

# taverns to run the tab

After a tough day of pounding the pavement to listing than relaxing, enjoying savoring a perfectly-mixed cocktail? We asked about the best places to grab a drink and some steam.

Luigi Rosabianca, vice president at Corcoran, appreciates some worldly sophistication. His favorite is Morimoto, at 88 Tenth Avenue in the East Village District near 16th Street, for their "elegant, avant-garde interior design and delicious sake and Morimoto cocktails."

Bill Vilkelis, associate broker at The Development Group, a hands-down winner in the best bar

category in my neighborhood — and for that fact — to recommend to my clients or visitors, it would no doubt be Morimoto, adding that the watering hole is Morimoto's bustling Fifth Avenue. "I appreciate the bar offers in terms of offering a wide variety of booze and a wooden barstool to sit on, and the opportunity to enjoy live music, read a book, sit by the fireplace, or play bocce all under the same roof outside, of course."

He also appreciates the vast array of local, national beers is the main attraction at Union Hall. And the bar is an open-air space being taken there because of the gorgeous wooden paneled walls, lined with classic drinks and furnished with chairs and sofas. Unlike many small, neighborhood spots, this massive, multi-level bar attracts people of all walks of life walking through the door for their own

reason. Bill, of Halstead, also favors Park Avenue for a comforting spot to grab a drink at the Quarter at 676 Fifth Ave. "I love the cozy, well-designed Brooklyn bar at the Quarter," she said. "They have a sweet atmosphere for the and are



Dominguez goes to Morimoto for their



Bill Vilkelis, of Barak Realty, hopes to one day see his name memorialized on the historic walls of McSorely's Old Ale House at 15 East 7th St.

imaginative cocktails."

Paul Smadbeck, of Massey Knakal Realty Services, who's currently marketing townhouses at 108 West 80th Street and 313 West 75th Street, and a three-family home at 207 West 78th Street, picks Blondie's for an ideal guy's night out.

"My favorite neighborhood bar is Blondie's, at 212 West 79th St," he said. "With absolutely the best 'upstate-authentic' chicken wings and the coldest beer in all of New York City, Blondie's is an Upper West Side institution. On top of the great beer and bar food, wall-to-wall screens make the best place in the city to kick back and watch any sporting event."

Catherine Holmes and her husband, Tom, both of Barak Realty, like going to the 21 Club for their celebrations.

"It's a huge sort of horseshoe-shaped bar with all kinds of memorabilia hanging from the ceiling," she said. "Tom and I celebrated our 25th anniversary with a table in the bar room. It's the place to be."

Bob Brooks, of Century 21 NY Metro, couldn't choose just one. He said his two favorites were Pink Elephant, on West 27th Street between 10th and 11th Avenues, and Bourbon Street on Amsterdam Avenue.

"Pink Elephant is a club that has this cold blowing machine on the dance floor that is so cool," he said. "And Bourbon Street is a dive bar that has nickel beer night on Tuesdays."

Opting for a side of scenery with his cocktail, Luigi Rosabianca, principal attorney and founder of Rosabianca & Associates, loves to visit the Rise Bar at The Ritz for its views of the Harbor.

**Adina Azarian, of Adina Equities, favors bars that bring her good memories, along with the best wines and cheeses.**

"My favorite bar is called The House at 121 East 17th St. It's an adorable three-story carriage house with a great wine selection. They have delicious burrata — which is this delicious rare mozzarella cheese that I love," she said. "It also happened to be my very first commercial deal. I represented both the tenant and the space — but that's not the only reason why I think it's fabulous. It's oozing with charm and it's really a special place."

Howard M. Rubin, of Goetz Fitzpatrick LLP, loves his bars to have a little bit of a crowd and a whole lot of personality.

"My favorite bar by far is Tracks in Penn Station. Best Guinness on tap in the city, fantastic oysters and a crowd where there is always somebody with a great story," he said. "Most importantly it's an Irish owned place so you know the beer is strong and the opin-

ions even stronger. Not a better place to wait for a train. Sometimes I even hope the LIRR is running — and they rarely disappoint."

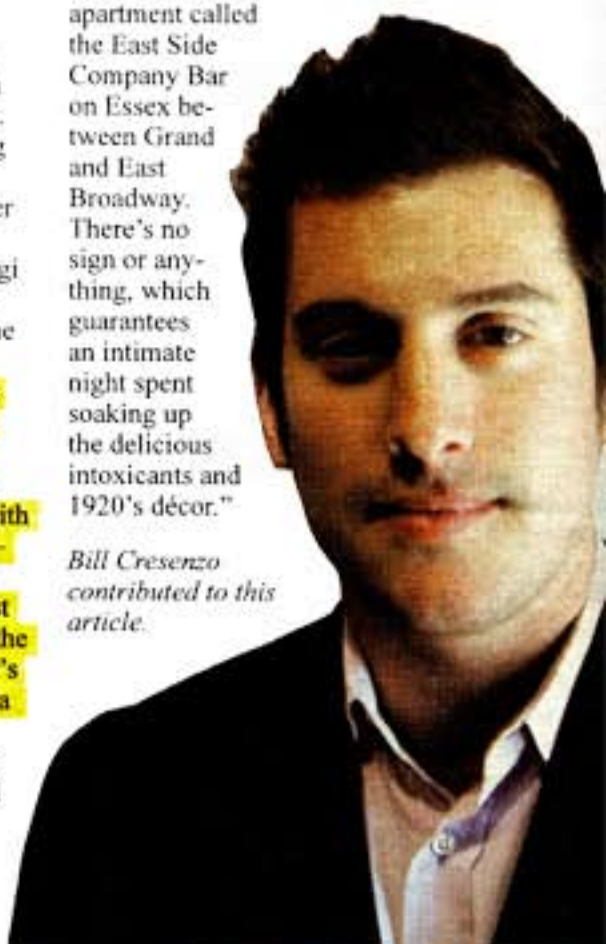
Bill Vilkelis, of Barak Realty, loves McSorely's Old Ale House for its history and simple menu.

"It is the oldest continuously operated bar in the U.S., and I aspire to have my name memorialized on a section of wall. It has memorabilia-covered walls reflecting New York City's and McSorely's 140-year history, the Civil War draft riots took place in front of its door. And has two kinds of beers: light and dark," he said. "The cheese plate with crack hot mustard is the only way to go."

Corcoran's Heidi Young also likes to keep it classic.

"I'm a sucker for classic cocktails or modern concoctions made solely from pure liquors and fresh ingredients. If a bartender whips out a pure liqueur and fresh ingredients like an ice crusher I might as well just hand him my wallet," she said. "There's this hole-in-the-wall speakeasy block away from my apartment called the East Side Company Bar on Essex between Grand and East Broadway. There's no sign or anything, which guarantees an intimate night spent soaking up the delicious intoxicants and 1920's décor."

Bill Cresenzo contributed to this article.



Justin Brunwasser, of The Developers Group, is short on reasons why he loves Union Hall in Park