Excerpted Reviews from *AtNight Atlanta*

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By Craig McGuire

Name: Fadó
Type of Establishment: Bar
Address: 3035 Peachtree Rd. NE
@ Buckhead Avenue
Telephone Number: 404.841.0066
Hours:
Cover:
Food: Irish
Credit Cards:
E-Mail: fadoatlanta@mindspring.com.
Valet Parking: $5

Buckhead revelers in search of a hearty pint of Guinness or Harp need look no farther than Fado. Gaelic for 'long ago', Fado actually offers five distinct pub settings under one roof. In addition to the Celtic libations, they have top-notch tasty Irish fare, including Guinness-battered fish n' chips, soda bread, Irish stew and boxty. Traditional Irish music is performed on various evenings throughout the week.

Name: Tongue & Groove
Type of Establishment: Club
Address: 3055 Peachtree Road (Buckhead)
Telephone Number: 404.261.2325
Hours:
Cover: Tu $5 for men, no cover for women; W-Sa $10;
Food: Asian
Credit Cards:
http://www.tongueandgroove-atl.com.

T&G is part swanky cocktail lounge, part upscale dance club, and all attitude. It's 23 to enter, so the crowd's a bit more mature here. The DJs spin a variety of mainstream dance music, but there are varying theme nights throughout the week ranging from Big Band Swing to Latin. There's a tasty menu of Asian-influenced bar snacks to nibble on, and a strict door policy, so dress to impress. Close proximity to several other clubland venues nearby makes T&G a good launch pad for an epic Atlanta club crawl.

Name: Manuel's Tavern
Type of Establishment: Bar
Address: 602 N. Highland Ave. NE
@ North Avenue
Telephone Number: 404.525.3447
Hours:
Cover: N/A
Food: Bar Food and some Lebanese dishes
Credit Cards:

Spend a little time at Manuel's and you will realize why *The New York Time* once named this spot "Atlanta's Quintessential Neighborhood Bar." Opened in 1956 by Lebanese immigrant Manuel Maloof, this old fashioned bar draws a lively and very vocal crowd, from politicos to professionals, journalists to students—and not to mention the occasional visit from former President Jimmy

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Carter. There's over 40 beers on draught and in bottles, and a menu including better than average pub fare and even a few Lebanese dishes.

Name: A Point of View at Nikolai's Roof [Atlanta Hilton and Towers]
Type of Establishment: Lounge
Address: 255 Courtland Street
@ Harris Street
Telephone Number: 404.659.2000
Hours:
Cover:
Food: French and Continental, with Russian specialties
Credit Cards: All Major
Complimentary Valet Parking

This posh and cozy lounge sits atop the city's nightlife scene—as in 30 stories up in the Atlanta Hilton. The breathtaking backdrop alone makes this an ideal meeting spot. Formerly known as the Another World lounge, this lounge was renovated, renamed and re-opened late last year. A sophisticated and well-dressed crowd of scotch-sipping professionals and out-of-towners can be found here most evenings, with the occasional cigar smoker in the mix. A jazz ensemble plays Wednesday evenings.

Name: Dante's Down the Hatch
Type of Establishment: Bar/ Live Music (Jazz)
Address: 60 Upper Alabama St. SW
Telephone Number: 404.577.1800
Hours:
Cover: $2 to $6
Food: Fondue
Credit Cards:

One of the more unique nightlife experiences to be had in Atlanta, this jazz supper club was done up to resemble 'an 18th century sailing ship tied to the wharf of a mythical Mediterranean village.' There's plenty of memorabilia to mull over, but this spot's true charm is in its quality jazz performances and the intimacy its partially enclosed seating areas. Communal dining is encouraged as the menu includes more fondue dishes than you can shake a skewer at. Check out the Buckhead spin-off at 3380 Peachtree Rd. NE (404.266.1600).

Name: Star Community Bar
Type of Establishment: Bar/Club/Live Music (Rockabilly)
Address: 437 Moreland Avenue N.E.
Between: Euclid and Mansfield Avenues
Telephone Number: 404.681.9013
Hours:
Cover: $5 to $10
Food:
Credit Cards: V, MC

Inhabiting a former bank, this huge honky-tonk offers an offbeat evening on Atlanta's club scene. Local live acts from Rockabilly to R&B dominate most evenings, with the occasional headliner passing through. There's also a little club-within-a-club action going on in the Little Vinyl Lounge art deco spot downstairs offering a 5,000-song juke. Note: Elvis may have left the building, but he

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left behind mountains of memorabilia for the King's fans to admire in the club's 'Grace Vault,' a shrine including an all-Elvis jukebox.

Name: The Chili Pepper
Type of Establishment: Club
Address: 208 Pharr Road N.E.
Telephone Number: 404.812.9266
Hours: T-Su 9pm to 4 am
Cover:
Food: N/A
Credit Cards: N/A

This neon-soaked multilevel dance club benefits greatly from its prime location in the nexus of the bustling Buckhead nightlife scene. The first floor is dominated by a large dance floor which would seem more spacious is it the club didn't get so crowded. The upstairs area lined with ample velvet loungers has a more laid-back vibe. DJs spin a st6eady mix of mainstream techno, house and hip-hop.

Name: Fat Tuesdays
Type of Establishment: Bar
Address: 50 Upper Alabama St.
Telephone Number: 404.523.7404
Hours:
Cover:
Food:
Credit Cards:

Missed out on all the action down in the French Quarter this year? Well then, try this popular New Orleans-style spot with a strong Mardis Gras theme-bar vibe. Liquidly speaking, the big draw here is the 20 flavors of frozen cocktails on tap spinning behind the bar. They've got satellite Top 40 music and DJs on weekends. There's also a sister site out in Buckhead at 3167 Peachtree Rd. NE (404/233-9584).

Name: Prince of Wales
Type of Establishment: Bar
Address: 1144 Piedmont Avenue NE
Telephone Number: 404.876.0227
Hours: Su-Th 11:30am to 2am; F-Sa 11:30am to 3am
Cover:
Food:
Credit Cards:

Slightly off the beaten path in Midtown, the Prince of Wales is a well-done English pub with a comfortable local Atlanta texture to it. Stroll in for a few pints of Guinness or some bangers n' mash. There's your standard Midtown crew here—a mix of young professionals and neighborhood regulars. Weather permitting, you'll find most of the action on the outdoor patio.

Name: Punchline Comedy Club
Type of Establishment: Comedy Club
Address: 280 Hildebrand Drive NE
Located @ The Balconies Shopping Center (Sandy Springs)
Telephone Number: 404.252.5233

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Hours:
Cover: Tu-Th and Su $8-$15; F $10-$15; Sa $12-$15
Food:
Credit Cards:
Free Parking Available
http://www.punchline.com/

Opened Tuesday through Sunday, this is one of Atlanta's premier comedy venues. Part of the national comedy-club circuit, Punchline frequently headlines talent you're likely to see on Leno and Letterman. Located about a 45-minute drive from downtown Atlanta, make sure to call ahead to buy tickets on weekends as they sell out fast. Dining and full bar available. Doors open one hour before showtime.

Name: Yin Yang Music Café
Type of Establishment: Live Music
Address: 64 Third Street NE
Telephone Number: 404.607.0682
Hours: Daily 9pm to 4am
Cover:
Food:
Credit Cards:

This smooth haunt with its candle-lit exposed brick décor is a popular spot on Atlanta's live music scene. They offer quality live music nightly, mostly jazz, hip-hop and funk, with regular 'open mic' nights and DJs spinning when there's no one on stage. Dance floor, pool table, full bar and full menu can also be found here.

Name: Max Lager's
Type of Establishment: Bar (Micro-Brewery)
Address: 320 Peachtree Street
@ Baker Street
Telephone Number: 404.525.4400
Hours: Daily 11:30am to 12am
Cover:
Food: American
Credit Cards: All Major
E-mail: maxlagers@mindspring.com

The campy décor at this 15-barrel brewery is almost as delightful as the superior line of micro-brews they sling here in 20 ounce glasses--appropriately dubbed Max Hefe Weizen, Max Brown, Max American Porter, Max Gold, Max Red, Max Black and Max Pale. The restaurant boasts a patio and deck for warm weather sampling, but the real funs is upstairs at the bar. Suck down those suds quickly, because they close up early here.

Name: Armory
Type of Establishment: Bar/Club (Gay & Lesbian)
Address: 836 Juniper Street NE
Telephone Number: 404.881.9280
Hours: M-F 4pm to 4am; Sa 4pm-3am; Su 2pm to 12am
Cover: $5 after 9pm
Food: N/A

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Credit Cards: N/A

One of the most popular gay bars in Atlanta, the Armory offers a frenzied high-octane clubland atmosphere most nights. Is it any wonder this place, with its frequent theme parties and popular drag revues, is usually so crowded? DJs spin a wide range of fan-favorite dance and alternative tracks. While the drag shows on the weekends are a big draw, South Park fans should be familiar with Wednesday's popular theme: Big Gay Al's Big Gay Disco.

Name: Sundial Restaurant & Lounge
Type of Establishment: Lounge
Address: 210 Peachtree Street NW
Telephone Number: 404.589.7506
Hours: F 6pm to 11:30pm; Sa 5:30pm to 11:30pm; Su-Th 6pm to 11pm
Cover: Weekends $4
Food: Steakhouse
Credit Cards: All Major

This revolving restaurant and cocktail lounge inhabiting the top three floors of the towering 73-story Westlin Peachtree Hotel offers the most spectacular view in the city. Sure the place is overrun with tourists sometimes, and most cocktails are outrageously priced around $10 and over, but once you're up there you probably won't mind. For full effect, take the glass elevator ride all the way to the top. The well-known Mose Davis Trio performs live jazz nightly.

Name: Backstreet Atlanta
Type of Establishment: Club (Gay & Lesbian)
Address: 845 Peachtree Street NE
Telephone Number: 404.873.1986
Hours: Daily 24 hours
Membership Fee: $10
Cover: $5-$7
Food: American
Credit Cards: All Major
Valet Parking: $8-$10

Located near the Armory, Backstreets is a popular gay club that also manages to draw a large straight crowd. Access to this 24-hour venue requires a membership, which will run you $10, plus the evening's cover charge. Once inside this four-story club, you'll find DJs spinning an all night mix of dance and techno tunes pouring over the spacious dance floor. There's also a raunchy Cabaret venue, psychic readings and popular drag shows.

Name: Club Kaya
Type of Establishment: Club
Address: 1068 Peachtree Street NE
Telephone Number: 404.874.4460
Hours: Tu-F 11:30am to 4am; Sa 10pm to 3am; Su 3pm to 12am
Cover: Weekdays $5; Weekends $10 to $15
Food: N/A
Credit Cards: All Major

This space has carved out a name for itself on Atlanta's clubland scene. In the rear main room with spacious dance floor, the crowd really shows its appreciation for the DJs and performers--

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offering up mainly a mix of house, hip-hop and Latin vibes. The crowd looks a bit more upscale here, so dress the part. Sunday brunches and barbecues are also popular.

Name: ESPN Zone
Type of Establishment: Bar (Sports)
Address: 3030 Peachtree Road
@ East Paces Ferry Road
Telephone Number: 404.6823776
Hours:
Cover:
Food:
Credit Cards: All Major

The Cadillac of Atlanta sports bars, the ESPN Zone boasts over 170 screens. This spot is organized into three areas: the Screening Room (we just love the comfy recliners, rented of course), the Sports Arena game room (machines accept ESPN debit cards instead of quarters), and the Studio Grill restaurant (they've actually got a mock Sports Center desk). Watch your watch and the cash flow though, because it's real easy for a fan to loose control here.

Name: Fountainhead Lounge
Type of Establishment: Lounge
Address: 485 Shoals Avenue
Telephone Number: 404.522.7841
Hours: M-Th 8pm to 3am; F 7pm to 4am; Sa 7pm to 3am
Cover:
Food:
Credit Cards: AmEx, V, MC

There's something very Ayn Rand about this trendy East Atlanta watering hole. An upscale lounge attracting a horde of Atlanta hipsters, the Fountainhead often features multimedia offerings on its big screen, designed by young local talent. The crowd is mixed, the DJs slamming and the vibe smoothed out, East Atlanta style. Liquidly speaking, they've got a pretty impressive bar, with over a dozen vodkas.

Name: Goldfinger
Type of Establishment: Lounge
Address: 3081 E Shadowlawn Avenue (Buckhead)
@ east Paces Ferry Road
Telephone Number: 404.627.8464
Hours:
Cover: F-Sa after 11pm $5
Food:
Credit Cards: AmEx, MC, V

How can you possibly go wrong with a lounge themed after one of 007's most successful flicks. The gold-tinged décor is deliciously decadent, and the clandestine ambiance is ideal for that occasional secret-agent style rendezvous. Jazz and swing music available on the weekends.

Name: Havana Club
Type of Establishment: Club/Cigar Bar
Address: 247 Buckhead Avenue NE
@ Bolling Way (Buckhead)

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Telephone Number: 404.869.8484
Hours: Sa 7pm to 3am; Su-F 7pm to 4am
Cover: N/A
Food:
Credit Cards: All Major

Cigar smoke and sultry Latin rhythms waft through the air in this Cuban-style dance club located in the heart of the Buckhead action. Blues is on tap most Tuesdays and Wednesdays, with Latin music usually dominating the scene later in the week (Salsa dance lessons available on Thursdays). This six thousand cigar-friendly square foot space features a well-stock walk in humidor.

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