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to bar staff and enjoy  
2 glasses of house beer,  
wine, sparkling or soft  
drink for the price of 1\*

\*conditions apply



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the Arts Centre  
MELBOURNE



## MELBOURNE'S BARS cater for all interests

**ONE OF THE GREATEST** challenges to enjoying a drink in any of Melbourne's truly hip bars is getting there. Many are so well hidden in colourful laneways that it often takes GPS, local knowledge or just a touch of luck to find them. Often you find yourself walking down a darkish alley with a tiny sign the only indication you're in the right place. But it's worth the effort. Melbourne's laneway renaissance has seen a boom in bars. Single, unassuming doorways often lead into sumptuous and spacious interiors. Some bars are cool 'cave in the wall' establishments whilst others are exclusive nightspots and yet some others are cheekily themed salons.

A new addition to the scene is **24 Moons** (ACDC Lane, off Flinders Lane). The bar's contemporary interior has dimly lit silhouetted wall panels and light box converted windows. This creates a forest like environment, complete with soft moonlight and the song of birds and insects. In tune with the concept of an interactive artwork

in itself, nothing on the floor space is fixed. Therefore even the soft furnishing seating arrangement is changeable.

**The Berlin Bar** (16 Corrs Lane) features two main areas. The West Berlin room features black walls and a shiny, economically-sized black bar, white vinyl quilted couches and a little interior balcony with its own cast iron lace. The East Berlin room is a much starker environment, with red chairs resembling those in Kubrick's 2001 space station, tables made from converted bath tubs and in one corner an entire bed, complete with army blankets and weapon cases for ornaments. Not surprisingly there's a good range of German beers and wines here as well as other international offerings and local treats.

**The Croft Institute** (21 Croft Alley) is said to boast Melbourne's largest private collection of laboratory apparatus. It's also renowned for its vodka and cocktails. The Croft Institute is tucked away at the end of a winding Chinatown alley well off the beaten track.

**Murmur** (Level 1, 17 Warburton Lane) is a winner of the Australian Bartender award for Cocktail Bar of the Year. The revamped coffee and spice warehouse has kept its exposed beams and antique pulley system but incorporated luxe chocolate couches and the occasional chandelier, creating a great atmosphere.

**The Canary Club** (6 Melbourne Place) is renowned for its authentic tapas and Spanish beer in a chic, yet relaxed atmosphere.

**Manchuria** (1st Floor, 7-9 Waratah Place) has a classic 1900s opium den style and is known for its classic cocktails made with quality ingredients.

**Charlie's Bar** (Basement, 71 Hardware Lane) is located in the basement of a converted warehouse, under The Mill restaurant. It's known for its tapas menu, cocktail selection and impressive wine list.

**The Goose & Vinyl Bar** (91-93 Flinders Lane) is great for music lovers. Here you

can browse through a huge selection of vinyl LPs and a 'vinyl menu', make a selection and then staff will play the music for the mood you are in on their two in-house turntables.

While **Double Happiness** (21 Liverpool Street) has no sign its fans know exactly where it is. The tongue-in-cheek interior features an array of Chinese socialist propaganda posters while the names of the fusion cocktails are taken from infamous moments in communist history.

**Robot** (12 Bligh Place) is a slice of Neo-Tokyo set in Melbourne's alley culture. It's renowned for its sake and Asian beers. There are also Japanese snacks.

A 'post apocalyptic beer house' tucked away in a laneway in the heart of Chinatown, **Section 8** (Tattersalls Lane) is a bar with no walls, wooden pallets for chairs and where the drinks are served from an old recycled shipping container.

## Don't miss...

■ **Silk Road** (425 Collins Street) is a cocktail haven with eight glamorous bars and four kitchens spread over three levels.

■ **Tuscan Bar** (Level 1, 79 Bourke Street) is home to a delicious stuzzichini menu perfect for sharing, and a stylish rooftop bar where you can while away the night.

■ **Curve Bar** (100 St Kilda Road), located within the Arts Centre, is great for a pre or post show cocktail and bite to eat – or even both.

■ **The Cricketers Bar** (111 Spring Street) is the place to go to watch non-stop sports in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

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