



Ladies' Nights: The Reality

Enoterra

When you advertise free drinks, you've got to be prepared for the fact that the ladies who come will want more than one. At Enoterra, the free-flow sparkling wine is nice, but service is very slow, meaning that your glass sits empty, even if the bar is half empty. Furthermore the free drinks are available only if you sit inside. The bar isn't a pickup place though, so you're free to gossip with your girls uninterrupted.

XIU

This bar is the place to go if you are a lady on the prowl. You'll get two free drinks and won't have trouble receiving them, but more importantly, if you're looking for quick romance you'll find a throng of overly eager men willing to buy you whatever you want. The music is loud, but you aren't there to talk—you're there to dance, drink and break men's hearts.

Hercules

Every Sunday, you'll find a throng of beautiful women reclining on the comfortable couches around Hercules. The drinks are well mixed and strong, and while the waitstaff aren't excellent, they are patient. It's a well-lit place, so you don't get seedy men trying to crawl up your skirt. The only downside is the unisex bathroom, which the boys defile with their cooties.

Boozy Belles

Charting the landscape of **Beijing's best ladies' nights**



▶ Ladies' nights are awesome, especially if you're a lady. But what's the real deal on the city's best spots for the fairer sex? Are the drinks watered down? Are the men so sleazy they excrete female repellent? Are the waitstaff friendly even though you're there to score free booze? We headed out into the world of Beijing's ladies' nights to uncover the truth.

Tuesday

Enoterra offers free sparkling wine when you order food from 8-10pm, but the service is painfully slow (see sidebar).

Wednesday

Suzie Wong's offers free Champagne from 8pm-midnight. On the upside, there are performances (think men in silver space alien costumes). On the downside, you'll be accosted by men in suits trying to impress you with their gold cufflinks.

R Lounge offers free cocktails from a special menu after 9pm. It's a cool vibe, plus it's in a hotel, so if you find true love you can act it out upstairs.

Propaganda has a ¥30 open bar for ladies. If you just want to dance and get drunk, this is the joint for you, especially if you are under 30 and can headbang and mosh all night without suffering the consequences.

Vics gives free cocktails 9pm-2am, but they are hard to get and watered down. Still, for a club they aren't bad and if you want to dance with your gals it's the place to be.

Black Sun offers two-for-one cocktails for ladies while men are treated special as well with 30 percent off beer. Fair's fair.

Thursday

Luga's Villa offers margaritas, mojitos and Long

Island ice teas for ¥30 after 10pm. The crowd is mixed and fun. Casa Latina gives two free Latin drinks after 10pm, the perfect accompaniment to great food and music but hardly a wild party spot. Zeta Bar offers a no-boys-allowed area plus free rum drinks from 9pm. For a safe place to relax with your girls this is ideal, and drinks are stiff and well mixed.

Club Juicy offers four free cocktails between 9pm-4am, but be prepared to get groped if you linger in one spot too long. XIU offers two free drinks from 10pm-1am, but it's easy to score more freebies off the overeager guys in the crowd (see sidebar).

Bar Blu offers free margaritas, mojitos and other mixed drinks from 8pm-2am. Like mama said though, you have to finish the first before you can have the next.

LAN Club offers free cocktails 10pm-midnight, but the creepy décor makes you wonder if you'll be serial-killed after.

Friday

Tun Bar gives "free" cocktails and mixed drinks until midnight, but you have to pay a ¥30 cover charge. Technically not free, but an awesome deal nonetheless.

Saturday

Maison Camus gives free Rosé wine plus two-for-one cocktails after 9pm. It's a classy deal for classy ladies.

Sunday

Hercules offers women half-price cocktails that are actually pretty fantastic (see sidebar).

We uncover the raw truth for all the women of the capital

■ Lauren Johnson