



PHOTOS BY NICHOLAS JAMES FOCHTMAN

# ABOVE THE REST

Take in the view from Chicago's glorious sky-high bars

By Kit Bernardi

**R**AISE A GLASS AT these Chicago rooftop bars, beloved by locals for stunning views of the city skyline and Lake Michigan. Some are within walking distance of one another. Up for a bar hop?

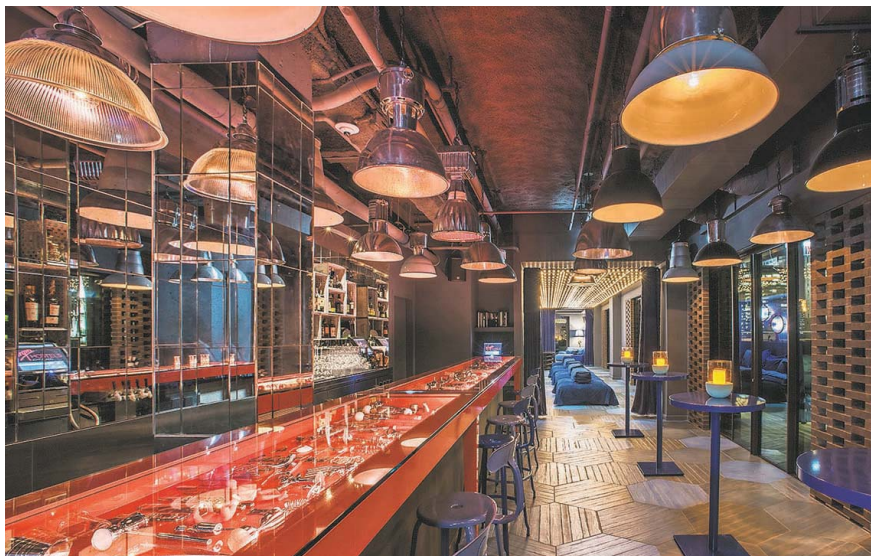
## LH ROOFTOP LONDONHOUSE CHICAGO

LH Rooftop's terrace sets guests amidst the towering skyscrapers along the Chicago River. Executive Chef Jacob Verstegen reinvents retro cocktails; try his lightened-up version of the classic Chicago, mixing vanilla-infused cognac, Cointreau, sherry and sparkling wine, perfectly paired with beef tartare. Reservations are recommended.

► 85 E. Wacker Dr.; 312-357-1200; [londonhousechicago.com/rooftop](http://londonhousechicago.com/rooftop)







PHOTOS BY ANTHONY TAHLLER



**CINDY'S CHICAGO ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION HOTEL**

At Cindy's, atop this restored 1890s Venetian Gothic hotel, patrons gather around fire pits to sip gimlets and daiquiris. Open-air, lakefront vistas encompass Millennium Park, Buckingham Fountain and the Museum Campus peninsula. Sunlight streams through the arched glass roof above guests as they dine on chunky lobster rolls and seasonal berry trifle. ▶ 12 S. Michigan Ave.; 312-792-3502; [cindystrooftop.com](http://cindystrooftop.com)

**CERISE VIRGIN HOTELS CHICAGO**

Spy on Lake Michigan between the surrounding skyscrapers' rooftop gargoyles and cupolas at this sky-high club known for its vibrating DJ dance parties and playful décor. Guests circulate around the shadow-box bars encasing exotic butterflies and vintage bar tools. Cradling a craft cocktail, sink into a cushy couch by the cozy fireplace. ▶ 203 N. Wabash Ave.; 312-940-4774; [virginhotels.com/chicago/dine-and-drink/cerise](http://virginhotels.com/chicago/dine-and-drink/cerise)



HOTEL LINCOLN

**J. PARKER HOTEL LINCOLN**

Bountiful flower pots and comfortable seating create a casual patio vibe which balances dramatic views of shoreline, lagoon-laced Lincoln Park and Gold Coast skyscrapers. Themed craft cocktails that reflect pop culture and bygone eras are served with seasonal snacks at the year-round bar under a retractable, conservatory-style glass roof. ▶ 816 N. Clark St.; 312-254-4747; [jparkerchicago.com](http://jparkerchicago.com)

**THE TERRACE AT TRUMP INTERNATIONAL HOTEL & TOWER CHICAGO**

Jaw-dropping views from this luxe, al fresco lounge on the 16th floor of Chicago's second tallest building are genuinely tweet-worthy. The Chicago River flows through a skyscraper canyon spanned by bridges opening for sailboats heading to Lake Michigan. The Terrace opens May 4, weather permitting; summer menus feature cocktails made with fresh fruit, chilled shellfish towers and a barbecue rib or fried chicken picnic spread. ▶ 401 N. Wabash Ave.; 312-588-8600; [trumphotels.com/chicago/dining/rooftop-restaurants-chicago](http://trumphotels.com/chicago/dining/rooftop-restaurants-chicago)



PHOTOS BY MIXITAL MEDIA, INC.

**THE SIGNATURE LOUNGE AT THE 96TH JOHN HANCOCK TOWER**

The city's fourth-tallest building offers the ultimate bird's-eye view of Lake Michigan and the iconic Chicago skyline. The lake's shades of blue transition from shoreline turquoise and jade green to deep cobalt. Guests linger after midnight over craft cocktails and global wines while sharing small plates from the swank Signature Room restaurant. ▶ 875 N. Michigan Ave.; 312-787-9596; [signatureroom.com/lounge](http://signatureroom.com/lounge)

