



SF's Hottest Cocktail Bars, September 2018

From tiki drinks to gin and tonics, it's all here

by [Ellen Fort](#) and [Caleb Pershian](#) | Updated Sep 5, 2018, 3:45pm PDT

Welcome to the cocktail heatmap, where drinkers can expect inventive takes on classics, unique spirits, garden-inspired ingredients, and all the latest in cocktail trends. If there's one thing San Franciscans have access to in droves, it's a damn good drink.

If you're looking for something a little more established, check out [this list](#) of the city's essential cocktail bars, to which these places might someday graduate. Want to know the city's hottest restaurants? Head [here](#).

[Note: Map points are listed North to South, not ranked.]

3. Laureate Bar & Lounge



444 Presidio Ave
San Francisco, CA 94115

(415) 346-7431
[Visit Website](#)

The revamped Swank Lounge, now dubbed Laureate (in the Joie de Vivre-run Laurel Inn) has serious swagger. Remodeled in a trendy mid-century style, the updated decor is a good match for the new list of cocktails from Shel Bourdon (who has successfully refreshed bars at Joie de Vivre hotels like the Hotel Kabuki) and Laureate bar manager Sam McGinnis. Warm up with a Smoke Show (jalapeno infused Altos Tequila, Del Maguey Vida Mezcal, lime, raspberry syrup, and pomegranate) and a spot by the fireplace.



Patricia Chang