



SG
MAGAZINE

NIGHTLIFE

2020

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EDITOR'S NOTE

WRITE DRUNK, EDIT SOBER

Drink writers toss the above phrase around a lot.

It's almost always said in jest to take jibes at how creative writing is oftentimes done better while tipsy, even though plenty of sober editing may be required later. In the process of writing this guide however, that phrase has never been more true.

The Singapore nightlife scene has proliferated so much that we find ourselves constantly drinking in the name of work (someone's gotta do it). While we insist on checking out every single spot in town, sometimes we do miss out. That's why, with our annual *SG Nightlife* awards and guide, we rely on you to tell us what you think is best. Entries are all voted in by the public, sweet and simple.

Yet we don't want to just give out another cookie cutter award. With this accolade, we seek to cover a sore gap in the market by appreciating all of Singapore's nightlife, and not just mixology (no matter how sexy it is). That's why we have categories that range from snazzy craft beer joints to ratchet dive bars, banging nightclubs to brimming bottle shops. We raise our glasses to them all.

In our 2020 edition, we've even added a new "Best Local Distillery or Brewery" category, to help galvanise the nascent, but ever-so-important area in the world of alcohol. What's more important than actually making them, right? And to do so in Singapore is such an uphill task (thanks taxman) that only a handful of people have successfully done so. Kudos to them, we say.

So cheers everyone, and read on—time to slake that thirst.

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See page 40.

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BEST COCKTAIL BAR

Being a cocktail capital of the world, Singapore has no lack of quality concoctions. But it's safe to say the bars below offer more than elaborate, exquisite drinks. In this highly competitive category, truly only the ones that managed to capture the hearts and minds of guests stood out.

1. HOPSCOTCH

You won't find this place mentioned in many awards or lists, and yet, rising above Singapore's greats is this very local, very fun bar tucked away in quaint Gillman Barracks. On the menu are craft cocktails themed after things as quirky as Singapore's ice cream cart uncles. It's also nice that Hopscotch doesn't take itself too seriously. It's all about having a good time here.

■ 45 Malan Rd., 6339-0633, hopscotch.sg

2. JIGGER & PONY

The always dependable choice for a great night out. Since the move to their current location, they've only grown from strength to strength, dishing out a cocktail list that caters to a wide range of taste buds, yet consistently intriguing and well thought out. Our current favourite has got to be the floral and complex Rice Martini.

■ G/F Amara Singapore, 165 Tanjong Pagar Rd., 9621-1074, jiggerandpony.com



HOPSCOTCH



JIGGER & PONY



NATIVE



ATLAS

3. ATLAS

A frequent appearance on many awards and features, Atlas is deserving of every accolade, thanks in no small part to their awe inspiring, gilded interiors. Entering the space alone will set your jaws dropping. But it's their cocktails and vast selection of spirits (and Champagne) that truly set them apart.

■ 1/F Parkview Square, 600 North Bridge Rd., 6396-4466, atlasbar.sg

4. NATIVE

This groundbreaking, authentic bar carries only spirits sourced from the region. While seemingly limiting, it has actually resulted in a menu like none other in Singapore. It's little wonder why Native has seen such a meteoric rise, becoming the darling of the cocktail scene here. Their insistence on sustainability gives them even more cred.

■ 52A Amoy St., 8869-6520, tribenative.com



MANHATTAN

5. MANHATTAN

With a legacy of being Singapore's top bar, this place sees a full house nearly every night. Their winning formula: an inviting space, a world-class bar programme, their very own rickhouse, and most importantly, a team of bartenders and floor staff that are passionate about what they do. It's a real dream team here.

■ 2/F Regent Singapore, 1 Cuscaden Rd., 6725-3377, fb.com/manhattansg

BEST COCKTAIL BAR



IDLEWILD

6. IDLEWILD The transatlantic air travel theme and the walk-in cabinet of curiosities are what most will be attracted to at first. But once you've had drinks like their zesty and herbaceous The French Cook, or the potent and dangerous Passage to Havana (our favourite), you'll find the alcoholic persuasion here to be the stronger draw.

■ 1/F InterContinental Singapore, 80 Middle Rd., 6825-1045, idlewild.sg

7. MADAME FAN BAR Adjoining famed Cantonese restaurant Madame Fan is this cosy bar that punches way above its weight. Find a menu of mostly spirit-forward tipples here, all masterfully concocted using traditional bar skills as well as advanced kitchen techniques not often belonging to a bar. Style and substance both abound.

■ 2/F The NCO Club, 32 Beach Rd., 6818-1921, madamefan.sg



MADAME FAN BAR

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BEST COCKTAIL BAR

8. 28 HONGKONG STREET

They are often credited as being a pioneer in the current craft cocktail boom, but that's not why we love this place so much. Promising nothing (no signboard, no socials) and overdelivering on the whole experience here is easily its best trait. That, and how a bar can dish out food that's many times better than most restaurants.

■ 28 Hong Kong St., 8318-0328, 28hks.com

28 HONGKONG STREET



OPERATION DAGGER

9. OPERATION DAGGER

2020 marks a brand new year for a brand new team at Operation Dagger. They've built on the speakeasy's successes, keeping what they know loyal customers have come to expect, but also adding new things to keep their menu original and fresh. To that end, we think they've hit the nail on the head.

■ #B1-01 7 Ann Siang Hill, 6438-4057, fb.com/operationdagger



EMPLOYEES ONLY

10. EMPLOYEES ONLY

Arriving in Singapore with a bang thanks to their NYC connection, but has since come into its own as a go-to spot for a heady night in the downtown area. There's no fuss here, just a genuinely solid spot for a guaranteed good time with friends, all while knowing your cocktails and food will be consistently awesome.

■ 112 Amoy St., 6221-7357, employeesonlysg.com

BEST SPIRITS BAR

Whisky, gin, rum, tequila—every spirit category out there has its own legion of fans. And catering to them are specialty bars where fellow enthusiasts can gather to exchange quips about their latest rare find.



THE SWAN SONG



BRASS LION DISTILLERY

1. BRASS LION DISTILLERY TASTING ROOM

Gin doesn't get any fresher than this. Bottles of their flagship Singapore Dry Gin get distilled downstairs at Singapore's first microdistillery, then served upstairs at their tasting room (that's actually a bar in its own right). Plus points for being the only spot in town offering a real-life look into the amazing world of distillation.

■ 40 Alexandra Terrace, 6954-0602, brassliondistillery.com

2. THE SWAN SONG

Opened by whisky geeks for whisky geeks, this establishment was founded with one purpose in mind—to let fellow lovers of the malted spirit experience by the dram rare and limited bottlings otherwise priced out of reach. There's truly no greater joy than one that is shared.

■ #02-01 50A Prinsep St., theswansong.com.sg

BEST SPIRITS BAR

3. CIN CIN

• Their massive collection of gin features everything from classic London Dry to Old Tom, navy strength, modern and sloe—not forgetting aged gins, flavoured gins and genever too. If gin is your choice of poison, look no further than Cin Cin for your fix.

■ #01-02 Oasia Hotel Downtown, 100 Peck Seah St., 6385-2604, cincin.com.sg

4. BAR AT 15 STAMFORD

4. Housed within the storied Capitol Kempinski Hotel Singapore is this classy rum bar. It's living proof that the oft overlooked sugarcane spirit is worthy of appreciation and admiration too. If you so desire, can even buy home choice bottlings of rum at the adjoining store.

■ 1/F The Capitol Kempinski Hotel Singapore,
15 Stamford Rd., 6368-8888, 15stamford.com



CIN CIN



THE SINGLE CASK

5. THE SINGLE CASK

• A focus on independent bottlers, lesser known distilleries and especially single cask whiskies (thus the name) may be this bar's calling card, but we find that people (us included) return here again and again just to shoot the breeze with the amicable staff. You'll find them to be folks who take their drinks seriously, but never in a snobby way. And that's the way it should be.

■ #01-25 Chijmes, 30 Victoria St.,
thesinglecask.sg



BAR AT 15 STAMFORD



THE AULD ALLIANCE

6. THE AULD ALLIANCE

Without a doubt, this is one of the world's greatest temples of whisky. With more than a thousand bottles to choose from—including some extraordinarily rare ones available by the glass—it will remain a yard stick for people here who enjoy a fine dram.

■ #02-02A Rendezvous Hotel Gallery, 9 Bras Basah Rd., 6337-2201, [fb.com/TheAuldAlliance](https://www.facebook.com/TheAuldAlliance)



THE WALL



BEST SPIRITS BAR



THE EXCISEMAN

8. THE EXCISEMAN

Like many whisky lovers, we come here to escape the world outside, a dram of rare Scotch in hand. It's a place for the non label-conscious, where you can find discontinued and unheard of releases from independent bottlers and big distilleries alike, and we can't love them more for that. The reasonable double pour prices don't hurt either.

■ #02-27 Esplanade, 8 Raffles Ave., 6963-1192, theexciseman.com



THE CHAMBERS BY CASK

9. THE CHAMBERS BY CASK

Within the confines of the renewed Maxwell Chambers is this sanctuary for whisky connoisseurs, especially for those in love with their single malts. Have a dram at the bar, or better yet, in the comfort of a hidden room where several banquet seats and even a tasting room reside.

■ #01-01 Maxwell Chambers, 28 Maxwell Rd., 8828-0101, chambersbycask.com



TAKI TAKI

10. TAKI TAKI

Not afraid to just be a fun rooftop tiki bar is this place's charm. Taki Taki's name alone ignites a tune in your head, getting you into the right mood as you imbibe their many spiced rum creations. Try the Rhumba for an elevated rum and coke, or just get your rum of choice by the glass.

■ #02-02 The Working Capitol, 1 Keong Saik Rd., fb.com/takitakig

BEST CRAFT BEER BAR

There's nothing quite like a good pint of craft beer to start a day of drinking. Whether you prefer lagers, sours, IPAs or imperial stouts, these are the best places to savour your style of choice.

1. THE 1925 BREWING CO.

Brewing and serving their own line of beers in Singapore since 2014 is The 1925, proving ever since that locally-made craft brews can be superior. The local family business has since grown beyond from when they first started as a microbrewery and restaurant (they now distribute too), but we still love visiting their establishment for a freshly-tapped pint of Liang Teh lager or Manuka Stout.

■ 261 Joo Chiat Rd., the1925.com.sg



THE 1925 BREWING CO.

2. PINK BLOSSOMS BREWING

They're primarily a craft brewery, but that hasn't stopped people from visiting their tap room (originally just meant for tastings) and knock back pints—and we can understand why. Pink Blossoms' beers are some of the most delicious in town (especially that milk stout). Plus, it's the only place where you can try their experimental creations.

■ #01-12 50 Ubi Ave 3, 6612-0215, pinkblossomsbrewing.com



PINK BLOSSOMS BREWING

BEST CRAFT BEER BAR

3. SMITH STREET TAPS

This OG hawker bar is not only a pioneer in the scene, but also a tastemaker for the industry here. You'll often find local and foreign craft beer brands making this their launch venue, and when that's not happening, you can always rely on Smith Street Taps to offer a solid range of brews for the discerning and casual drinker alike.

■ #02-62 Chinatown Complex, 335 Smith St., 9430-2750, fb.com/smithstreettaps



SMITH STREET TAPS

4. FREEHOUSE

Hard to believe it's been four years since they first opened. Freehouse is now the top-of-mind haunt for those looking for a great night out, as can be seen by the place being almost always packed to the brim (like grinding-your-way-to-the-bar packed) with folks looking for a quality, flavourful beer or cider.

■ 21A Boon Tat St., 8362-6740, fb.com/freehousesg



FREEHOUSE

5. HEART OF DARKNESS

The Saigon-based brewery's first gastropub outside of Vietnam has been a real blessing for craft beer lovers here. On its 30 taps you'll not only find cult favourites like the crazy hoppy Kurtz's Insane IPA, or the refreshingly addictive Futile Purpose Cucumber Pilsner, but also local brews from the likes of That Singapore Beer Project, Daryl's Urban Ales and Brewlander.

■ 55 Tras St., 6208-7940, fb.com/heartofdarknessbrewerySG



HEART OF DARKNESS



YANG

SINGAPORE'S LATEST NIGHTLIFE DESTINATION IN CLARKE QUAY

3A RIVER VALLEY ROAD, CLARKE QUAY, SINGAPORE 179020 [f](https://www.facebook.com/yangclubsingapore) [ig](https://www.instagram.com/yangclubsingapore) YANGCLUBSINGAPORE

BEST CRAFT BEER BAR



SG TAPS

6. SG TAPS

A firm supporter of local craft breweries, SG Taps is a dependable spot for a tapped pint or two, whether you're looking to have a meal while you're at it or not. We like that you can choose to people watch from the five foot way seats as you enjoy your drink.

■ #01-01 13 Duxton Hill, 6904-8474, sgtaps.com

7. ORH GAO TAPROOM

With a name like that ("orh gao" is the Hokkien coffeshop slang for stouts), you know they're proud of all things local. It's also cool that they attract a young and hip crowd with their 10 rotating taps pouring a good range of local and international brews with an accessible slant.

■ #01-03 Serene Centre, 10 Jalan Serene, fb.com/orhgaotaproom



ORH GAO TAPROOM

8. AMERICAN TAPROOM

Probably the best place in Singapore for craft beer geeks to come and enjoy an on-point selection of brews you might not find anywhere else. Despite the name, they don't just carry US labels, so leave your expectations at the door, head on in and open yourself up to a world of flavours.

■ #01-23 261 Waterloo St., americantaproom.com.sg



MIKKELLER BAR SINGAPORE

9. MIKKELLER BAR SINGAPORE

Mikkeller bars the world over are the default gathering spot for beer geeks, and the Singapore outpost is no different. Their 25 rotating taps pour a mix of Mikkeller standards, experimental creations and collab brews, with three Singapore exclusives—Bugis Brown, Prinsep Pilsner and Waterloo Wit—offering just that dash of local.

■ 2/F 7 Purvis St., fb.com/MikkellerBarSg

10. LITTLE ISLAND BREWING CO.

We can't rave enough about this place. We're not sure if it's the far-flung locale, the visible brewing tanks, or the oh-so charming outdoor seats that got us hooked, but we're pretty sure it's their beers—all produced fresh at the on-site microbrewery—that have us coming back again and again for more.

■ #01-01/02 Blk. 6 Changi Village Rd., 6543-9100, libc.co



AMERICAN TAPROOM



LITTLE ISLAND BREWING CO.

BEST ROOFTOP BAR

Not all bars are made equal—some are erected high above street level, offering you an unparalleled perspective otherwise never seen before. From sky-high venues to cosy low-slung rooftop gems, check out these places for a tippie to go along with the amazing views.

1. SMOKE & MIRRORS

On the rooftop of the National Gallery, there's no better perch than the terraces of cocktail bar Smoke & Mirrors. True to their name, nothing is at it seems with their signature drinks. Yet, whether you like something sweet or stiff, there will always be an item on the menu that will leave you satisfied, spellbound, and utterly curious—all in the best ways possible.

■ #06-01 National Gallery Singapore, 1 St Andrew's Rd., smokeandmirrors.com.sg

2. MR STORK

Thirty-nine floors above ground sits Andaz Singapore's famed rooftop bar. The circular space offers unblocked views of the city; perfect to sit with a signature cocktail in hand, and watch the skies turn pastel-hued. What you'll love most about the bar are the picturesque tepee hut seats that are perfect for an intimate group.

■ 39/F Andaz Singapore, 5 Fraser St., 6408-1255, hyatt.com



SMOKE & MIRRORS



MR STORK

3. KINKI

It is little surprise why this bay-facing rooftop bar is always packed with the edgier afterwork crowd from Raffles Place. Take in the ever-amazing views of the Marina Bay waterfront as you sip on Japanese-inspired drinks, chow down on yummy bar bites and jive to live DJ sets.

■ #02-02 Customs House, 70 Collyer Quay, 6533-3471, kinki.com.sg



KINKI



1-ALTITUDE

4. 1-ALTITUDE

There are several venues within 1-Altitude, but if we had to pick one, it would have to be the Rooftop Gallery & Bar, best known for being the highest alfresco bar in the world. After all, Champagne cocktails taste best when you're 282m above the bustle of Raffles Place.

■ 63/F One Raffles Place, 1 Raffles Place, 6438-0410, 1-altitude.com



ARTEMIS SKY BAR

5. ARTEMIS SKY BAR

There's no need to head elsewhere for a drink sesh after dining at Artemis Grill. Right outside at the terrace area resides their sky-high rooftop bar, offering stunning CBD views and a solid selection of gins that make for a great glass of G&T or solid gin-based cocktail.

■ 40/F CapitaGreen, 138 Market St., 6635-8677, artemisgrill.com.sg

BEST ROOFTOP BAR

6. LADY WU

The Mad Men is gone, and in its place now stands Lady Wu. Like before, it's a busy live music spot perfect for afterwork drinks and grub, now with a more oriental vibe. We just love the place for how fuss-free it is, yet delivering where it counts.

■ R/F The Offshore Building,
11 North Canal Rd., 8338-7479,
ladywu.com.sg



LADY WU

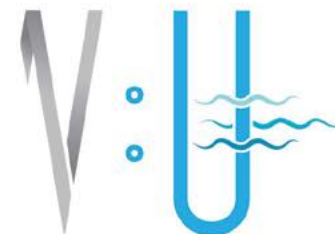
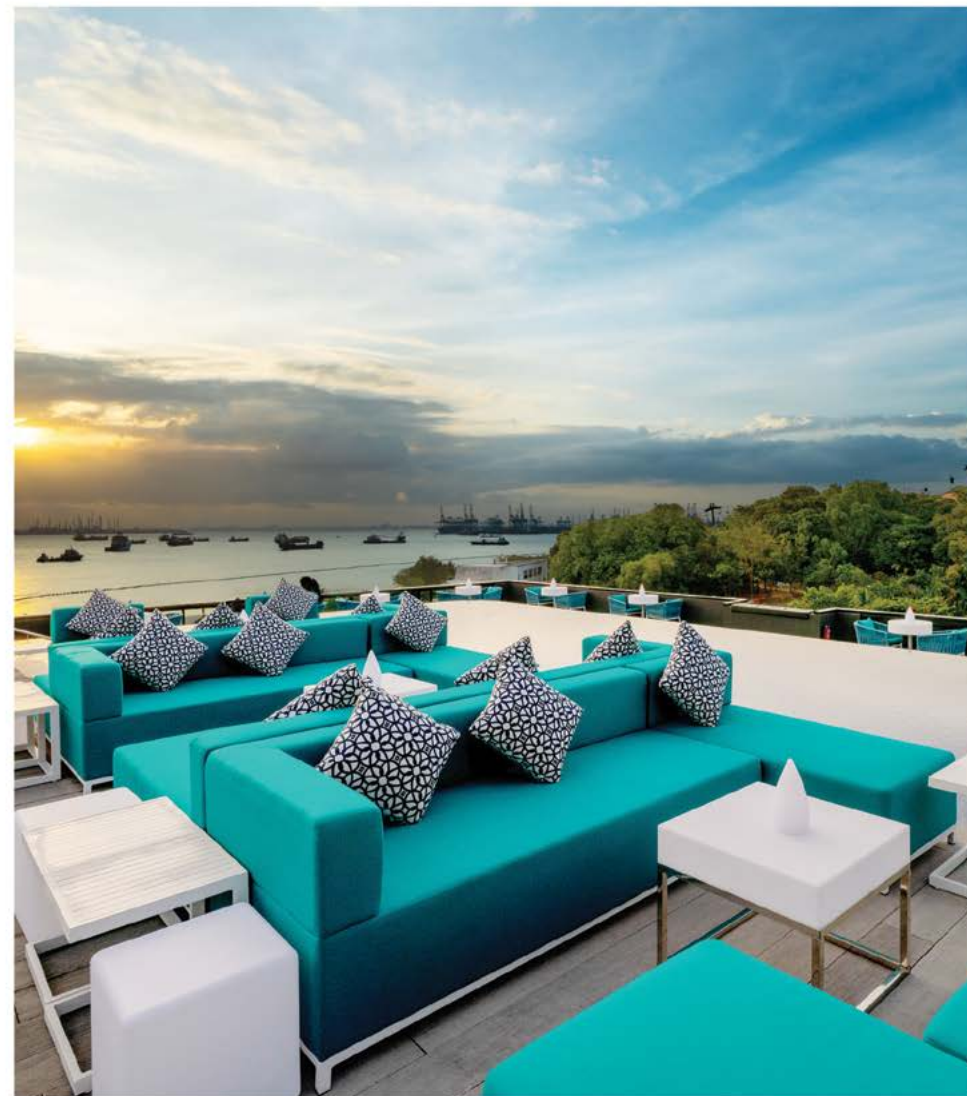
7. LOOF

There are plenty of reasons to keep coming back to this long-time (we're talking since 2005) rooftop spot—from their old school knick knacks shop to locally-inspired bar bites like chili crab waffle fries and the delicious rum-based Stylo Milo cocktail. The crowd, a mix of office types and tourists, keeps the atmosphere just lively enough.

■ #03-07 Odeon Towers Extension
Rooftop, 331 North Bridge Rd.,
6337-9416, loof.com.sg



LOOF



SOUTHEAST ASIA'S LATEST ROOFTOP DESTINATION

10 ARTILLERY DRIVE, #07-01, THE OUTPOST HOTEL

f 1VUSG

1.VU.SG

BEST ROOFTOP BAR

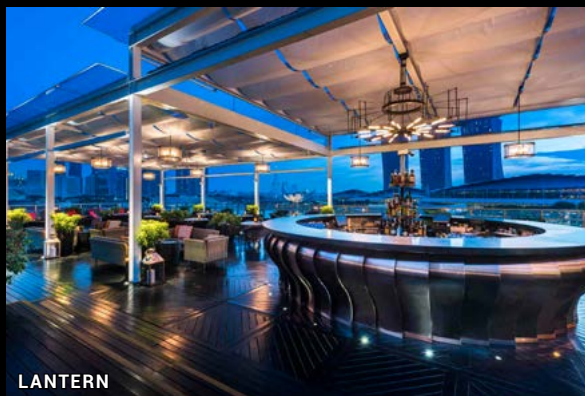
8. URBANA

On the 33rd floor of the Courtyard by Marriott Singapore Novena is this idyllic rooftop bar boasting some of the best unobstructed views this part of town. Lounge by the poolside outdoors or in air-conditioned comfort indoors as you sip on some of their unexpectedly good signature cocktails.

■ 33/F Courtyard Singapore Novena, 99 Irrawaddy Rd., 6378-2060, fb.com/urbanarooftopbar



URBANA



LANTERN

9. LANTERN

This rooftop pool bar at the beautiful Fullerton Bay Hotel offers some of the best views of Marina Bay. Sink into a couch, sip on some Champagne and soak in the sights of Singapore often seen in postcards, all while resident DJs keep the atmosphere upbeat.

■ R/F The Fullerton Bay Hotel, 1 Fullerton Sq., fullertonhotels.com/fullerton-bay-hotel-singapore/dining/lantern

10. SOUTHBRIDGE

Enjoy sparkly views of the CBD lights with the Singapore River in the foreground at this hidden Boat Quay rooftop joint best known for their oysters and Champagne. Accessing it via a lift found through a backdoor in the alleyway facing South Bridge Road only makes it more of an experience.

■ 5/F 80 Boat Quay, 6877-6965, southbridge.sg



SOUTHBRIDGE

BEST GASTROBAR

Bar grub has come a long way. Customers are no longer satisfied with just the basics. Offering cuisine that rival full-fledged restaurants are these places dishing out good drink and good food in equal measure.

1. THE BEAST

The Beast has made a name for itself as the go-to place when it comes to bourbon and Southern cuisine in Singapore—and we can't help but be lured by its rustic charms. Plus, is there a better pairing out there than bourbon and comfort food? We didn't think so.

■ 17 Jln Klapa, 6295-0017, thebeast.sg

2. THE COOK & BREW

Located on the 33rd floor of The Westin, Cook & Brew's towering views of the Singapore skyline isn't even the best part about the place. The luxe joint has an extensive drinks list and boasts an enomatic system for wines by the glass. And with a pretty kick-ass food menu to order from, you'll be satisfied whether you're only peckish or extremely ravenous.

■ 33/F The Westin Singapore, Asia Square Tower 2, 12 Marina View, cookandbrewsingapore.com



THE BEAST



THE COOK & BREW

BEST GASTROBAR

3. THE GUILD

Among Keong Saik's many leading establishments stands The Guild, whose 19 taps (mostly offering craft beers from Young Master Brewery) are reason enough to visit. But they don't disappoint with food either. Come here for elevated bar bites or a full-on dinner and taste the difference for yourself.

■ 55 Keong Saik Rd., 9042-3900, theguild.sg

4. SIXTEEN OUNCES

Bukit Timah residents must love this place, and we can see why. They're founded with one simple reason in mind—to offer west-siders a proper craft beer and bistro joint. Yet folks from all over Singapore have descended upon the place, showing just how much they've done right.

■ The Rail Mall, 398 Upper Bukit Timah Rd., fb.com/sixteenouncessg



THE GUILD



SIXTEEN OUNCES

5. LITTLE CREATURES

The famed Australian brewing company's very own shop in Singapore has amassed many local fans. Whether it's thanks to their beers' distinctively bitter and hoppy finish, or their amazing dining menu, we don't question it. Regardless, you'll definitely want to give the Singapore exclusive Club Street Sub IPA a swig.

■ 36 Club St. 6239-0350, littlecreatures.sg



JOO BAR



LITTLE CREATURES



NASSIM HILL BAKERY BISTRO BAR

6. JOO BAR

This Korean establishment draws you in with their house-brewed makgeolli (they've got 16 flavours to choose from), and keeps you coming back with their kimchi mac and cheese, seafood pancakes and amazing braised pork belly dish. Consider us fans.

■ 5 Tan Quee Lan St., 8138-1628, joo-bar.com

7. NASSIM HILL BAKERY BISTRO BAR

It's rare that a single venue can excel at so many things, but at Nassim Hill, you won't be disappointed whether you're there for their daily fresh bakes, yummy comfort nosh, or just kicking back with your best pals over drinks. Their killer happy hour deals don't hurt either.

■ #01-03 Tanglin Post Office Building, 56 Tanglin Rd., 6835-1128, nassimhill.com.sg

BEST GASTROBAR



PUBLICO RISTORANTE

8. PUBLICO RISTORANTE

When the cravings hit, there's no better place to sort it out than at Publico. Here, quintessential Italian dishes like pastas, pizzas and steaks are done the way it should, and served alongside a drinks menu of cuisine-appropriate cocktails like Aperol Spritz and Negroni.

■ 1/F InterContinental Singapore
Robertson Quay, 1 Nanson Rd.,
6826-5040, publico.sg



THE WINE & GOURMET FRIENDS

9. THE WINE & GOURMET FRIENDS

Started by friends who simply wanted to create a space for people to come together and have a good meal, Wine & Gourmet Friends is where you head to for good food and vino at an affordable price point without compromising on quality. The wine cellar holds over 350 styles of wine and they even offer areated decanting.

■ 48 Bukit Pasoh Rd., 6224-1982, twgf.sg



DISTRICT 10

10. DISTRICT 10

They've been around since 2009 (remember their charming Winstedt Road venue?) and have only gotten better since then. Head to their flagship outlet at UE Square for a full gastronomic experience, and trust us when we say you gotta try their homemade angel hair pasta—best had with wine, of course.

■ #01-15/16/17, UE Square Shopping Mall,
81 Clemenceau Ave., 6738-4788,
district10.com.sg

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SINGAPORE
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BEST LOCAL DISTILLERY OR BREWERY

We may be late to the distilling and brewing game, but when we did, people paid attention. Who would have thought that Singapore-made gin, rum, beer, mead, and soon, whisky, could be a reality? We've introduced this new category to recognise this nascent but oh-so important and fast-growing segment of the industry.

1. PINK BLOSSOMS BREWING 👑

The votes flooded in for these guys. They may be recognised as a craft beer bar to some, but at its heart, Pink Blossoms is a brewery—and a really good one at that. Their flagship pale ale and milk stout have swayed many naysayers, and the fact that they've chosen to can their beers rather than bottle them, shows that they care more about quality than anything else.

■ pinkblossomsbrewing.com

2. LION CITY MEADERY

The guys behind Lion City have done two things right: produce really good mead, and brought mead into the consciousness of drinkers here. They've done so by making mead in styles craft beer lovers will enjoy. Have a swig of their Spiced Mead, and be mind-blown by how complex and nuanced mead can be.

■ lioncitymeadery.com



PINK BLOSSOMS BREWING



LION CITY MEADERY

3. BRASS LION DISTILLERY

Requiring the least introduction on this list is Brass Lion, who has made a name for itself with its flagship product the Singapore Dry Gin. It's cool that they are also the only distillery here with an active gin school and tour programme. In a couple years, they'll also be unveiling Singapore's first whisky that they are now ageing in a cask on-site.

■ brassliondistillery.com



BRASS LION DISTILLERY



COMPENDIUM



BREWLANDER

4. COMPENDIUM

They may be one of the newest kids on the block, but Compendium has made many inroads thanks to a very creative, top-notch lineup of spirits. They've got stuff like rojak and chendol gins, kopi-o and teh-o liqueurs, apricot rums and even wine-style meads that are truly a class of its own.

■ compendium.sg

5. BREWLANDER

This brave pioneer in the local craft beer scene has only grown from strength to strength, and they are still our go-to Singapore craft beer label. From refreshing ales suited for drinking in our climate to double IPAs beer geeks will fawn over, they've done so much right. A little bird also told us that something big is brewing for Brewlander in 2020, so stay tuned.

■ brewlander.com

BEST WINE BAR

There's always a right moment to bust open a bottle of vino. Whether that moment calls for a fine cuvee, an easy-drinking pinot or a rare cask, here are the best places to enjoy them.

1. PRAELUM

Regulars love them, while first-time goers are often pleasantly surprised at how this wine bar managed to slip past their radar all these years. Come appreciate a fine red or just quaff down a bottle, no one's gonna judge, especially not the unpretentious yet knowledgeable folk running the place.

■ 4 Duxton Hill, 6238-5287, praelum.com.sg

2. WINE RVLT

Their legion of fans know that spontaneous fermentation, unconventional aging methods, unusual grape varieties and funky flavours are all par for the course at this natural wine bar—and that's why they love it. Red, white or orange, they have it all here.

■ #01-01 38 Carpenter St., 9678-5166, winervlt.sg

3. GINETT

Wines at great value, hearty European cuisine and a lively ambience combine to form the winning formula that Ginett has gotten down pat. Come early to get a seat, or jostle for space with the creative crowd that fills this place almost every night.

■ 200 Middle Rd., 6809-7989, fb.com/ginettsingapore



PRAELUM



WINE RVLT



WINE CONNECTION



LE BON FUNK



GINETT

4. WINE CONNECTION

The default after-work go-to place for wine in Singapore needs no introduction. They have many branches, but the most popular are the ones at Robertson Walk—the vibe there's simply better. We're also impressed that the brand has managed to keep its allure despite having opened so many outlets now.

■ #01-19/20 Robertson Walk, 11 Unity St., 6235-5466, wineconnection.com.sg

5. LE BON FUNK

An on-point selection of natural wines can be found at this modern restaurant and bar, and we applaud them for curating what they serve based on winemakers they believe in, rather than by wine regions. The food is superb too, with chef-owner Keirin Buck crafting truly sublime dishes.

■ 29 Club St., 6224-1490, lebonfunk.com

BEST BOTTLE SHOP

Going beyond just selling booze, the best bottle shops out there make it an enjoyable, educational and eclectic experience when shopping for alcohol. These places exemplify that ethos.



LA MAISON DU WHISKY



TEMPLE CELLARS

1. TEMPLE CELLARS  With these guys around, it's hard to envision a time when they didn't. They've got everything in stock—beers, wines, spirits, sake, mead, cider, you name it, including plenty of local labels and artisanal brands not found anywhere else in the market. The many events they throw only goes to show how much of an extra mile they're willing to go.

■ #01-12 UE Square, 81 Clemenceau Ave., 6262-2191, templecellars.com

2. LA MAISON DU WHISKY From bourbons to single malts, independent bottlings to exclusive collections, no one comes close to La Maison when talking about the whisky world. But what truly sets the organisers of Whisky Live apart is their generosity and passion for what they love, and boy do they love their whiskies.

■ #01-10 The Pier @ Robertson Quay, 80 Mohamed Sultan Rd., 6977-7163, www.whisky.sg



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*Source: IWSR 2018 Volume Data.

Please Drink Responsibly.

BEST BOTTLE SHOP

3. 1855 THE BOTTLE SHOP

Named after the 1855 classification of Bordeaux wines, 1855 has a bottle for every occasion, from everyday varietals to Champagnes that won't break the bank to magnums of iconic First Growth vintages priced in the high four figures. Their Wine & Whisky Week event is also one of the best times to stock up.

■ Nine outlets, including #B2-44 313somerset, 313 Orchard Rd., 6820-1855, 1855thebottleshop.com



1855 THE BOTTLE SHOP

4. BOTTLES & BOTTLES

They've really got a way with how they display their wares, with each one of their many outlets showcasing shelves upon shelves of booze stacked in neat rows that attempt to entice you in, at least just to browse. Pro tip: ask them about their exclusives.

■ Nine outlets, including #B2-51A Changi Airport Terminal 3, Airport Blvd, 6288-8128, bottlesandbottles.com.sg



BOTTLES & BOTTLES

5. EC PROOF

This is the best place to be if you reckon you've got the chops to be your own home bartender. Learn a thing or two at their workshops, browse the best collection of bar wares in town, and purchase tools, spirits, bitters and mixers of all kinds before shaking it up back home.

■ 43A HongKong St., 8228-0113, ecproof.com



EC PROOF

BEST

SAKE BAR

It's a good time to be a sake lover. Finding a decent, and dare we say great, sake bar in Singapore has never been easier than it is now. Whether you're looking to enjoy only the finest Junmai Daiginjo or rough it out with bottles of Futsu-shu, these places got you covered.

1. KABUKE

Find quality sake, modern Japanese cuisine and the artistry of kabuki theatre all under one roof. Kabuke's unique sake tasting flights give you a quick primer on sake styles, grades and regions, and is something both newbies and sake fans will enjoy. Their food is awesome too, especially if you enjoy comforting dishes perfectly made for pairings.

■ 2/F 200A Telok Ayer St., 8822-5525, kabuke.sg



KABUKE

2. ORIHARA SHOTEN

Orihara is the first name that comes to mind for most people when they think of sake bars. Hosting pairing dinners, masterclasses and tastings, they are one of the great gateways to sake in Singapore. Looking to buy bottles home? Just head straight to the back of the shop and pick one from the fridge.

■ #01-01/02 Robertson Walk, 6836-5710, fb.com/oriharashouten



ORIHARA SHOTEN

BEST SAKE BAR

3. BIG SAKE BAR

Go big or go home, we say. Big attracts many of the nearby after-work crowd who simply fancies having a good rice wine. They've got enough variety to keep things interesting, and even if you're not in the mood for a whole bottle of sake, their 150ml pours will keep the libations flowing.

■ #01-02 The Concourse Skyline, 302 Beach Rd., 6291-2700, bigsakebar.com



BIG SAKE BAR



BORUTO

4. BORUTO

This is one sleek and stylish space. On offer are over 80 sake labels, many of them brought in exclusively for Boruto. Be sure to check out the walk-in sake vault (that's refurbished from an actual bank vault) up on the second floor, where you can peruse premium labels that are priced up to \$2,200 a bottle.

■ #01-01 Golden Castle Building, 80 South Bridge Rd., 6532-0418, fb.com/borutosingapore



MOBOMOGA

5. MOBOMOGA

Low-key, quaint and hidden away from the world, MoboMoga is probably the most fun sake bar around, offering izakaya dishes (including a really comforting oden), rare sake and entertainment in good measure. Stick around late into the night for a disco surprise.

■ #01-58 UE Square River Wing, 207 River Valley Rd., fb.com/mobomogasaki

BEST NIGHTCLUB

Clubs in Singapore have really brought it to the next level. No longer just a den for dancing, you'll find proper mixology, iconic themes and even a full-sized ferris wheel within these venues. Here's where you live it up, people.



MARQUEE SINGAPORE



ZOUK

1. ZOUK

Many of us formed our first clubbing memories here, and now, some of our kids are still doing the same. Zouk has remained the undisputed club in town not just because of the killer DJ sets and bangin' dancefloor, but because it has made itself into an institution, an unwavering yardstick for all in the scene to measure against.

■ The Cannery, 3C River Valley Rd., 6738-2988, zouclub.com

2. MARQUEE SINGAPORE

Despite it being the youngest on this list, it's no surprise Marquee has landed as one of the top party spots here. Their world-class DJ lineup, massive LED screen, adult tube slides and eight-armed ferris wheel has propelled them into the minds and consciousness of all revellers. For them, the stratosphere's the limit.

■ B1-67 The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands, 2 Bayfront Ave., 6688-8660, marqueesingapore.com

BEST NIGHTCLUB

3. LULU'S LOUNGE

Channeling the spirit of a club in New York's backstreets circa the 1960s, Lulu's musical inclinations are as eclectic as the space itself. Inside, you're just as likely to hear jazz, disco, house, hip hop or funk. And if you're lucky, you could even find yourself in the midst of a burlesque performance.

■ Pan Pacific Hotel, 7 Raffles Blvd., 9829-1922, lulus.sg



LULU'S LOUNGE

4. GET JUICED

The young and energetic are always seen ripping up the dance floors here, and who can blame them with such infectious tunes filling up the airwaves every evening. Come here to juice up on cheap booze and good vibes all night long.

■ #02-01 3E River Valley Rd., 6208-7293, getjuiced.sg



GET JUICED

5. BAR ROUGE

The Shanghai club's first international outpost provides some welcome reinvention to the afterdark offerings in Singapore. Found atop Swissotel The Stamford, the highest hotel here, you can expect breathtaking views of the city skyline to accentuate your clubbing experience at Bar Rouge.

■ 71/F & 72/F Swissotel The Stamford, 2 Stamford Rd., 9177-7307, fb.com/barrougesingapore



BAR ROUGE



A GREAT NIGHT OUT AT CAPITAL BEGINS WITH QUEENS

For close to three decades, Zouk has been a byword for the best of nightlife in Singapore, and after moving to Clarke Quay three years ago, it marked the start of a new chapter with the opening of Capital. Capital is a venue for patrons who appreciate life's finer experiences; a place where guests can move through different tempos and atmospheres over the course of the night. But before you hit the dance floor, you should kick off the festivities at one particular corner of Capital—the hip-hop-inspired speakeasy-style cocktail bar Queens. Here's what to expect there.

CRAFT COCKTAILS CREATED BY A TOP BARTENDER

Singapore is at the forefront of the cocktail world, and one person who's been a part of this rise is Ashwin Raj. Ashwin was a member of the 28 HongKong Street team as the pioneering bar reached the upper echelons of the Asia's 50 Best Bars and World's 50 Best Bars lists, picking up two nominations for top young bartender at the Bar Awards along the way. Brought in to helm Queens, Ashwin now mixes up signature cocktails here, along with classics and bespoke libations as requested. Among the highlights are Blaq Poet (a mix of pineapple rum, Campari, pineapple and lime juice and espresso with a touch

of cardamom) and the Shaolin Swordsmen (an Old Fashioned variation with Cynar, coffee liqueur and a saline solution). Queens also serves artisanal spirits not found elsewhere in the Zouk complex.

YOUR OWN PRIVATE LISTENING ROOM

Queens gets its name from the New York City borough that produced hip-hop stars like Run-DMC, Public Enemy and Salt-N-Pepa, so you know they take their playlist seriously. Just 30 guests at a time can soak up the intimate setting—decked out like a study with vintage vinyls—as they're taken on a journey through the genre, from old-school standards to modern tracks.

AN EARLY START TO YOUR WEEKEND

Queens is open from Thursday to Saturday each week (and on public holidays), and the proceedings kick off with easy access to Capital's ladies' night: Thursday Night Hustle. With DJ Nash D on the decks spinning everything from throwbacks to current hits, one-for-one drinks are served all night while the ladies can make the most of a free flow of house pours and selected cocktails from 11pm to 1am. Admission is free for all.

To gain entry to Queens, state your interest in visiting the bar at the main entrance of Zouk. Queens is located within Capital at Zouk Singapore, #02-05 The Cannery, 3C River Valley Rd. For more information, visit zoukclub.com.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

ZOUK™

BEST BEACH BAR

What's a tropical island experience without a beach bar? Singapore may more often be associated with fancy cocktail joints, but across the boardwalk in Sentosa, you'll find some of the best spots to lay on a sunbed, a well-crafted drink in hand.



FOC SENTOSA

1. **FOC SENTOSA** Combining the cuisine, culture and atmosphere of Barcelona's beaches with top-notch culinary chops is FOC Sentosa. At this vibin' beach club, tuck into a meal of tapas, paella and sustainable seafood before treating yourself to a Spanish-style G&T or a cocktail (available in glass or jugs) by the pool.
■ 110 Tanjong Beach Walk, 6100-1102, focsentosa.com

2. **OLA BEACH CLUB** A slice of Hawaii right on Siloso Beach, Ola is a place to party, dine on authentic Hawaiian nosh and get your watersports fix—we're talking kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding, or getting a water-propelled jetpack strapped to your back—all on the same day.
■ 46 Siloso Beach Walk, 6250-6978, olabeachclub.com

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BEST BEACH BAR

3. TANJONG BEACH CLUB

This long-timer is still one of the best joints in Singapore to spend a lazy weekend afternoon under the sun. Whether you're kicking back with a Malayan Mai Tai or getting in on the action at one of their Smack My Beach Up shindigs, this is the place to see and be seen.

■ 120 Tanjong Beach Walk, 6270-1355, tanjongbeachclub.com



TANJONG BEACH CLUB

4. COASTES

A rustic getaway ideal for both family outings and date nights is Coastes on Siloso Beach. Enjoy both classic and frozen cocktails, hearty breakfasts and all-day comfort food, all while lying on a sunbed. Weekend brunches with a free flow of bubbly are always a good idea too.

■ #01-05 50 Siloso Beach Walk, 6631-8938, coastes.com



COASTES

5. BIKINI BAR

Whether you're dressed in a bikini or not, things often end up wet and wild at Bikini Bar. Eat, drink (perhaps even from a beer bong) and make merry as the live band keeps things upbeat. Life's a beach and there's no better place to spend your time at.

■ #01-01 50 Siloso Beach Walk, 6631-8938, bikinibar.sg



BIKINI BAR

BEST HOTEL BAR

There was a time when hotel bars were the inferior, but no longer. Whether they be a cocktail destination in their own right or remain a lobby lounge stalwart, these places offer drink and hospitality in great and equal measure.

1. IDLEWILD

This strong contender in the cocktail category has risen rapidly, becoming one of the best-known bars in town shortly after opening. We love them for their transatlantic air travel theme, but even more so, we love their stiff, complex concoctions reminiscent of a bygone era. Their groovin' jazz band is always a hit too.

■ 1/F InterContinental Singapore, 80 Middle Rd., 6825-1045, idlewild.sg



IDLEWILD

2. ORIGIN BAR

The better half (in our opinion) of Shangri-La Hotel Singapore's Origin Grill & Bar has been a much-welcomed addition to the property's portfolio. There's lots of character to be found in their vast drinks menu heavily influenced by local districts like Chinatown and Marina Bay. Be sure to ask about their rum collection.

■ 1/F Shangri-La Hotel Singapore, 22 Orange Grove Rd., 6213-4595, fb.com/Origin65



ORIGIN BAR

BEST HOTEL BAR

3. BAR CANARY

A hidden gem along Orchard Road, Bar Canary is Grand Park Orchard's laid-back poolside bar that provides the perfect setting for a few tropical cocktails. Be sure to head indoors and check out neighbouring Cantonese restaurant and bar Mitzo as well, where the concoctions and vibe gets a little more sophisticated.

■ 4/F Grand Park Orchard, 270 Orchard Rd., 6603-8855, fb.com/barcanary



BAR CANARY



THE WAREHOUSE
HOTEL LOBBY BAR

4. THE WAREHOUSE HOTEL LOBBY BAR

It's named so for being located in an age-old godown in Robertson Quay that the hotel has refurbished and taken over, and at the lobby you'll find a sizable bar that celebrates that heritage. Find cocktails inspired by three eras of its history: Spice Trade, Godown and The Warehouse Disco (yes, it was actually a disco in the late 20th century).

■ The Warehouse Hotel, 320 Havelock Rd., 6828-0000, thewarehousehotel.com

5. CHIHULY LOUNGE

Peer up, and you'll notice blown glass sculptures by famed American glass artist Dale Chihuly (thus the bar's name) adorning the walls. This Ritz-Carlton, Millenia Singapore lobby bar is best known for their signature coffee cocktails that'll give you a buzz in more ways than one. But feel free to go for the classics too—you're in good hands with their resident mixologists either way.

■ 3/F The Ritz-Carlton, Millenia Singapore, 7 Raffles Ave., 6434-5288, ritzcarlton.com



CHIHULY LOUNGE

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BEST THEMED BAR

Sometimes, we're not just looking for a great night out—sometimes, we're looking for something spectacularly different. Lucky for us, Singapore is dotted with bars of all kinds. For an experience unlike any other, head over to these spots.

1. CHUPITOS

Singapore's de facto shots bar is no stranger to people looking for a big night out. They've got more kinds of shots than you can count, but our favourites have got to be the party packs, that are all as fun as they are lethal. At Chupitos, you only go hard.

■ #01-05 3B River Valley Rd.,
thechupitosbar.com



CHUPITOS

2. NINETEEN80

For the older Millennials and tail-end Gen X-ers among us, human existence basically reached its peak in the '80s. Relive it, or discover it, in all its kitschy 8-bit glory at Nineteen80, a place where remixes of our first cocktails, video games and retro music reign supreme.

■ #01-05 21 Tanjong Pagar Rd.,
9183-6073, nineteen80.sg



NINETEEN80

HARD ROCK CAFE'S NEW MENU WITH REFRESHING COCKTAILS, BOOZY MILKSHAKES AND MORE IS READY TO ROCK YOUR NIGHT



Hard Rock Cafe Singapore is now offering a brand spanning new menu with more than 20 new offerings! Gear up to set your world rocking to new heights with a glamorous lineup of Steak Burgers (especially the new 24-Karat Gold Leaf Burger™), and newly introduced refreshing cocktails and boozy milkshakes! If you are a beer lover, enjoy the luxury of choosing from five varieties of beer on draft!

Ready to get adventurous? Give the newly added cocktail, Rockin' Fresh Rita a go! It's refreshing, making it the perfect tippie to begin your night.

Or interested in reminiscing over sweet times over a rum based cocktail? The Rock House Rum Punch, concocted using light and dark rum and fresh tropical fruits, is guaranteed to get you into a blissful mood in no time.

The cocktail options do not end there. Gaining popularity among these highlights is the Rhythm

and Rosé Mule, where vodka and rosé are used as bases and infused with passion fruit, green tea and lime, with a finishing touch of ginger beer for a satisfying sip each time.

Desserts are amazing but what happens when desserts are combined with some booze: you get the chance to indulge in boozy milkshakes! Treat yourselves to the classic Cookies and Cream Milkshake and a Strawberry Cheesecake Milkshake infused with vanilla vodka.

Or if drinking local is more your thing, take your pick from the "Rock Global, Drink Local" section of the menu with their wide selection of Singapore labels – from Brass Lion Distillery gin to Brewlander craft beer.

With regular live entertainment and special events, get ready to be mesmerised by adding Hard Rock Cafe Singapore as your favourite hotspot for a rocking night!

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HARD ROCK CAFE IS LOCATED AT 50 CUSCADEN ROAD, HPL HOUSE #02-01,
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SENTOSA, THE FORUM, SINGAPORE 098138

BEST THEMED BAR

3. CUBA LIBRE

Capturing the spirit of a Habanero hangout, Cuba Libre has kept the mojitos (they have around 20 to choose from) flowing for over a decade under the watchful eyes of Che Guevara. It's always lively here, thanks to a live band belting out tunes seven days a week.

■ Two outlets, including #01-13 3B River Valley Rd., 6338-8982, cubalibre.asia



CUBA LIBRE

4. PINBALL WIZARD

New kid on the Sim Lim Square block, Pinball Wizard is an ode to the glory days of pinball gaming. Come throw some shapes on the dance floor and take a pinball machine break in-between songs from the era of boomboxes and discmans.

■ #B1-29 Sim Lim Square, 1 Rochor Canal Rd., 8189-1971, pinballwizard.sg



PINBALL WIZARD

5. HOLEY MOLEY GOLF CLUB

We've never seen anything quite like Holey Moley. The Australian import features a labyrinth of putt putt miniature golf holes themed in pop culture references ranging from *The Simpsons* to *Game of Thrones*. Stay hydrated through your rounds with appropriately whimsical and Instagrammable cocktails.

■ #01-01 3B River Valley Rd., 800-492-2410, holeymoley.com.sg



HOLEY MOLEY GOLF CLUB

BEST DIVE BAR

Far from being dens of ill repute, modern dive bars are fuss-free, alternative, sometimes even underground places where people go for an unadulterated good time.



TIPSY PENGUIN



SKINNY'S

1. SKINNY'S

There was only ever going to be one winner in this category. More than a bar, it's almost a way of life to end up at Skinny's with a bucket of PBRs towards the end of a big night, ready to yell out songs we probably wouldn't dare to sing sober.

■ 82 Boat Quay, [fb.com/drinkskinnys](https://www.facebook.com/drinkskinnys)

2. TIPSY PENGUIN

It's known to Tampines residents as one of only few good spots in the neighbourhood to get a drink. While almost looking too good to be a dive bar, hang around awhile, bop to the beats of the live band, and you'll soon find the laidback vibes settling you nicely into your happy place after a few rounds.

■ #01-02A 300 Tampines Ave 5, 8223-2983, tipsypenguin.com.sg

BEST DIVE BAR

3. HERO'S

Sports and live music steal the limelight here, but Hero's also hosts comedy nights and themed parties (the partying here tends to go on until 4am on some days) to keep things interesting. They even got VIP beer tap tables that allow you to pour your own pints without having to leave your seat.

■ 69 Circular Rd., 6438-6058, heros.sg



HERO'S

4. GOING OM

Where better to relax on Singapore's most eclectic street than a greenery-surrounded bar with Himalayan inclinations. We enjoy hanging out with their avian employees as much as we dig the affordable beer buckets. The street side live music is just icing on the cake.

■ 63 Haji Ln., 8363-5640, going-om.com.sg



GOING OM



LAZY LIZARD

5. LAZY LIZARD

On Sixth Avenue, one of the most atax streets in Singapore, you'll find the most laid back of pubs—it's right there in its name. And for Bukit Timah residents, it's one of the few places there to kick back, relax and enjoy the company of friends over drinks while munching on easy grub. Live sports screenings and trivia nights only add to the fun.

■ 2 Sixth Ave Bukit Timah, 6468-6289, fb.com/lazylizardsixthave

BEST ALCOHOL EVENT

Singapore has a truly busy alcohol events calendar. With such a thriving drinks scene, it's only natural that festivals, celebrations and markets big and small sprout up regularly throughout the year. You won't want to miss these.



WHISKY LIVE



SINGAPORE COCKTAIL FESTIVAL

1. SINGAPORE COCKTAIL FESTIVAL

Pop-up bars, famed guest bartenders and guided bar tours make this a must-attend event for Singapore's ever-growing population of cocktail aficionados. And this year, the main festival village has even outgrown their regular Empress Lawn spot, showing us all just how much the event has grown. Dates for 2020 have already been announced: May 15 to 22.

■ singaporecocktailfestival.com

2. WHISKY LIVE

As people grow to appreciate drinks more and more, whisky seems to be the beverage of choice. And at the annual Whisky Live, by the guys behind La Maison du Whisky, is where whisky lovers of all levels gather to try drams of coveted bottles, buy home said bottles, and just geek out together at the massive collection in store.

■ whiskylive.sg

BEST ALCOHOL EVENT

3. BEERFEST ASIA

People head to Beerfest not only for the beers (which is in no short supply), but also for all the things that make festivals fun. From top-notch tribute bands to a beer run, an afterparty to freshly-tapped beers not available anywhere else, there's plenty to keep folks entertained and inebriated throughout the festival.

■ beerfestasia.com



BEERFEST ASIA

4. SAKE MATSURI

If sake's continued rise in popularity goes unabated, you can be sure of Sake Matsuri's continued ascension too. It's just amazing to see what was once a niche beverage become heartily enjoyed by a relatively young and discerning crowd at the festival—and we don't want this party to ever stop.

■ sakematsuri.sg



SAKE MATSURI

5. GIN JUBILEE

Tonic purveyor East Imperial's festival dedicated to gin makes perfect sense. Gins have seen a constant surge, and G&Ts have somehow formed a class of its own as a beverage since. What we all enjoy most about Gin Jubilee though, has got to be its Gin Lane party, that annually takes over an alleyway in town, turning it into a gin-fuelled pop-up revelry of epic proportions.

■ ginjubilee.com



GIN JUBILEE

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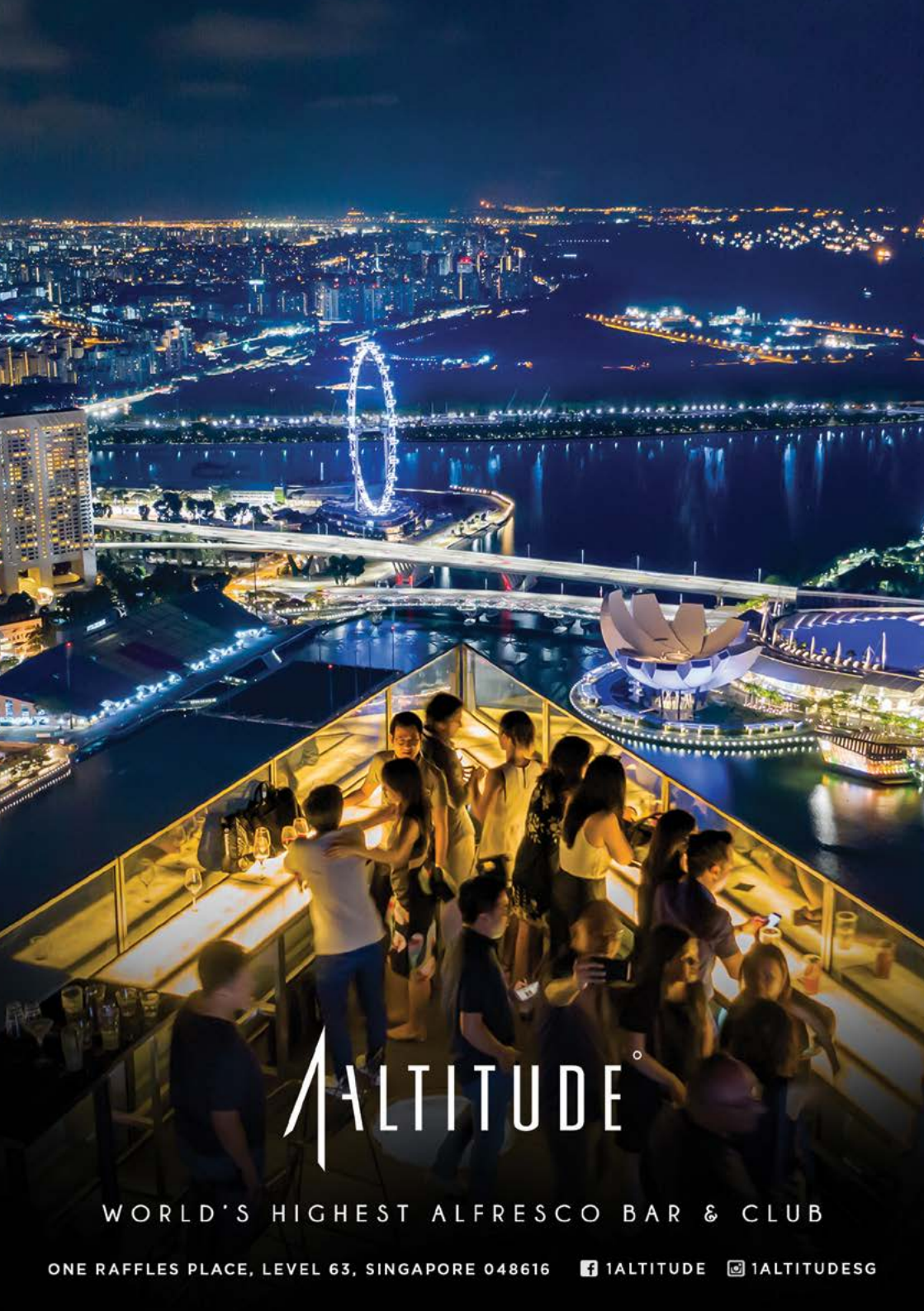
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(FROM BEACH STATION, WALK TOWARDS SILOSO BEACH FOR 3 MINUTES TO SAND BAR)

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