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5 of the best rooftop bars and restaurants in Boston



DIANE BAIR

Coppersmith in South Boston.

Looking for a primo place to toast the summery temperatures set to arrive this week? Snag a seat at a rooftop bar with dazzling views of the city. Arrive at sunset, when Boston's iconic buildings are backlit with sorbet hues, and order the most delicious-sounding drink on the menu. Revel in the heat. Who knows how long it will last?

Airdeck at Coppersmith

The vibe: Playful and casual. If you've wanted to check out this buzzy restaurant — set in a former, circa 1894 South Boston copper foundry — the weather may finally cooperate. The Airdeck bar “floats” between the building's interior and a seasonal patio. Craft beers and house cocktails are served from a vintage Airstream. The view isn't spectacular, given that the roof is only up one floor, but the bar smells good, thanks to aromas wafting up from the restaurant's smokers. Under a string of lights, guests socialize with cans of beer and play cornhole.

Guest list: A youngish bunch that includes neighborhood residents, the after-work crowd, and first-daters (a dating expert named Coppersmith one of the top places for a first date in the city). Some complain that Saturday nights can feel like “Frat Boy Central” here, though.

Eat this: Large parties (6 to 30 people) with reserved spaces can order (in advance) Airdeck platters on the roof deck, served in a red Radio Flyer wagon. Otherwise, plan for a meal at the restaurant; Coppersmith chef is Steve Brocone.

Drink this: Frose', craft beer, cocktail pitchers.

Etc.: No cover. 40 W. 3rd. St., South Boston.

617-658-3452;

www.coppersmithboston.com.



Legal Harborside, third floor Promenade Deck.

Promenade Deck, Legal Harborside

The vibe: The Improper Bostonian named it the city's best rooftop bar for 2017. Set on the third floor (or Promenade Deck, as they call it) of Legal's 20,000-square-foot flagship property in the Seaport District, this waterfront perch has views that will entrance even the most jaded city dweller. Like the oysters, the ambience is super-chill and glossy. It's a four-seasons bar thanks to a retractable glass roof and walls. Squishy couches and lounges and a copper-clad fireplace add some warmth (literally and figuratively) to this sleek space.

Guest list: It's a mixed crowd, age-wise. Singles over 30 will feel right at home here; there's also a lively after-work scene.

Eat this: Nosh on briny treats from the raw bar. Or kick off the spring season with a delicious lobster roll. Try the Harborside's tempura version of this New England classic.

Drink this: Sangria pitchers; a proprietary gin from St. George of San Francisco.

Etc.: Open all year. 270 Northern Ave., Liberty Wharf; 617-477-2900; www.legalseafoods.com.



The Sky Lounge at the YOTEL Boston hotel.

Sky Lounge, YOTEL Boston

The vibe: Located in the YOTEL Boston hotel, the feel of this 12th-floor bar is sleek and airport-lounge-y. The look they're aiming for throughout the hotel is "first-class air travel," so there you go. An indoor lounge opens to a rooftop terrace. Understated décor allows the setting to serve as eye candy, an Insta-worthy view of the Seaport, city skyscrapers, and Boston Harbor.

Guest list: Hotel guests and the Seaport District's after-work crowd.

Eat this: Giant Bavarian pretzel served with white queso, bacon, spinach, and quinoa hash dip. (Sure beats Auntie Anne's at the airport!)

Drink this: Pier Pressure (Tanqueray gin, Ty Ku cucumber sake, blackberries, mint, and cucumber).

Etc.: Open all year. Music by YOTEL's sound architect Tom Middleton. No cover charge. Also: Meditation Mondays with the Boston Buddha, Andy Kelly, are back. 65 Seaport Blvd.; 617-377-4747, www.yotel.com/boston.



ERIC LEVIN

The Envoy Hotel Lookout Rooftop and Bar.

Lookout Rooftop and Bar, Envoy Hotel

The vibe: Thrillist named it one of the 21 best rooftop bars in America. In three words: sunsets, singles, Sangria. Glowing oversized mod lamps can't compete with the sparkle of the surrounding skyscrapers at night, a 270-degree panorama of skyline and harbor.

Guest list: Dressed-for-clubbing singles, mostly under age 35. Dress code is elegant/casual; no baseball caps or tank tops allowed.

Eat this: No food service on the roof, but chef Tatiana Rosana dishes out good eats at the Envoy's Outlook Kitchen and Bar. Tip: Eat there, and your server will send you up to the Lookout Bar, bypassing the line (unless they've reached maximum capacity at the bar).

Drink this: Craft cocktails, wine by the glass, and local brews by Bent Water and Lord Hobo.

Etc.: No cover charge. Opens May 5. 70 Sleeper St., 617-530-1559; www.theenvoyhotel.com

Rooftop@Revere, Revere Hotel Boston Common

The vibe: Rising seven stories above the city, the Rooftop@Revere is a lofty setting for live performances, including big-name artists like Jason Derulo. Wine soirees, oyster shucking, and networking events are also on tap at this pool-slash-bar space. (The pool is closed off from the bar at night.) Unlike the Colonnade's rooftop pool, this one is open to the public on weekends.

Guest list: It varies from night to night, but there's typically a mixed crowd of people ranging from their 20s to their 50s or so. Wednesday night networking events draw earnest young professionals (a sea of blue button downs and khakis and sheath dresses). By day, pool-going patrons sink into rental cabanas stocked with towels, fresh fruit, and water, or do full-on sun worshipping in open-air lounges.

Eat this, drink this: Chef Sean Dutson dishes up seasonal snacks and an array of spring- and summer-themed libations.

Etc.: Day and weekend passes are available and costs vary. The rooftop is slated to open May 5. 200 Stuart St., 617-482-1800; www.reverehotel.com/drink/rooftop-pool.

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