

This season we have put together our personal "Cape Town food & drink favourites" that you might enjoy. From hidden breakfast spots to snazzy bars and amazing eateries, take your pick!

Manhattan

Just around the corner in De Waterkant, this is the oldest gay mixed bar in the city and great fun for all ages and types. Grab a bite to eat, an afternoon cocktail on the terrace, or a late-night rendezvous in the bar, this is a firm favourite for locals and visitors.

address: 74 Waterkant St, De Waterkant, Cape Town, 8051, South Africa

Vasco da Gama Taverna

The 3rd oldest pub in Cape Town this is a great spot to catch a sports match while enjoying a delicious bite of Portuguese-inspired pub grub in a cheerful atmosphere. An eclectic mix of patrons and still going strong since opening in 1972.

address: 3 Alfred St, De Waterkant, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

Firemans Arms

One of the oldest bars in Cape Town, originally serving refreshments to sailors and locals from 1864. With 9 TV screens this is a fun place to watch live sports plus join quiz nights and they do a decent pub grub.

address: 25 Buitengracht St & Mechau St, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

Only Fools

Unpretentious laid-back bar that attracts a young hipster crowd and a good starting point for your evening. Simple menu that includes burgers, cocktails as well as wine and beer and on weekends can get busy, overflowing onto the pavement along this popular Sea Point stripe.

address: 82 Regent Rd, Sea Point, Cape Town, 8005, South Africa

The Red Roof Bar

Great sunset spot with amazing views of the harbour and city with Table Mountain behind. Located in the Silo district of the V&A Waterfront, this is part of the Radisson Red Hotel and has a fun vibrant atmosphere with pool, red drinks van and frequent DJ events.

address: Silo 6, Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

Cause & Effect Cocktail Kitchen and Cape Brandy Bar

Bartenders dressed in scientist's coats, stirring up interesting locally inspired concoctions. Try one of the bar's fabulous experiential cocktails inspired by Cape Town's oceans, mountains, vineyards, and fynbos.

address: Rocket Shed, 280 Dock Rd, V&A Waterfront, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa



The Athletic Club & Social

This grand old 3-storey building has a whimsical design of colonial-meets-modern. Between the ground floor restaurant there is a basement bar that on weekends turns into a nightclub with vinyl DJ's and jazz. The 1st floor bar is a maze of rooms opening onto a large balcony with Signal Hill views and a great place to be social.

address: 35 Buitengracht St, CBD, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

The Drinkery

Part gallery, part cocktail bar and located within a former slave prison, within Heritage Square, this quirky place overlooks bars and restaurants in the courtyard below. An impressive collection of rare and bespoke spirits, shaking up a menu of innovative house cocktails and the classics.

address: 100 Shortmarket Street, City Centre, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa

The Blue Room

Live music in an intimate moody cocktail lounge where you can expect to hear the country's top jazz, soul and blues artists. Bespoke drinks and small tapas plates where you need to book to enjoy this sound experience.

address: 103 Bree St, Cape Town City Centre, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

The Gin Bar

One of the largest collections of local gin that you can enjoy in an open-air courtyard with a fun crowd. Tucked behind Honest Chocolates this speakeasy-style bar is a haven for gin and cocktail lovers. They now also have a Bubbly Bar, to enjoy the local MCC (champagne) version.

address: 64A Wale St, Cape Town City Centre, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa

Tjing Tjing Rooftop bar

Hip attic bar in the roof timbers of this a 200-year-old city house that opens onto a great outdoor terrace. Trendy ambience playing indie and electronic music attracting a young, and sometimes noisy crowd, and a great place to start your weekend.

address: 165 Longmarket St, Cape Town City Centre, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

House of Machines

Don't be put off by the motorbike feel, which they repair during the day, this funky dark bar not only does some great cocktails but also serves its own brand coffee. Unpretentious and fun with live music and very friendly staff and now opening up in the states.

address: 84 Shortmarket St, Cape Town City Centre, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa



Village Idiot

A fantastical bohemia-meets-1980's restaurant and bar lodged on Loop Street with a massive ostrich perched in the middle of the bar. A fun homely drinking hole serving good food and also boasting a large balcony with a spitbraai/BBQ.

address: 32 Loop St, CBD, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

The Art of Duplicity

A decadent jazz and cocktail speakeasy bar that is hidden in a renovated 1894 Victorian warehouse. They don't list their address as you need to book and then they send a password to gain access. Expect accompanying theatrics which all add to the secrecy and fun of the place.

address: tbc Buitenkant St, Cape Town City Centre, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa

Rita's Cocktail Club

Accessed through Hudson's Burger joint this 1st floor bar has exquisite cocktails plus breathtaking rooftop city views. Rita's, short for margarita makes some masterfully crafted tequila cocktails plus a long list of non-tequila drinks and tacos. On weekends expect DJ disco music and a vibey night club feel after sunset; you need to book. address: 22 Kloof St, Gardens, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

Asoka

Asian-inspired restaurant lounge and live music venue in a Victorian townhouse bar with open-roof candlelit courtyard and legendary olive tree serving tapas and classy cocktails. Extensive drinks menu, accompanied by live Jazz, electro-jazz, funk bands and classic vocalists.

address: 68 Kloof St, Gardens, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

Dark Horse

One of our favourites with a great atmosphere, outdoor front and roof-top seating plus they also serve food. They have a massive chalkboard of very reasonably priced and well-made cocktails surrounded by antique art and collectables plus friendly staff

address: 145 Kloof St, Gardens, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

The Power & The Glory

Open all day starting with breakfast this vibey corner bar & bistro is small and overflows on the surrounding pavements. By day a great place to enjoy a good coffee and people watch and by night have a fun time with a lively young crowd. address: 13d Kloof Nek Rd, Tamboerskloof, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa



Harringtons

A classic lush cocktail lounge with late-night license and DJ getting very busy after 11pm. Sophisticated cocktails and bar food set in opulent and stylish seating with massive L-shaped bar. Great place for groups of friends to celebrate and party. address: 61B Harrington St, District Six, Cape Town, 7925, South Africa

Silo Rooftop Bar

Offering amazing panoramic ocean and city views this is one the highest rooftop bars in the city. You do need to book and pay a deposit, but it is worth it for the setting either high tea or classic cocktails and bubbly. Located on the five-star roof top of the Silo Hotel.

address: V&A Waterfront, Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

We couldn't include all so some firm favourites aren't here however, wherever you end up, enjoy the best that Cape Town has to offer.