

'Every Night Is Like New Year's Eve For Us!'

Juggling a career with a social life is a breeze for these three ladies – because they get paid to party!

TAKE NOTE
Audrey gets to review all the latest hotspots in Amsterdam



'Top marks for this one!'



'Believe it or not, I'm actually working here!'



'I get to mingle with Manchester's elite on a regular basis'

'I Hang Out In The VIP Areas Of The UK's Best Clubs'

Sarah Lawrence, 26, is a nightclub hostess from Manchester and spends her nights in the VIP area

Socialising and making sure people are having one of the best nights of their lives is all part of my job. I work for The Bijou Club in Manchester and a typical night involves me getting into the office at around midday, where I will take last-minute bookings for the guest list. I then go to meet our customers at a nearby bar at about 10.30pm. I have a chauffeur on standby, ready to take them to the club, before heading there myself at midnight to make sure everyone's enjoying themselves. A lot of what I do involves taking care of our VIP clients and I'm lucky that I already know most of the high-profile faces in the area from my days as an actress in *Hollyoaks* and *Holby City*. That's why I thought it'd be a great career between acting jobs. When we've got

'I Often Go To Six Cocktail Bars In One Night'

Audrey Sykes, 28, reviews bars and nightclubs for online social guide Partyearth.com

Two years ago, I'd just finished university studying an Erasmus programme in Holland and was enjoying working as a tour guide in Amsterdam. While my job involved showing tourists the historical sites of the city, I'd also recommend the hottest bars and clubs to visit, and found myself becoming a bit of an expert. So, when I spotted an advert looking for writers who knew the

nightlife in Amsterdam for a guidebook called Party Earth, it felt natural that I should apply. The company is based in LA and publishes reviews of all the best club nights, bars and events in cities across Europe and America. As soon as I read the ad, I knew that I'd be the perfect candidate for the job and, after an interview on Skype, they said they'd pay me to put together the Amsterdam section of their guide. My first task was to come up with 130 venues which I had to visit, before selecting the top 90

for review. The venues were a mix of pubs, bars, music venues and coffee shops and I had to visit them all in just one summer!

usually welcomed with free drinks everywhere I went. It was amazing, but as I'd have to go to five or six places in one night,

“You really can make a good living from partying!”

For each review, I would firstly contact the venue's manager to let them know when I'd be visiting – this meant I was

it could sometimes be a bit of a struggle to stay sober! As the initial excitement began to wear off, I learned to keep my wits

about me so that I could soak up the atmosphere of each bar but still keep a good set of notes.

After I'd reviewed all 90, I was able to use the money I'd made to go backpacking around Europe for four months, which was great – especially as I'd had such a fantastic time earning it.

Then, when I got back to Amsterdam, Party Earth called to tell me they were setting up a website and asked if I'd go back to all 90 venues to take pictures and update my reviews. I jumped at the chance as it meant that I could have more great nights out in every bar and club that I'd already visited.

Although going out so much could be tiring, I'd often take

my friends along with me so that I could combine a night of socialising with work.

I've since carried on working for the site as I need to make sure that the Amsterdam section of the guide is top-notch and always up-to-date. I worked so hard on getting it right that I really want to keep my good reputation intact for recommending the hottest places to go!

In my spare time, I also organise venues for upcoming bands who are looking for a location to hold their gigs, which gives me extra income.

Since graduating, I've learned that you really can make a good living from partying – you just need to know where to look!



'Me with my Hollyoaks mates Jorgie Porter and Saira Choudhry'

important clients coming in, it's my job to make sure our management are aware so that we can make a fuss of them.

Footballers such as Rio Ferdinand have visited, while actresses like Brooke Vincent and Sacha Parkinson from the *Corrie* cast are regulars. It's important for me to build relationships with them so that people choose to come to us rather than go anywhere else.

As I like to hang out with our clients, people always offer to buy me drinks in the club, but when

“ Although I'm busy, I always have a good time ”

I'm working I'm as professional as possible. My friend behind the bar and I have a little secret, so if a customer is ordering Sambucas, she'll pour me a shot of water instead! It's a good trick and it keeps me going – I couldn't do the job I need to do if I was drunk.

Working at The Bijou Club is such a big part of my life, I even celebrated my birthday there this year. There's no real separation between my social time and my career – I work nightclub hours which means that my phone is on 24 hours a day. On a Saturday, I often don't get to bed till 6am. Luckily, my boyfriend Chris is understanding as he works for the same company!

Even though I'm insanely busy, I always manage to have a good time. I honestly don't see my job as work. If I was on a normal night out with my friends, I'd still be going up to people and talking to them. I've worked hard to get to where I am today and I'd never give up this job. I'm having too much of a good time!”

A happy Bijou birthday to you Sarah!



“I got to meet Paris Hilton at Cannes”

‘My Job Is To Party With The A-List’

Organising celebrity parties for her big-name clients is just part of the day job for Charli Morgan, 30, co-founder of The Cult PR company

“I still have to pinch myself when I look around the room and realise I'm partying with celebs like Russell Brand and Paris Hilton. That's because two-and-a-half years ago, my boyfriend Matt and I decided to leave our careers in journalism to set up our own PR company, which means we get to throw big parties for our clients who want to promote a product.

Looking back, we put on some great parties in 2011 – especially our Halloween bash. It was a fantastic night and we even managed to get Caroline Flack to come and DJ.

I always know if I've done a good job, as everyone in the room will be having a great night, but it can be hard work. The most stressful part of the event

is at the start of the night when I'm waiting to see which celebrities from the guest list will turn up. Although lots of people RSVP to say they'll come, they often pull out at the last minute. Getting big names to attend is really important because if they come, the press will come to the event, which leads to great coverage for the brands we're representing.

I also get to travel and meet a lot of A-listers at places such as the Cannes Film Festival. This year, we were there to promote Pincer Vodka and I got to meet Paris Hilton and Lily Cole. It's a great networking opportunity and we've picked up some of our best clients at the festival.

Being at parties constantly means I have a wardrobe that's literally bursting at the seams. I always try to put different outfit combinations together so that

I'm not seen in the same stuff.

I love being able to share my job with our friends and I always try to invite them along to our events. I'm so glad I've found a job that means I get to have fun – there's really nothing else I'd rather do.”



Charli and Lily Cole

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