

DRINK BEST FOR...

COCKTAILS

Hiding In Plain Sight

Appropriately given this speakeasy-style bar's proximity to the ancient docks where sailors would snog their goodbyes before embarking on treacherous journeys, its cocktail menu offers liquid danger in the oldest part of Amsterdam. Based on the potent 'Zombie', HPS's secret recipe **Walking Dead** is served (and then set on fire) in a giant glass skull and features three different types of rums including **Bacardi 151**. Bar-imposed limit: one per night. **Awesome.** Rapenburg 18 (06 2529 3620/hpsamsterdam.com). Open Mon-Sat 18.00-01.00, Fri, Sat until 03.00.

COSINESS

G&T's Really Really Nice Place

Like a Hipstamatic version of a brown café (all letter-press fonts and vintage crockery). The former bankers who run G&T's host quirky pop-up events, serve superlative brunches and mix a cracking Bloody Mary – a food group in itself, according to co-owner Tanya. *Goudsbloemstraat 91 (06 1183 7382/reallyniceplace.com).*

HIPSTERS

Roest

Named 'rust' as a nod to its industrial setting, Roest has plenty of 'middle-of-nowhere graffiti-covered' credentials, and its line-up of ever-changing theme parties – plus expansive terrace and beach – keep even fickle trendsters entertained. *Czaar Peterstraat 213 (308 0283/amsterdamroest.nl).* Open Wed-Fri 16.00-01.00, Fri until 03.00; Sat 11.00-03.00; Sun 11.00-01.00.

ALTERNATIVE

Basis ▶

This deliberately down-at-heel hipster hangout – all plywood benches and second-hand furniture with touches of artistic whimsy – draws creative types aplenty with its carefree vibe, affordable beer, great music and a Bring Your Own Food policy. *Vijzelstraat 66 (basisamsterdam.nl).* Open Thur-Sun 16.00-01.00, Fri, Sat until 03.00.

GLAM

Harbour Club

A whopping 2,200 square metres of pure glam contained in a former wine warehouse on the IJ front, Amsterdam's new edition of the Dutch chain brings a touch of Ibiza to our rainy northern climes. Featuring a restaurant with sushi room, bar, club and terrace, this is the place to see and be seen. *Cruquiusweg 67 (767 0421/theharbourclub.nl).* Open daily midday-late.

FLOATING

Barco

This repurposed canal barge is almost more *gezellig* than you can fit in one place. With 360° city views, affordable food, live bands and sun-trap terrace, it's easy to become pretty damn smug about this one. *Oosterdokskade 10 (626 9383/cafebarco.nl).* Open Mon-Wed 16.00-midnight, Thur 16.00-01.00; Fri, Sat midday-03.00; Sun midday-midnight.

PARTIES

Ludwig

The former Café April has gone hip. Named after the bi-curious Bavarian 'fairytale king' famed for his wild parties, Ludwig serves his legacy well, from the industrial kitsch interior to the gay-friendly (but not exclusive) party programme. Posters come courtesy of TOA fave Parra. *Reguliersdwarsstraat 37 (625 3661).* Open Wed-Sun 18.00-01.00, Fri, Sat until 03.00.