

THE HOT LIST BARS

THE FINEST FOR BEVERAGES AND BITES



1 Left Bank

During the cooler months it may slip off the top spot, but with the blasting heat making outside bars off limits, this trendy newcomer pips its rivals to the post. The swish, minimalist interior, the chilled breaks laid down by the DJ and a range of imaginative but affordable cocktails and mocktails – the apple mojito is

a must try – make it a worthy number one. It also has a large outside terrace full of cosy booths and with great views over the nearby Grand Mosque where the foolhardy can venture out during the summer months. Souk Qaryat Al Beri, Between The Bridges, Abu Dhabi. Tel: (02) 5581680



2 Yacht Club

It's been open less than a year but almost overnight the Yacht Club has become the city's most popular bar. And quite justifiably so. It really has raised the bar for Abu Dhabi's nightlife and the competition has had to quickly play catch up. The nautical-themed aquamarine interior is pleasing to the eye, it serves a great selection of Pan-Asian meals while the drinks menu boasts more than 40 varieties of vodkas. The white sofa-stuffed outside terrace has an ambience bordering on comatose – a perfect place during the cooler season to sip your drinks. So come winter, expect it to challenge for number one. Intercontinental Abu Dhabi, Al Bateen, Abu Dhabi. Tel: (02) 6666888

3 Jazz Bar

Before the influx of the new breed of ultra-cool bars, the place to be seen in Abu Dhabi was Jazz Bar. Saying this, the place still holds up as a great night out. Why? Well, firstly, the live six-piece South African band Turning Point lay down some great tunes, secondly there's a huge choice of reasonably priced drinks at the extensive bar and thirdly the slightly older crowd are generally welcoming and friendly. Hilton Abu Dhabi, Corniche, Abu Dhabi. Tel: (02) 6811900

4 Pearls & Caviar

Challenging the Yacht Club as the city's slickest bar, the two-floored venue has a posh Arabic restaurant on the ground floor while upstairs is a mellow, sofa-covered terrace where the city's glitterati gather to party into the early hours. The place gained a double victory at the recent What's On Awards, where it picked up Best Newcomer and Favourite Bar. However, it loses places by the fact the bar has no inside area. Sub-zero cool it won't be on a sweltering June evening. So let's hope the rumours that bosses will be putting up glass walls and installing A/C are true. Shangri-La Qaryat Al Beri, Between The Bridges, Abu Dhabi. Tel: (02) 5098888

