



Photograph: L7 Hotels by Lotte

## The best rooftop bars in Asia

Home to massive metropolitans, Asia has some epic skylines that can be enjoyed with a cocktail in hand at rooftop bars.

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The best way to watch the sunset in Asia's sprawling cities is with a drink at the best rooftop bars in the region. Sip on innovative cocktails while taking in panoramic vistas of skyscrapers and historic sites. Time Out's writers and editors—including Asia contributor **Lola Méndez** who has enjoyed a rooftop libation or two everywhere from Saigon to Tokyo—have picked our favourite rooftop bars in Southeast and East Asia. Here are the best rooftop bars in Asia with views of iconic skylines.

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## Best rooftop bars in Asia



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# 1. MAI The Sky Bar



📷 Photograph: MAI The Sky Bar / Instagram

**The view** Enjoy sweeping views of the Ping River and the pagoda-lined skyline of Chiang Mai from the highest bar in the city. Located on the 22nd floor of **Meliá Chiang Mai**, the 360-degree rooftop bar offers sweeping views of the Ping River and the sacred Doi Suthep Temple, which can be seen on a clear day to the west. There are two floors of seating, all of which boast an excellent view.

**The drinks** Time Out Asia contributor **Lola Méndez** lives in Chiang Mai and never passes up the chance to indulge in MAI's Bartender's Tailored Cocktails. The mixologists drew inspiration from the city for unique craft cocktails: take Temple (Wat Chedi Luang), made of Thailand's Siam Lanna gin and Khaosoi flavouring, which tastes like the famous

noodle soup.

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## 2. Lantern

Clubs

Raffles Place



**The view** Lantern is named after Clifford Pier's historic Chinese name, 'Red Lantern Pier', it is located on the sixth floor of [The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore](#). The lantern-shaped centrepiece bar boasts [epic views of Singapore's skyline](#), including the Civic District and the iconic Marina Bay.

**The drinks** Lantern's bartenders whip up signature cocktails made of sustainably sourced ingredients including their take on the Singapore Sling – a Fullerton Sling with gin, orange liqueur, and rose syrup. On the menu you'll find an array of other slings such as the Sweet Passion Sling with dragon fruit and the Sydney Sling with blood orange and ginger. Don't miss [The Skive Life](#) daily happy hour special with selected drinks from \$10.

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### 3. The Roof Shibuya Sky

## Shibuya



Photograph: The Roof Shibuya Sky

**The view** The rooftop of **Shibuya Scramble Square** is home to the **Shibuya Sky** observation deck. At 230 metres above ground, **The Roof** bar has breathtaking 360-degree views of Japan's capital city. Time Out Tokyo's Associate Editor **Kaila Imada** says the bar has **vistas of all of Tokyo's major landmarks**, such as **Tokyo Tower** and **Tokyo Skytree**, and on a clear day, **Mt Fuji** in the distance. Visit ahead of sunset to see the view in daylight and at twilight.

**The drinks** Tickets to The Roof include drink packages including champagne, a bottled whiskey cocktail, or an IPA that's a collaboration with a local brewery, Y.Y.G Brewery. The bar and lounge is only open 8 months a year. Make a reservation to visit

before December 25, 2024.

## 4. Aqua

Tsim Sha Tsui



Photograph: Courtesy Aqua

**The view** Named [Time Out's Best Rooftop Bar](#) in Hong Kong in 2022, the vista from Aqua never disappoints. The chic Italian-Japanese restobar is on the 17th floor of H Zentre on Middle Road and boasts an epic view of Hong Kong's skyline and harbour from two outdoor terraces.

**The drinks** Aqua has epic drink specials offered during “sunset hour” daily from 5-10 PM including wine by the glass and select cocktails such as palomas, old fashioned, martinis for 98 HKD and

draught beer for 78 HKD. Enjoy Japanese flavours by sipping on the Matcha Point with 148 Matcha pisco, yuzu, Umeshu, and ginger syrup.

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## 5. Blue at Sky51



📷 Photograph:  
<https://www.eqkualalumpur.equatorial.com/dining/blue/>

**The view** Take in stunning vistas of the iconic KL skyline including the KL Tower and Petronas Twin Towers from Blue at Sky51 thanks to it's location in



the heart of the city. Enjoy your drinks at the open-air deck at Sky51 located within the lounge. Arrive before sunset to snag a front-row seat and witness the sky changing colours and reflecting off of KL's highrises while enjoying the daily happy hour service on bottles of champagne and select alcohol from 5-6:30 PM.

**The drinks** Blue at Sky51's mixologist's handcraft cocktails infused with Malaysian flavours for the Go Lokal cocktail menu. Time Out Kuala Lumpur's contributor [Ng Su Ann loves the bar's signature cocktails](#), such as the showy smoked negroni or the sky old fashioned.

## 6. ROOF at The Shanghai Edition





📷 Photograph: The Shanghai Edition

**The view** From the 29th floor of the Shanghai EDITION is ROOF, an upscale open-air lounge boasting panoramic views of Pudong's skyline and The Bund. It's a perfect place to wind down after a day of city life as the bar is located next to a lush rooftop garden offering a much needed dose of greenery.

**The drinks** Expert mixologists at ROOF craft decadent libations including the fan-favorite champagne-infused cocktails. You'll also find classic cocktails here from whiskey sour to Time Out contributor Rupert Hohwieler **favorite signature cocktail**, the ginger-infused sunset mule with lime sherbet and passion fruit.

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## 7. Floating Bar



📷 Photograph: L7 Hotels by Lotte

**The view** Easily the best rooftop bar in the trendy Myeongdong neighbourhood, the Floating Bar on the 21st floor of the L7 Myeongdong Hotel offers epic views of Namsan Mountain and the Seoul Tower. It takes up the entire floor making it one of the largest rooftop bars in Seoul with indoor and outdoor sections. Time Out editors love that **there's a footbath in the outdoor section of the bar.**

**The drinks** Floating Bar has an array of traditional and signature cocktails as well as an extensive wine and craft beer selection. You can't go wrong here

with an espresso martini.

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Photograph: Koral Restaurant

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