

The World's 44 Best Hotel Bars



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Ordering a gin and tonic at [The Ritz-Carlton, Macau](#) is quite the affair. First, Giuseppe Carillo rolls the Five-Star hotel's heaving gin trolley over to your group. Then the bouffant-haired mixologist specialist with a boyish smile wordlessly studies each person and makes a snap recommendation to suit that palate. His predictions hit the spot—a yuzu-forward Ki No Bi gin from Kyoto selection for a citrus fan and Iron Balls from Kyoto for someone seeking a taste of the exotic.

Once he receives approval, Carillo gets to work, expertly measuring out proportions, cutting up fresh fruit, swirling cinnamon sticks and coaxing the fragrant oil from an orange rind. As he concocts the G&Ts, he regales the crowd with stories about the gins and life in glitzy Macau.

The tableside trolley, the warm and knowledgeable service, the chanteuse belting out standards in the background and the personalized cocktails all add up to a one-of-a-kind experience. It's why The Ritz-Carlton Bar & Lounge landed on Forbes Travel Guide's [2019 list of the World's Best Hotel Bars](#).

The best-of list comes from comprehensive data gathered by the company's inspectors, who stay at the hotels anonymously and evaluate them based on up to 900 standards for the guide's annual Star Ratings, which were unveiled in February.

Being named one of Forbes Travel Guide's Best Hotel Bars wasn't just a matter of serving top-notch drinks or having a certain atmosphere; the venues had to demonstrate an exceptional beverage program, presentation and service. Winners made the data-driven list by scoring top marks on bar standards related to elements of luxury. For example, inspectors checked to see if the beverages had a distinctive presentation, the snacks were high quality, the napkins were linen or cotton, and the overall bar experience was impressive.

The bars also had to achieve near-perfect scores on food and beverage quality standards, which measure things such as whether the cocktails are well-balanced and served at the right temperature.

Get acquainted with the top hotel drinking destinations below.

Garden Room, Weekapaug Inn, Westerly, Rhode Island



WEEKAPAUG INN

Sit in one of the antique Stickley chairs and savor a taste of New England at this bar with some comforting clam chowder or a fresh lobster roll, along with a Maple Bourbon Old Fashioned (Sapling maple bourbon from Vermont, water, bitters).