

A close-up photograph of three people at a bar. On the left, a woman with blonde hair is laughing and holding a black straw. In the center, a woman with brown hair is also laughing and holding a tall glass with a drink and a straw. On the right, a man with short brown hair is smiling and looking towards the women. In the foreground, there is a martini glass filled with a red liquid and a garnish. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a bar setting.

**INSIDER'S GUIDE
TO MELBOURNE**

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Experience Melbourne's cool bars with master cocktail mixologists.

COOL COCKTAILS

Melbourne's cocktail mixologists are a dedicated, passionate bunch. Always seeking to create the Next Big Thing in a cocktail glass, whether it's the latest twist on the classic martini, a pink and fluffy 'Bunny Girl' or the 'Dictatorship of the Proletariat'. What can we say but "cheers"?

All these cocktail lounges are in the CBD:

Chaise Lounge: open Monday – Saturday, eclectic chic décor bordering on boudoir. And speaking of 'boudoir', try the 'Complexion' – vodka, Cointreau, apple juice and mint.

Champagne Lounge: open nightly during the Games, contemporary chic décor, comfortable booths, extensive cocktail, champagne and wine list.

Double Happiness: open nightly, blending Chinese pop-culture, communist icons and traditional herbal remedies. Double Happiness is indeed guaranteed with the 'Dictatorship of the Proletariat' (vodka infused with smoked paprika, fennel and Asian spices, plus tomato juice).

Gin Palace: open nightly – and these guys are master martini mixers. Current star of nine martinis is the '1951', which won a cocktail mixing competition in Chicago. Bombay Sapphire gin, Cointreau-lined glass, anchovy-stuffed olives.

Hairy Canary: open nightly, great food, killer cocktails. A current best seller: Eve's Delight, with apple, basil, dark rum and Absolut vanilla vodka. Enough to cause anyone's downfall.

Melbourne Supper Club Bar: open nightly, smoothly sophisticated, soft lighting, comfortable couches, good finger food, excellent wine list – and they mix a mean martini.

Three Below: open nightly, award-winning post-modern décor, but Three Below is a traditionalist with its star cocktail: the perfect Manhattan.

Tony Starr's Kitten Club: open nightly, sophisticated, 'Sex in the City' style, good food, great cocktails and live entertainment. Top cocktail: the 'Bunny Girl'... vodka, pink grapefruit juice, Frangelico, lychee liqueur and rose syrup.



Find the perfect place for a beer with your mates.

CHEERS! BEERS FROM ABROAD

There are times when a cool beer is the only thing that really hits the spot. And with lots of great pubs serving beers from around the world, Melbourne's pub scene is absolutely spot-on during the Games.

CITY PUBS:

Cookie on Swanston: something for everyone, with beer hall, cocktail bar, Thai restaurant.

Coopers Inn: beers from the UK, NZ, Asia and Europe, traditional pub meals.

Fiddler Bar: great Irish pub, Irish and European beers, cider, good pub food.

Imperial Hotel: has been operating since 1864, so they must be doing something right. Imported beers, pub food, bistro.

JB's: big space, good music, right next to Crown Casino's nightclubs if you want to kick on.

Lion Hotel, Melbourne Central: Games action on the big screens. International beers on tap, English-style pub food, covered beer garden.

PJ O'Brien's: another jumping Irish pub, with Guinness, Irish food, nightly live music.

Transport Hotel: spectacular glass and steel building, more than 100 beers and wines.

Young & Jackson: good range of beer; historic building plus Melbourne's most famous nude. Drop in and find out more.

CLOSE TO THE MCG:

All Nations Bar, Richmond: cosy bar, good pub food, covered beer garden.

CLOSE TO ALBERT PARK, ST KILDA, PORT MELBOURNE:

Belgian Beer Café Bluestone: 27 Belgian beers and three Australian brews.

Esplanade Hotel, St Kilda: famous old 'sticky carpet' pub. The 'Espy' has nightly live entertainment, pub meals, pool.

Molly Blooms: more Irish than Guinness, with nightly Celtic music.

Prince of Wales: a glamour club upstairs, with celebs, smart bar, balcony and top DJs.