

Break Down of Areas, Bars, and Restuants

Arlington

Arlington's nightlife center is Wilson Boulevard, a long stretch of road that runs directly above Metro's Orange Line, giving visitors easy access to its bars and clubs. Get off at Courthouse for [Dr. Dremo's Taproom](#), a divey joint with a great selection of home-brewed beer. Also there are [Summers Restaurant](#), a bar favored by local soccer fans who gather on Saturday mornings to catch the latest action from Italy and England, and [Gua-Rapo](#), a chic lounge that shares ownership (and musicians) with Chi-Cha. One stop farther is Clarendon, a lively neighborhood with a younger crowd. A trio of great live music venues are found here [Iota](#), [Whitlow's on Wilson](#) and [Galaxy Hut](#), although the latter two are also great places to grab a beer and hang out. [Mr. Days](#) is great for watching the big game, and the [Clarendon Grill](#) is good for burgers and a brew. Across the street is Virginia's first big-time dance club, the deco-style [Clarendon Ballroom](#), which has swing dancing on Tuesdays, electronic and hip-hop on Friday, and happy hours on its rooftop deck. Hop back on the Metro for one more stop and you hit Ballston, where you'll find [Carpool](#), a bar-restaurant-pool-hall-pick-up joint that is always packed with young professionals ready to party. There's another branch of the [Rock Bottom Brewery](#) (located in Ballston Commons Mall) and the [Rio Grande Cafe](#) (also known as Uncle Julio's), where the free chips are hot and the margaritas are loaded with tequila.

Georgetown

Long considered a must-do area for Washington nightlife, this neighborhood draws on two nearby student bodies (Georgetown and George Washington universities), students who come from area universities to party with those local students, and visitors who go to the clubs and bars after dinner or shopping trips. Like Adams Morgan, most of Georgetown's nightlife is set around one intersection in this case, Wisconsin and M streets. Since Georgetown is essentially the closest thing Washington has to a "college town," you'll find plenty of young people drinking beer in spots like the [Rhino Pump House](#) or [Garrett's](#). [The Tombs](#), located within walking distance of Georgetown University, is a traditional spot for students and alumni, although it seldom gets as rowdy as the Rhino. [The Third Edition](#), the bar used as a location in "St. Elmo's Fire," draws a mix of professionals and students; while the happy hour at [Clyde's](#) is famous for its half-price hamburgers. [Mr. Smith's](#), another local fixture, offers a great burger and piano players who take requests (a teenaged Tori Amos once tickled the ivories here). In 2001, [Modern](#), Georgetown's first upscale lounge, opened to long lines and mixed reviews from patrons who aren't used to dress codes and \$8 martinis. In the summer, Georgetown is a great place to spend an evening. The bars on the Waterfront [Riverside Grille](#), [Tony and Joe's](#), [Sequoia](#), [Sole](#) are packed with people enjoying the great views and the cool breeze blowing in from the Potomac River. Tiki bars, located inside Third Edition and farther up Wisconsin at the [Deck](#), are packed.

Gallery Place/Chinatown

The area around the Verizon Center has grown exponentially with real estate development, and the nightlife scene there has become diverse. You'll find steakhouses (Angelo and Maxie's); brewpubs ([Capitol City Brewing Company](#) and [Gordon Biersch](#)); steakhouses that brew their own beer ([District Chophouse](#)); mega sports bars ([the Rock](#) and the [F Street Sports Bar](#)); and [Fado](#), the largest Irish pub in Washington. Martinis and burgers are the specialties at the Illinois-based chain, [Bar Louie](#) and if you are looking for a good time underground check out [Rocket Bar](#). It has plenty of pool tables, shuffle board tables, dart boards and even some of the electronic games you might find at Dave and Busters.