



Editor [Laura Houser](#): Heard some news you want us to check out? Let me know:  
[Laura.Houser@patch.com](mailto:Laura.Houser@patch.com)



## Discover Birmingham

By [Alan Stamm](#) | [Email the author](#) | August 12, 2011

### Opinion

## Top 10: Happy Hour Drink and Appetizer Specials

Deals include \$2 drafts, \$3 cocktails, \$3 wine, \$5 martinis and \$5 appetizers galore.



*Salud! Prost! Cin-cin! Santé! Na zdrowie! Skål! Cheers!*

Here's looking at bar bargains when the working day is done. Local choices include a pair of Wednesday wine promotions, half-off appetizers and a weekly oyster night.

Most happy hour deals are weekday-only, some spill into weekends and a few apply in the dining room as well as on bar stools.

Incidentally, our state draws a line that happy hours can't cross. Unlimited refills, two-for-one specials or free cocktail capers of any sort are forbidden. That still leaves room for creativity and value in pursuit-of-happiness specials.

Look what's available during strategically-timed visits:

- 1. Big Rock:** If beverage and snack choices here don't suit your taste, you may be too picky. House beer and wine are \$2 and \$3, respectively, and a "signature cocktail" is \$5 from 4-7 p.m. weekdays at the bar. Eight food options from 4-6 p.m. at the bar include sliders with fries (\$2), salmon cakes (\$3) and calamari with lemon caper sauce (\$4).
- 2. Zazios:** Responding to hunger along with thirst is possible at this 13-month-old newcomer. Eleven small plates are \$5 in the spacious lounge from 4-7 p.m. weekdays, when seared scallops, braised pork, grilled lamb and fried polenta are among sophisticated selections. Beer is \$3 during those happy hours each Monday and Wednesday, when Michigan wine and liquors are \$5. On Tuesday and Thursday, that \$5 price covers martinis and house wines.
- 3. The Corner:** A chef's touch also shows at the Townsend Hotel's bar annex, where six happy hour appetizers (\$5 each) include a balsamic salad with buffalo mozzarella and pesto. Draft and bottled beers are \$4, well drinks are \$6 and house wines are \$7. Deals apply inside or at sidewalk tables from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and again from 9-11 p.m. Thursdays.
- 4. Dick O'Dow's:** Weekdays or weekends, guests can tip back 20-ounce Labatt Light drafts for \$3 from 4-7 p.m. or get \$1 off any other drink. A half-dozen appetizers are \$5 during those happy hours, anywhere in the pub or on its deck.
- 5. Chen Chow:** Drinks are \$3-\$5 from 4-7 p.m. weekdays, when selected sushi and appetizers are \$4-\$6.
- 6. Peabody's:** Happy Hour starts in mid-afternoon with \$2.50 pints, \$3 well drinks and \$3.50 house wine at the bar. Also available from 3-6 p.m. weekdays are \$5 appetizers such as sesame-ginger fried calamari, fried shrimp in spicy chipotle sauce or baked spinach-artichoke dip with warm pita chips.
- 7. Max & Erma's:** Promo pricing is simple, with just two numbers. Choices for \$3 at the bar are margaritas, mojitos, well cocktails, 23-ounce domestic drafts or house wine. For \$5, bar patrons can order six wings, black bean roll-ups, sliders or two other items. Hours: 4-7 p.m. any day and 9-10 p.m.

Sunday through Thursday or 9 p.m.-midnight Friday and Saturday.

8. **South:** Drink prices get festive shortly after lunch. From 2-7 p.m. weekdays, domestic beer is \$3, house cocktails are \$4, house wine is \$5 and martinis go for \$6.

9. **Fleming's:** The steakhouse keeps it simple. Five premium cocktails, five wines by the glass and five appetizers are \$6 each from 5-7 p.m. nightly in the bar. Choices include two martinis, a cosmopolitan, mushroom ravioli, seared ahi tuna, cajun barbecued shrimp or a prime cheeseburger with bacon. Six bucks also covers a pair of Amstel Light beers.

10. **Mitchell's:** The fish market has \$3 drafts and six half-price appetizers from 4-7 p.m. weekdays at the bar. On Mondays, bar guests can get fresh oysters for \$1.50 each from 4 p.m. onward. Wind down with wine at tables or the bar on Wednesday, when selected reds and whites go for \$5 per glass and some bottles are value-priced at \$14-\$32.

**Toast** also believes in "Wine Down Wednesday," when any vintage is half-off by the glass from 4 p.m. until last call.

At **Cameron's** bar area, wine is \$6-\$8 a glass from 4:30-6:30 p.m. daily and five appetizers are \$6-\$11.

Lastly, **Luxe** gets in the spirit by knocking \$2 off draft beers and \$3 off wine by the glass from 3-5 p.m. and 10 p.m.-1 a.m. weekdays.

Thanks to local *bon vivant* **Martin Reisiq** for suggesting this roundup.

**Related Topics:** [Big Rock Chop House](#), [Cameron's Steakhouse](#), [Chen Chow Brasserie](#), [Dick O'Dow's](#), [Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar](#), [Luxe Bar & Grill](#), [Max & Ermas](#), [Mitchell's Fish Market](#), [Peabody's Restaurant](#), and [South Bar](#)

Is at least one of your go-to destinations here? Any happy hour recommendations near Birmingham? [Tell us in the comments.](#)