



CROWN ROOM: Old Town Scottsdale's Gem

BY SUSAN LANIER-GRAHAM

Crown Room in Old Town Scottsdale is a unique combination of upscale martini bar and neighborhood hangout. Crown Room caters to an upscale, young professional crowd, and service starts the minute you walk in the door, where you'll be greeted personally.

The bar is an interesting split between bustle and subtle elegance, with fire reds, deep earth tones and subdued lighting glowing from custom-blown glass fixtures overhead. The bar area buzzes with activity and is flanked by two flat-panel TVs and a selection of fine vodkas backlit in deep reds.

If you prefer an intimate evening with your guy, step on the other side of the smoky-glass divider. You can sink into one of the leather, earth-toned booths and listen to the unique mix of music offered by local and visiting DJs. Crown Room offers full bottle service and you can call ahead to reserve one of the tables on the weekends.

The crowd moves out onto the softly lit patio during the fall and spring, where the sounds from the DJ drift out into Scottsdale's night.

Crown Room opens at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday (9 p.m. on Sunday) and the crowd starts to trickle in until the place is hopping by the time a live DJ starts at 10 p.m. (every night except Tuesday). Before the DJ takes over, you'll enjoy an eclectic mix of music from Sinatra to Journey to hip house music. The sounds perfectly match the eclectic crowd, ranging in age from mid-20s to 50 and beyond. The celebrities, Valley personalities, and young professionals who frequent the bar find it a comfortable spot with an upbeat crowd.

Within walking distance of the restaurants along Scottsdale Road in Old Town, Crown Room is the perfect spot to spend the evening sampling some of the best martinis in the area. The white cosmopolitan, by far the bar's most popular drink, is one of about a dozen specialty martinis you can sample. Other favorites include the Red Appletini, Lemon Drop, Chocolate Chip Cookie and Espresso martini. If you'd rather skip the martini, Crown Room offers a variety of beers, wines and spirits. Every Thursday night from 10 p.m. to midnight, ladies can indulge themselves with free champagne.

Friday and Saturday evenings are the busiest nights and the crowd is a little more formal. While you'll be comfortable in jeans and T-shirts throughout the week, weekends feature a dressier crowd, with women in short skirts and a little bling. ✦

CROWN ROOM

7419 E. Indian Plaza (just east of Camelback Road and south of Scottsdale Road)

480.423.0117

Tues.-Sat.: 8 p.m.-2 a.m.

Sun.: 11 p.m.-2 a.m.