

DEPARTURES

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New York's Best Whiskey Bars



From an exclusive, members-only lounge to an elegant, two-story sports bar, these 10 gems serve top-shelf selections in the most elegant environments.

In case you haven't noticed, we are deep into a whiskey renaissance. New distilleries are cropping up around the world, with craft Irish whiskey buzzing as the category *du jour* and big Japanese brands building international momentum. Bars and restaurants from Tokyo to Chicago have responded accordingly, giving whiskey (and its Scottish counterpart, whisky), a special place on back bars and menus as more and more people warm up to the spirit.

New York City, ever ahead of the curve, has long nurtured its whiskey-driven establishments—some of which date back to the 19th century. The very best feature menus boasting hundreds of expressions (including the rarest among them) and environments as refined as the bottles. Here, 10 of our favorite places to sit, sip, and savor a dram in New York.



Public Relations, Marketing & Government Affairs



Rarities at the Lotte New York Palace

This reservations-only lounge was designed as a posh clubhouse for the elite when the iconic Palace hotel was revamped and reopened in 2013. The general public can try to secure a booking at this exclusive spot—a series of handsomely decorated, living room-style salons that seat a total of 25 patrons at a time—but preferential status goes to guests staying at the hotel's swanky Towers suites, or those eager to shell out \$10,000 annually for membership. With trophy cases showing off status-symbol bottles like Chivas Regal 62 Gun Royal Salute and a menu of fine cognacs, whiskies, and more, Rarities is a one-of-a-kind experience awaiting deep pockets. 455 Madison Ave.; 917-202-8379;

261 Fifth Avenue, 2nd Floor ♦ New York, NY 10016
Telephone: (212) 685-4300 ♦ Fax: (212) 685-9024
www.DKCnews.com