



The holiday season means holiday visitors—and when a motley crew of distant relatives and long-lost friends comes a-wassailing, it's enough to drive us to drink. Luckily, NYC has plenty of places to do just that.

### Where to oblige celebrity-obsessed visitors

The problem with most velvet-rope spots is that you'll seldom see the stars, since they often get to chill in a private or members-only room tucked out of sight. Not so at the small, intimate lounge **Double Seven** (418 W 14th St between Ninth and Tenth Aves, 212-981-9099), where Elle Macpherson, Scarlett Johansson, Kate Hudson and other A-listers shell out \$16 per cocktail. Posh hotels are usually a reliable choice for star spotting; you might see a celeb in the lobby or the bar. Take a seat at the ground-floor bar and café inside the **Mercer Hotel** (99 Prince St at Mercer St, 212-966-5454) and you probably won't have to wait long to see a familiar face.—HT

