



# The ultimate guide to NYC's rooftop bars

BARCHICK

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A trip to New York in summer isn't complete without a visit to one of its rooftop bars. Whether you're in it for the killer cocktails or just want to drink in the city views, the experts at BarChick have the inside track on the best places for both.

## **Refinery Hotel: the roof that has everything**

Some rooftops are just about the view, but not this one. Leather sofas? Sure. A view of the Empire State Building? Obviously. Fireplace? Fairy Lights? Fountain? Check, check, check. Part street bistro in the sky (with an optional glass roof), one part garden in the sky (decking, pergolas, lanterns), these guys really have thought of everything. With a drinks list based on biochemistry, where every sip is designed to create a trip down memory lane, come for sunset and stay 'til late for the party.

*63 West 38th Street*

**Nearest subways:** B, D, F, M and 7 trains to Bryant Park-42nd Street; or N, Q and R to Herald Square-34th Street.

## **The Ides: the one on top of a Brooklyn factory**

Down the street from the Brooklyn Brewery, there's a converted factory with an old-school neon 'Hotel' sign on the corner and a huge glowing box perched at the top. That glowing box is where you want to be. Head to the sixth floor, where you'll have to get your jaw off the floor when the lift doors open and you see *that* view of Manhattan over the river. There's also a bar that makes awesome drinks if you can tear your eyes away from the huge windows. Then there's the terrace, which even on the hottest day somehow manages to have a breeze. With DJs spinning at the weekend, it draws in a mixed crowd, with bar queues that can snake out to the lobby — but you won't care, because it's one of the best places to be.

*80 Wythe Avenue*

**Nearest subways:** L to Bedford Avenue; or G to Nassau Avenue.

### **Bar Hugo at Hotel Hugo: the roof with effortless Italian Art Deco**

On the edge of Soho, this leather and wood number has one of the most all-encompassing epic views of the city. Catch a hint of a breeze (and a killer view out) over the Hudson River, Empire State Building, Freedom Tower and Statue of Liberty... you can even see all the way out to New Jersey from up here. Can't get right out on the terrace itself? The huge floor-to-ceiling glass windows open all the way out, so get hold of a superbly mixed cocktail, feel like you're flying and take it all in.

*BarChick tip:* Happy Hour is when you'll catch us up here, with \$5 beer and \$6 wine specials.

*525 Greenwich Street*

**Nearest subways:** C and E to Spring Street; or 1 to Houston Street.



Bar Hugo at Hotel Hugo: has one of the most epic views of the city

### **Roof at Park South: the roof with Beantown charm and award-winning food**

Boston husband-and-wife team Tim and Nancy Cushman are at it again with this copper sided roof paradise, riding high atop the Park South hotel. Booze master Ted Kilpatrick is behind the cocktail list (also responsible for killer drinks at Boston's No. 9 Park) and award-winning chef Tim Cushman is on the food, so you're in safe hands. But it's the view you're up here for, so perch up on a high table and look out over the Empire State and Chrysler buildings. Hello, New York.

*125 East 27th Street*

**Nearest subway:** 6 to 28th Street.

### **Gallow Green: the one that's like an intimate secret garden theatre set**

When you want to experience a bit of *Sleep No More*, but aren't up for the whole shebang, head for a drinking session where Lady Macbeth hangs out. It's an overgrown rooftop paradise filled with greenery and garden furniture — and did we mention a funerary brass band? Specializing in sharing punches, this is a great spot to impress a date. But not for the spontaneous — you have to book a time spot, but it's totally worth it.

*The McKittrick Hotel, 542 West 27th Street*

**Nearest subways:** C and E to 23rd Street; or 1 to 28th Street.

**Direct Link:** <http://highlife.ba.com/articles/new-york-s-best-rooftop-bars/>