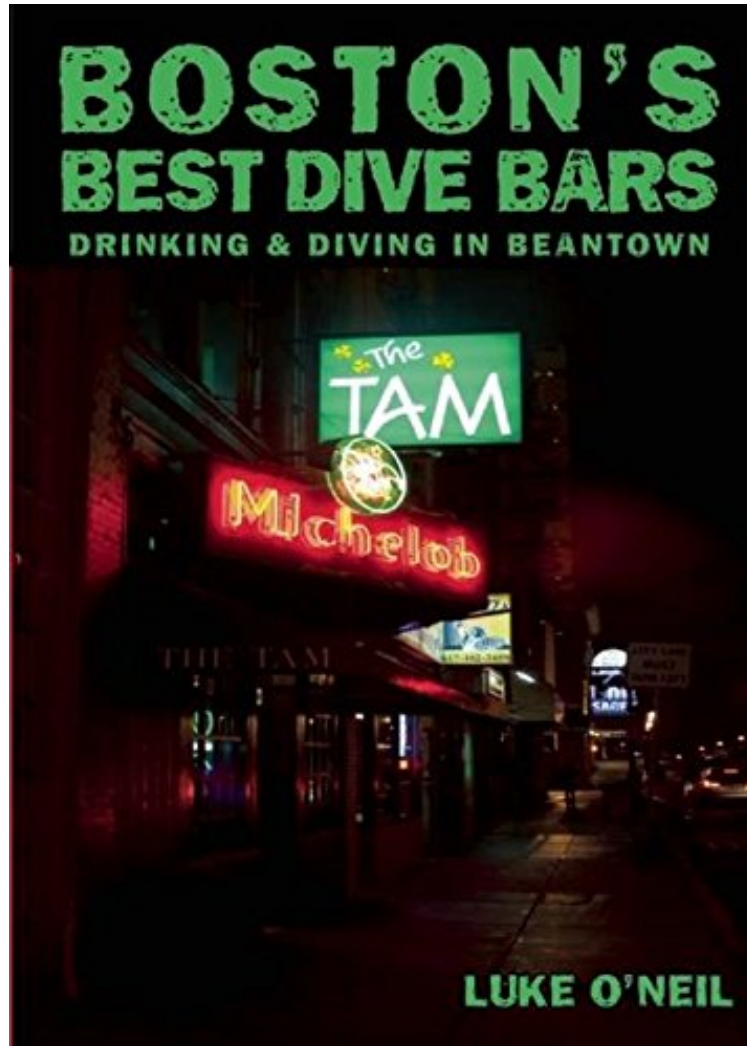


Boston's Best Dive Bars: Drinking and Diving in Beantown

Luke O'Neil

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Luke O'Neil : Boston's Best Dive Bars: Drinking and Diving in Beantown before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Boston's Best Dive Bars: Drinking and Diving in Beantown:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I own Philadelphia's Best Dive BarsBy Michael ObrienI am not sure if these "Best Dive Bars" books are meant to be serious travel guides or simply lighthearted insight into local neighborhoods and culture (or both). I believe the books lean towards the latter, which, luckily, I prefer. I own Philadelphia's Best Dive Bars, and when I discovered Luke O'Neil had written a Boston version, I decided to purchase it even though I rarely visit Boston nor drink alcohol. O'Neil is a pretty prolific freelance author for both print magazines and websites. I favor his less traditionally journalistic endeavors, of which Boston's Best Dive Bars is a prime example. O'Neil's writing creates an entertaining book despite my ignorance of Boston and my lack of desire to

visit most of the spots described. The author's love of a good dive bar shines through, and he takes care to differentiate between unpretentious establishments and those that are just dirty and/or dangerous. If you do plan on using Boston's Best Dive Bars as a guidebook, be aware some of the bars have recently fallen victim to gentrification. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Sully's Tap and The Tam By Thomas O'Rourke An excellent review of the biggest dumps in the city. Dive bars but the most fun joints if you are going to imbibe. I have worked in several of these joints, including the Tam, and I can tell you the joints are summed up correctly. Anyone who puts the Tam as the biggest Dive in the city know what he is talking about. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting book By kevin j mac Good book but it's a little dated. Quite a few of the bars are out of business.

It wasn't so long ago that finding a dive bar in greater Boston was as simple as walking down the street. For decades, dive bars provided the backbone of the city's drinking culture, and served as an easy shorthand for Boston's image in the country at large (for better or worse). However, things have changed over the past decade. For example, Charlestown, at one point home to dozens of blue collar watering holes, now boasts a grand total of two. And good luck trying to find more than a handful of dives in Boston proper, as it's just too expensive to operate a no frills joint with real estate prices being what they are now. Still, while the dive bar may be an endangered species, all hope isn't lost yet. *Boston's Best Dive Bars: Drinking and Diving in Beantown*, uncovers ninety of the best dive temples in the city, with opinionated reviews that verge between the hilarious and the downright heartbreaking. From Ace's High in South Boston, to Whitney's Cafe in Harvard Square, with stops in Somerville, Roslindale, Eastie and everything in between, this is the Boston drinker's guide to the worst bar in your neighborhood, which also happens to be the best bar in your neighborhood. For anyone who's ever sipped cheap whiskey out of a plastic cup under a mounted elk head while scratching lottery tickets, or tossed darts and snacked on stale popcorn with a pack of slumming hipsters, this is the book for you.

About the Author Luke O'Neil has been covering arts and nightlife in Boston for ten years, working for pretty much every publication in the city at one point or another. For years he wrote a popular column called Barcode in the Boston Globe, where he still writes about cocktails and the restaurant and bar scene. He currently pens a bar column called Thirsty in the Boston Metro, and the Liquid column in Stuff magazine and has written about bars for Boston Magazine and Black Book. He's also a music critic, writing for Alternative Press and the Boston Phoenix, and was the music editor at the Weekly Dig for years. His days as a rock musician made him particularly well acquainted with the seedier delights of the dive bar. He's also extraordinarily handsome.