

INSIDEHOOK

The 10 Best Things We Drank at Bar Convent Brooklyn 2025

From Japanese amari to Slovakian whisky, BCB delivered plenty of boozy surprises

By Kirk Miller and Amanda Gabriele

Now celebrating its seventh year, Bar Convent Brooklyn is a boozy conference that seems to be bucking downward industry trends. The 2025 edition, held June 10-11 in Brooklyn's Industry City, featured thousands of attendees, hundreds of spirits brands and a ridiculous number of after-parties. (Seriously, we're still detoxing a week later — the parties started the Sunday before and were still going late on Wednesday, when one unnamed InsideHook writer was talked into getting a tattoo at the back of a cocktail bar.)

Even with a few heavy-hitters sitting out this year, BCB felt important. The upside of fewer well-known global brands is that much more space was devoted to up-and-coming whiskeys, tequilas, gins and liqueurs.

For 2025, we'd say tequila stole the show, purely based on the amount of floor space taken up (including by adjacent agave spirits). But we also found plenty to love elsewhere, including amaro, rum, Slovakian whisky and a few unforgettable cocktails. Here are the 10 best things we drank.



Amaro Nonino Quintessentia Riserva

I love everything about Amaro Nonino — their grappa, aperitivo and classic Quintessentia amaro. But their Quintessentia Riserva takes that last expression a step further by aging it in oak for an additional 24 months (the original is already aged for a minimum of 12). It's everything I love about Quintessentia but with a deeper, richer, more intense flavor. This is one of those bottles that'll quickly disappear after a big celebratory dinner. — AG

