

TRAVEL &gt; GLOBAL TASTEMAKERS

## 15 Top Bars in the US, According to the Experts

Seek out world-class cocktails within the United States, from a speakeasy in D.C. to an omakase in Chicago.

By [Brad Japhe](#) | Published on April 2, 2024

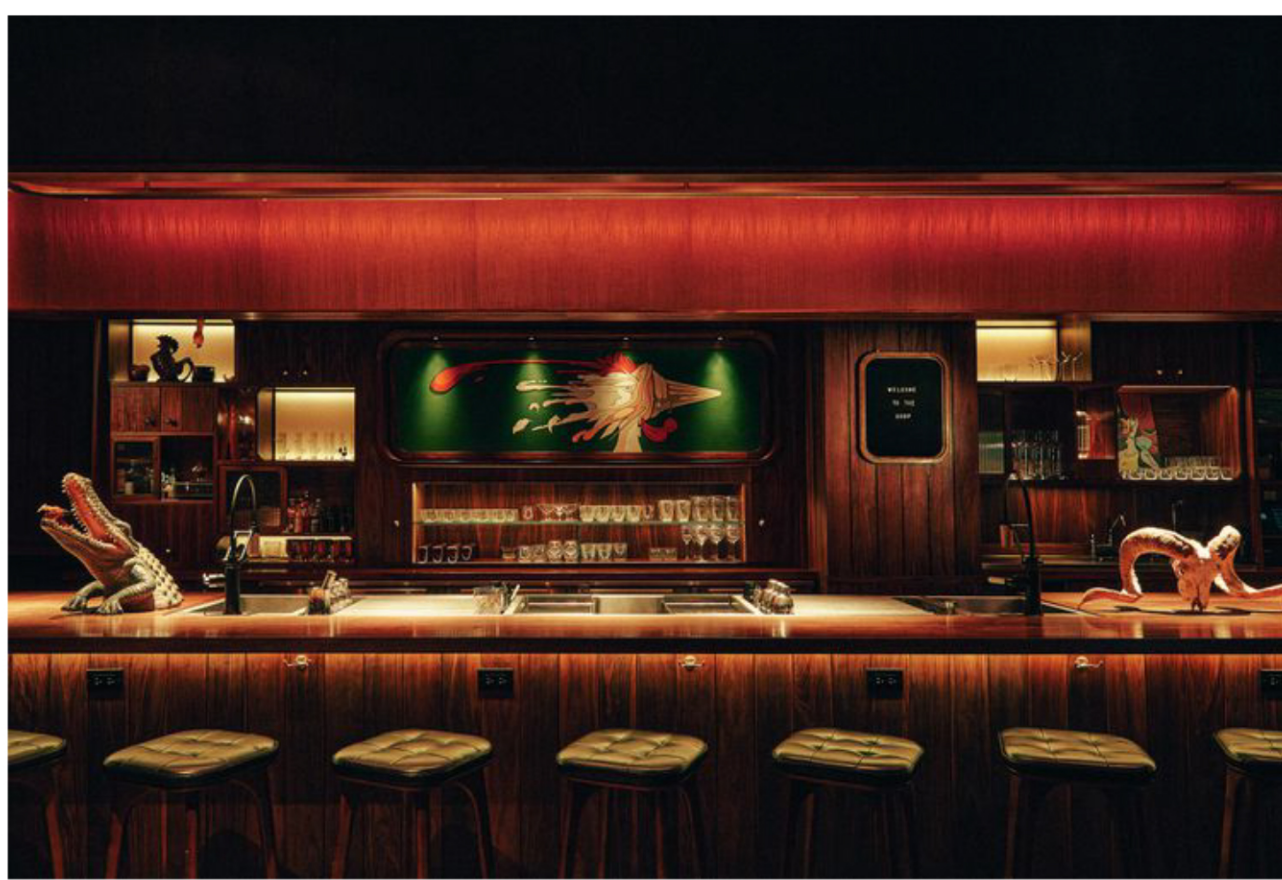


PHOTO: DOUBLE CHICKEN PLEASE

What makes a great bar? World-class cocktails are the most obvious answer, but that's really just the start. There are hundreds, perhaps even thousands of venues assembling drinks worth trying across the U.S., and the ones taking it to the next level are adding a beautiful blend of ambiance, hospitality, and maybe even some notable pub grub into the mix.

There are some seriously vibey destinations to enjoy on the 2024 list of best domestic bars according to our panel of Global Tastemakers survey. You'll find a lot of newcomers to admire, including a handful of venues that didn't even exist as recently as 2021. A lot has changed in the industry since then, and plenty of bar owners now understand the value of having signature food items to pair alongside terrific tipples. Bonus points, of course, if those pairings are pretty enough for an Instagram close-up.

Some things – like New York City's role as the epicenter of bar culture in the U.S. – never change. The Big Apple secured all the top three spots on the list, but a wide range of regionality is to be appreciated amongst the rest of the entries. Wondrous watering holes from Old San Juan to Southern California; the nation's capital to the capital of Texas.

Here are 15 standout bars around the country that take cocktail-making to a whole different dimension, and our plus one pick.

### 14 | **Andra Hem (Philadelphia)**

of 16



PHOTO: JASON VARNEY

Andra Hem is a proper drinks lounge, pure and simple. The aesthetic is clean yet warm; formal yet approachable. The Lambhattan is a curious standout take on the classic American whiskey drink spiced up with lamb-washed bourbon. It sounds bizarre, yet works oh so well.