

new bars



Get mortal

Koala Bar

Not quite the land down under

Akitschy neon koala sign, framed photos of Australia, a didgeridoo and a couple of boomerangs on the wall do not necessarily make an Australian bar. Sure the menu has meat pies, but who cares when there is no VB (Victoria Bitter). Make no mistake, this is a local bar with Australiana tacked on. As such, it is not a bad place. Friendly staff, cold beers and a relaxed atmosphere make it a good meeting spot. A free pool table and big screen sports add to the ambience. Cocktails range from ¥30-50 and there is always the ubiquitous tapped Tiger. Tuesday nights see draught beer, gin, vodka and rum going for ¥20. Koala Bar may be as fair dinkum Australian as a panda wearing a cork hat, but as a local bar it's bonza enough. |

Mark Andrews

Perfect for:
pool sharks

280 Huaihai Xi Lu
淮海西路280号
5258-8779



New on the Jing'an circuit

Club Deep

Party in the Park

Sneak away from Windows Too, head down the path that leads into Jing'an Park and you'll find Club Deep tucked away amongst the trees. Formerly a bar known as JA Lounge, Club Deep has, like hundreds before it, been given a facelift and a new name. Rumor has it that Deep will be the new late night party destination that hungry clubbers have been looking for, so keep an eye on this space for details. The staff, however, are a little bit off with the pixies, so be patient when waiting for your drink (standard spirits are ¥50). The music is a thumping, interesting mix of trance and pop, and the fluffy multi-colored rings hanging from the upper level give it a camp feel. So far Club Deep seems to be a little on the shallow side - but it's worth a late night peek.

| Belinda Healy

Perfect for:
escaping Windows

Jing'an Park, 1649
Nanjing Xi Lu 南京
西路号, 静安公园
里(近华山路)
6248-7034

roundabout

Up in Smoke



Be a puff daddy at CJW

SHOW TAXI DRIVER
TAXI
指示给司机

Mark Twain once said, "Eating and sleeping are the only activities that should be allowed to interrupt a man's enjoyment of his cigar." In Shanghai, things rarely interrupt the smoking of a cigarette, but enjoying a hand-rolled cigar remains a leisure activity of the elite.

With a commanding view from the 50th floor of the Bund Center, **Cigar Jazz and Wine (CJW)** provides an atmosphere far removed from the bustle where one can let go of the week's troubles with a smoky exhale. CJW offers mostly Cubans, from Cohibas to Partagas to Davidoffs, ranging from ¥160 to ¥500. An accompanying drink also proves a pricey venture; wines by the glass start at ¥88. Those who can afford it, however, can also enjoy a helping of jazz from the house band every evening at 9 pm.

Although actually a bistro, **Shikumen** in Xintiandi is a purveyor of fine cigars, and few things after a meal are as satisfying as a good smoke. With a selection of Cubans and Dominicans, Shikumen serves renowned makers like Romeo y Julietas and Arturo Fuentes. Prices range from ¥148 to 498. The exquisite desserts and extensive selection of dessert wines allow for the perfect accompaniment to a smoky main course. To Mark Twain's dismay, the cost of cigars in Shanghai may also play a role in the interruption of a man's enjoyment; however, the appetite of China's nouveau riche for luxury items may increase local love for the leaf.

| Brian Kenney

Do you know of a new bar that is opening soon? Tell us about it! Email us at shguide@cityweekend.com.cn