

# The STAR BAR

Cocktails inspired by TV's most intoxicating characters

**Tis** THE SEASON FOR SIPPERS AND TIPPLERS, but when throwing your own festive fete, it's time for a libation upgrade. We tasked top New York bartenders to create three delish drinks for their favorite shows that showcase a sophisticated holiday spirit. Here's what they shook up. — *Mona Buehler*



Neil Patrick Harris

## THE DEVIL'S CHERRY

**INSPIRATION:** Barney Stinson (Neil Patrick Harris), *How I Met Your Mother*

**LOCATION:** Park Avenue Tavern, 99 Park Ave. 212-867-4484, [parkavenuetavernnyc.com](http://parkavenuetavernnyc.com)

Manhattan's popular American gastro-pub is known for its clever private self-serve taps and a bustling bar that martini- and whiskey-lovin' ladies' man Barney Stinson would gladly saddle up to. Here's bar manager Matt Donohue's naughty take on a Thanksgiving bourbon cocktail, dressed up with apple liquor and sweet amaretto. Also known by the HIMYM crew as "Slapsgiving Served Up."

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 ounce Red Stag cherry-flavored bourbon
- 1 ounce Devil's Cut bourbon
- 1 ounce amaretto
- 1 ounce Thatcher's Organic Apple liquor

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Combine all ingredients into a cocktail shaker with ice. Shake and serve in a chilled cocktail glass. Garnish with a cherry.

## SCIUTO MOJITO

**INSPIRATION:** Abby Sciuto (Pauley Perrette), *NCIS*

**LOCATION:** Beauty & Essex, 146 Essex St. 212-614-0146, [beautyandessex.com](http://beautyandessex.com)

Busy techno-geek lab rat Abby Sciuto rarely gets out on the town, but when she feels like a little holiday cheer away from Capitol Hill, she and her NCIS buds might fancy a jaunt up to New York City to check out this Lower East Side favorite. Tucked behind a pawnshop storefront, Beauty & Essex looks like another downtown dive from the outside. But inside, you'll find three floors of funky Manhattan polish. Bar manager Beate Kiser has adapted its signature Ruby Mojito for our favorite inked and upbeat forensic scientist who's candy-cane-sweet.

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 1½ ounces Zacapa Rum 23
- ½ ounce St. Germain liqueur
- ½ ounce lemon juice
- Splash of soda
- Fresh mint

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Combine Zacapa Rum 23, St. Germain, lemon juice and mint into a cocktail shaker with ice. Shake and strain into highball or rocks glass with fresh ice. Top with soda. Garnish with a sprig of fresh mint.



Pauley Perrette

## PIQUANT PENNY

**INSPIRATION:** Penny (Kaley Cuoco), *The Big Bang Theory*

**LOCATION:** Eleven Madison Park, 11 Madison Ave. 212-889-0905, [elevenmadisonpark.com](http://elevenmadisonpark.com)

This acclaimed four-star Manhattan hot spot has a sexy allure, and one that is safely wrapped in a classy package—much like the gorgeous girl next door to Leonard Hofstadter (Johnny Galecki) and Sheldon Cooper (Jim Parsons). Inspired by Penny's fiery personality, head bartender Leo Robitschek gives his popular Guatemalan Spice cocktail a yuletide twist. We like to enjoy this spicy sipper in front of a roaring fire.

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 ounce Bulleit bourbon
- ¼ ounce Zwack herbal liqueur
- ½ ounce demerara syrup
- ¼ ounce cold brewed coffee
- ½ ounce Baileys Original Irish Cream liqueur

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Fill a shaker with ice cubes. Add Bulleit bourbon, Zwack liqueur, Demerara syrup and cold coffee. Shake and strain into a chilled cocktail glass. Slowly add ½ ounce of Baileys. Optional: Garnish with a cinnamon stick or holly leaf.



Kaley Cuoco