

Chicago's Best New Cocktail Bars

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With an abundance of speakeasies and secret drinking dens, [Chicago's](#) cocktail culture is as lively as ever. But now tiplers can look forward to exploring Tiki joints, throwback lounges, and rooftop respites that are adding something different to the scene. These new watering holes are pushing all the limits with cutting-edge cocktails and cool perks. Here's our guide to the new wave of Chicago's creative cocktail spots and, for good measure, some not quite brand-new spots that have refreshed their offerings with new drinks and concepts.

CINDY'S



Perched on the thirteenth floor of the recently opened [Chicago Athletic Association](#) (a boutique hotel), [Cindy's](#) serves up jaw-dropping views of [Millennium Park](#) and [Lake Michigan](#), along with an inventive drink program and light, local bites from its rooftop restaurant and open-air terrace. The look evokes a breezy Great Lakes summer house, with twinkling string lights, picnic-style communal seating, and plenty of green touches. The drink list is curated by "spirit guide" Nandini Khaund—please, don't call her a mixologist—and ranges from large-format bottles to craft cocktails. Don't miss the creamy (yet vegan) We'll Always Have Paris, made with Aviation gin, cocchi Americano, fresh strawberries, house-made pistachio milk, and date syrup for a Moroccan feel. Other creative drink options include a throwback Apothecary Service (\$20), which claims cures for what ails you with creations from behind the bar, plus a streamlined menu of tisanes (herbal teas) and mocktails for non-drinkers.