline. Slip into one of the illuminated chairs, order a Singapore Sling and strike out one of the entries on your bucket list – you have officially made it to the highest alfresco bar in the world. The bragging rights will cost you though – there's a hefty cover charge and the drinks are expensive.

1-altitude.com

