



As America's latest epoch of cocktail sophistication enters its 20th year (give or take), it stands to reason that hotels across the country have upped their bar game in order to keep up with the times. Nowhere is that more in evidence than in San Francisco where many hotel bars have had major makeovers in the last few years, and where cocktail consultants are in high demand.

Along with the bevy of destination- and date-worthy hotel bars that already dotted the city, this year's influx of newcomers (many of which are on this list) clearly means that the term "hotel bar" can't be used in the derogative ever again. Hotels are where it's at in this city — sometimes for the cocktails alone, and sometimes just for the view.

5. Tratto



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Two-year-old Tratto hasn't made big waves food-wise in the Union Square area, but its handsome, big-windowed bar at the Marker Hotel is nonetheless a pleasant option for pre- and post-show cocktails, or drinks with a friend in town who's staying nearby. The drink menu has been pared down since the place opened, and now just has a handful of options like a Negroni flip (a Negroni with an egg-white froth), a margarita with Campari and grapefruit, and an Italian-style Manhattan variation on tap called the Castra Nicia (Jim Beam rye, sweet vermouth, maraschino, and Averna). And, differentiating the space from its former incarnations are some cool line-drawing murals by local artist Amos Goldbaum.



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