



Special Section

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## **Drinking Cities**







The rock club below

Springwater Supper Club & Lounge



## Nashville

Music City with a Buzz

> Think about drinking in Nashville and what comes to mind probably isn't a sizzling new bar scene. More likely it's the boozedrowned legacy of country icons like Hank Williams. At least that's the vision I had recently while sitting at an airport gate, waiting for a flight here. But then none other than Jack White, a recent Nashville transplant.



where everyone I met was either a scrappy musician or someone who managed one. On Saturday, having spent the afternoon at a barbecue at the famous record store Grimey's (also the site of a legendary rock club called The Basement), I got cleaned up back at my hotel and headed to a dapper speakeasystyle lounge in Midtown called The Patterson House, Toby Maloney, of Chicago's

pulled out an issue of Rolling Stone-

Suddenly, things

were looking up.

Friday night and

of Williamsburg.

Brooklyn. There

at The Family Wash, I slugged back

and caught a live

out 3 Crow Bar, a

Americana quartet before going to check

the local beer, Yazoo,

perfectly divey place

I arrived on a

headed straight to Fast Nashville-

Tennessee's version

well-regarded Violet across from me, and Hour, opened it in April, and it already has a rep for quality drinks. (Try the Maisy with Nashville's Kings Day, a boozy take on of Leon on the cover. the Arnold Palmer.)

Sunday called for something a little less trendy, something like the Springwater Supper Club & Lounge-an old clapboard bunker overlooking has \$1.50 happyhour Budweisers dingy porches, and a dartboard-where when I was there a chain-smoking little old woman handed me my ass in cricket. I closed out my trip

at the Oak Bar in the Hermitage, Nashville's finest hotel. The crowd there is older, but not at all stuffy-a three-martinis-deep gentleman had me laughing into my Stoli until it was time for me to catch a cab to the airport. And that's when Pharrell Williams hopped out of a black Escalade and breezed past me into the hotel. What more proof do you need? Music City is loud right

now.-WILL WELCH



The Family Wash 615-226-6070

3 Crow Bar 1024 Woodland St. 615-262-3345

The Basement 1604 Eighth Ave. South 615-254-8006

The Patterson House 1711 Division St. 615-636-7724

Springwater Supper Club & Lounge 115 Twenty-seventh Ave. North 615-320-0345

Oak Bar 615-244-3121



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