



The best Upper East Side bars in NYC

From neighborhood pubs to smart cocktail bars, these are the best Upper East Side bars in New York City

The best Upper East Side bars in NYC range from craft beer bars to laid-back wine bars, plus some of the best cocktail bars in the city. After checking out a museum or restaurant in the area, check out these spots for a perfectly poured drink.



Sugar East

Tucked away on an aggressively average block in the doorman-less part of the Upper East Side, a set of red-velvet ropes leads to a heavy black door. Push past it and descend a narrow, dimly lit staircase that stops at a full-length mirror right before the entrance. The underground speakeasy seems like a seductive bachelor pad from the 1960s, where the attentive staff serves gussied-up drinks for the parties of overlapping limbs and fused-together faces. So bargoers should take a little extra time at that entryway mirror—it's probably a night you'll be giving some sugar.