



Photograph: Jen Castro

The best bars in South Beach to avoid the tourist traps

Breezy rooftops, intimate cocktail dens and locals-only hideaways: These are the best bars in South Beach right now.

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South Beach is a lot of things, and one of them is undeniably touristy. This is for good reason: The oceanfront neighborhood is home to some of the world's most beautiful [beaches](#), renowned [nightlife](#), an abundance of [shopping](#) and internationally recognized cultural institutions (ever heard of [Art Basel Miami Beach?](#)). For a lot of people, Miami is synonymous with South Beach.

But just because it's teeming with tourists year-round doesn't mean South Beach is all overpriced fishbowl drinks, untz-untz nightclubs and souvenir shops filled with tchotchkes. If anything's a testament to this fact it's the many worthwhile watering holes that line South Beach's pastel-hued streets. Whether you're in the mood for a dimly lit cocktail lounge, a bustling rooftop or an old-school, seedy dive, you can find it in South Beach. Skip the tourist traps with our expert-vetted guide to the best South Beach bars right now.

Best bars in South Beach



Photograph: Joe Turman/Blue Shell Media

13. The ScapeGoat

Bars Cocktail bars South of Fifth \$\$\$\$

The team behind Ariete and Chug's cooked up this petite, polished South of Fifth bar. ScapeGoat prides itself on its cocktails, which are quite good. Don't expect the serious cocktail bar attitude here, though. It's a lowkey atmosphere, but things can get silly at night. At happy hour, score \$10 cocktails like a basil gimlet and rum punch.