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Your Ultimate New York Rooftop Bar Guide for 2015

We spent all winter secluded in our speakeasies, sports bars, or pubs, huddled over our drinks and wondering when the snowy mountains lining our sidewalks would finally melt? When we could go outside without wearing 27 layers of clothes to avoid frostbite? Yeah, it was a long teeth-chattering, soul-numbing winter, but we survived. So now it's time to ditch those dimly lit bars, get outside, and enjoy a little fresh air with your drink. We have got just the places to do it, all with tasty libations, cool vibes, and scenic views ranging from the Empire State Building to bucolic Staten Island. Trade your wool scarf in for a T-shirt, grab a cocktail or a Corona, and kick back up on the roof. It's summertime, baby. We finally made it.

Refinery Hotel Rooftop



Location: 63 W. 38 St., Manhattan

The Freedom Tower may be the tallest building in NYC, but as far as romance goes it's got nothing on the Empire State Building—the classy colossus that overlooks one of the classiest rooftop bars in Manhattan.

The Refinery Rooftop is a combined 3,500 feet of indoor/outdoor space; the outdoor roof deck can get a little crowded at times, but the inside is so plush and inviting that you won't mind circulating a bit. Despite the crowds, the mood is relaxed, mellow, and classy. The sophisticated cocktail list is as tasty as just about any bar that has, you know, a roof. The views of the Empire State Building add a little romance to any spring night, but if you can't wait to get your roof on, it's now open from noon to 3:00 p.m. for lunch on weekdays, too.