

Fact sheet 4 GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO INDEPENDENT LIQUOR LAW REVIEW

# Small Bar liquor licence changes

## What changes are being made to small bar liquor licences?

After considering the findings of a statutory review of small bar liquor licences, the Government will make changes to improve the viability of small bars while ensuring they remain low risk venues.

The review's recommendation to raise the patron limit for small bars from 60 to 100 will proceed.

This will help improve the commercial viability of small bars and make small bar licences more attractive for venue operators.

The community will continue to be able to have their say on small bar proposals in their local areas through the existing local council planning process.

The Government will also extend automatic trading times for small bars in the Sydney CBD and Kings Cross entertainment precincts from midnight to 2am, bringing them into line with the rest of NSW.

These trading times will not override local council development consent conditions that may require a venue to close earlier.

All these changes will cut red tape, help create more diverse night-time entertainment options and boost opportunities for live entertainment at small bars.

Liquor & Gaming NSW will implement other recommendations from the review over the next 12 months.

## Why are small bar licences changing?

Evidence collected as part of the review identified that a modest increase in patron numbers would be unlikely to significantly impact the low risk profile of small bars.

It also confirmed that venues with a small bar licence have a lower incidence of alcohol related violence than venues operating under another type of liquor licence.

## What are small bar liquor licences?

The NSW Government introduced small bar liquor licences in 2013 to promote investment in safer venue models and encourage more diverse night-time entertainment options.

Small bars appeal to patrons seeking to enjoy a drink in a smaller, quieter and more intimate setting.

There are currently 49 NSW venues operating with small bar liquor licences.

Many venues operate under a different type of licence, even though they share many of the same features as a small bar. For example, many similar small venues operate under on-premises or general bar hotel licences.

Small bar licences offer the advantage of lower ongoing fees, and are exempt from additional risk loadings for late trading. Licence applications for small bars are also lower cost, and generally don't require a Community Impact Statement.

Small bars can operate under diverse business models that focus on bar, food, live music and/or other offerings for patrons. However, they cannot provide gaming machines, sell takeaway alcohol or allow entry to minors.

Small bar licences will remain exempt from the liquor licence freeze in the Sydney CBD and Kings Cross precincts.

Further information about key reforms to the NSW liquor laws can be found in the other related fact sheets detailed below:

- 1 – Overview of NSW Government reforms to liquor laws
- 2 – Lockout laws in Sydney CBD and Kings Cross
- 3 – Extension of takeaway alcohol sales
- 5 – Further changes to NSW liquor laws

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### List of small bars in NSW

Licence name	Suburb
Downstairs	Armidale
The Bellingen Brewing Company Pty Ltd	Bellingen
Bar Chinois	Chippendale
Saga Bar	Chippendale
Tenancy D3	Chippendale
The Oxley Wine Bar	Cowra
Sidecar@Cremorne	Cremorne
1137 Oxford	Darlinghurst
Cru 282	Darlinghurst
Kubricks	Darlinghurst
Stop Valve Espresso & Bar	Darlinghurst
A Glass of Bubbly	East Gosford
Beyond Vintage Wine Bar	Leura
Skeeta & Jacks	Oatley
Titus Jones	Marrickville
Basement on Market Street	Newcastle
Coal & Cedar	Newcastle
Itch Social	Newcastle
Red Baron's	Newcastle West
Secret Garden	Newtown
The Moose Newtown	Newtown
Washington & Co.	Orange
Bar Florian	Port Macquarie
Cellar 8	Pymble
Peg Leg	Pymont

Licence name	Suburb
Moyas Juniper Lounge	Redfern
The Dock Redfern	Redfern
The Temperance Society Bar & Cafe Pty Ltd	Summer Hill
Tokyo Bird	Surry Hills
Barrafina Tapas	Sydney
Bulletin Place	Sydney
Burrow Bar	Sydney
Canvas Bar	Sydney
Cava on Kent	Sydney
Crescent Bar	Sydney
Grandma's	Sydney
Klink	Sydney
Nant Whisky Bar	Sydney
Papa Gede's	Sydney
PS40	Sydney
Spawn Point Small Bar	Sydney
The Easy Eight Bar	Sydney
The Swinging Cat Sydney	Sydney
Wolf Wine Bar	Sydney
Mexica Cocktail Bar	Sydney Olympic Park
The Throsby Wollongong	Wollongong
Peekaboo Bar	Woolloomooloo
Studio General	Yamba
Yazzbar	Yass