

**PICTURED:** Drinking out of whimsical collectible glassware is part of the fun at Three Dots and a Dash. **OPPOSITE:** (clockwise) A dolphin-shaped banana tops Bunny's Bananna Daquiri at Lost Lake. Feel like you're in the tropics at Hala Kahiki Tiki Bar & Lounge. Share a drink in a conch shell bowl at Three Dots and a Dash. Presentation is everything at Lost Lake from giant bowls with flaming limes to dry ice and jumbo straws. Watch the bartenders practice their craft at Lost Lake.

# 37

## Tiking of You

### TIKI BARS OF CHICAGO CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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Pack your umbrella straws and take a tropical trip to... Chicago? That's right. The city is home to some of the best tiki bars in the country. Kick back at these Polynesian-inspired paradises after traipsing through the concrete jungle.

At Three Dots and a Dash, go on a literal adventure beneath the city. Located in the River North neighborhood, no treasure map is required to find it: Just look for the sign in the alleyway off Hubbard and head down the dramatically lit stairwell past the whimsical skull wall to a dreamy tiki hideaway. At the grass-skirted bar you can watch the team of mixologists use their own freshly made syrups, such as falernum and allspice, to keep things fresh. The exotic combinations are designed to give even the most well-traveled tongue an exciting new taste, which is part of why the spot was recently named one of the world's 50 best bars by Drinks International. Before you go, snag a Fijian mermaid or skull souvenir from the Mug Shop.

Take a kitschy-glam excursion at Lost Lake in Logan Square. Inside looks like a deserted island hut styled by a hip island siren, complete with banana leaf wallpaper. The bar — which has earned James Beard Foundation honors three years running — features expertly crafted, classic rum favorites, as well as specialty cocktails like Bunny's Banana Daquiri, a mix of overproof Jamaican rum, Trinidadian and spiced rums, coconut, lime and a banana-that-looks-like-a-dolphin garnish. The bar bites on tap, such as pork dumplings, grilled chicken wings and tofu bahn mi, are just as tiki talisman-worthy.

Go on vacation within a vacation at Hala Kahiki Tiki Bar & Lounge, located in the nearby suburb of River Grove. It opened on the west side in 1952 and anchored at the current location in 1964. Its legacy menu is overflowing with more than 130 tropical cocktails. The lineup also includes Hawaiian beer and boozy ice cream floats, all of which can be enjoyed in Hala Kahiki's truly immersive tiki experience — from the tiki patio garden to the gift shop that's stocked so you can take a little slice of paradise home with you.

— JACKIE MANTHEY



HALA KAHIKI TIKI BAR & LOUNGE; HALA KAHIKI TIKI BAR & LOUNGE; THREE DOTS AND A DASH; XXXXXX, LOST LAKE; CLAYTON HAUCK