Brooklyn Is the Coolest City on the Planet

It's OFFICIAL

GET SHAKEN
Adventures in Cocktail-Land

Brooklyn is the epicenter of the classic-cocktail movement that has spread quickly across this great and thirsty land. Not because it's helmed by guys with waxed mustaches and suspenders (stop calling them “braces,” buddy) but because these retro bros push the limits of mixology. Going to a cocktail joint in Brooklyn holds the same thrill as going to your favorite restaurant: You trust the place enough to try something unexpected, knowing it will blow your mind—starting with these four drinks.

The Carondelet at Maison Premiere Williamsburg
Sip this alloy of gin, honey, sea salt, and lime while you down a dozen oysters at the gorgeous white marble bar.

The San Francisco Handshake at Hotel Delmano Williamsburg
Who said you can’t be all things to all people? This concoction is savory (thyme-infused gin, a dash of Fernet-Branca), sweet (St. Germain), and sour (fresh lemon juice) in perfect proportion.

The Criterium at Fort Defiance Red Hook
A bracing rhubarb-and-grapefruit riff on the highball, named for a local bike race, from a bar-slash-restaurant with a locavore ethos.

The Keep Calm and Carry On at Weather Up Prospect Heights
Not so much a specific drink as it is therapy. Give the bartender in this candlelit grotto a baseline—and he'll mix up what you need.