

# The Engagement Party

ENGAGEMENT, SOME SAY, IS THE first step down the noble path to stable adulthood. What better time to prove you still know how to have fun? The trick is finding a lively venue with a grownup edge. After all, you've put in your time drinking warm beer in faux Irish bars; on this night, you're looking for delicious food, solid cocktails, and a cool scene.

Exhibit A: **GASLIGHT**. The welcoming South End brasserie has a big bar area and skilled mixologists who make use of French staples like Chartreuse, St. Germain, Lillet, and cognac. Gaslight also has a wide-ranging wine list, overflowing seafood towers, and the best affordable steaks in the city (with crispy *frites*, naturally).

At nearby **TREMONT 647**, spirited chef Andy Husbands turns out updated comfort fare—lobster mac and cheese, fontina-stuffed tater tots—that makes the trip worthwhile. For a guaranteed good time, rent out the adjacent Sister Sorel bar and serve hors d'oeuvres and cocktails.

Or you could go al fresco, weather permitting. There are few nicer places to celebrate than poolside at Newton's **BOKX 109**. Reserve a private cabana or a space around one of the outdoor fire pits, and treat your guests to a stylish suburban pool party.

*Gaslight, price upon request, 560 Harrison Ave., Boston, 617-422-0224, gaslight560.com; Tremont 647 and Sister Sorel, price upon request, 645-647 Tremont St., Boston, 617-266-4600, tremont647.com; Bokx 109, from \$65 per person, 399 Grove St., Newton, 617-454-3399, bokx109.com.*



Clockwise from top, Gaslight, Tremont 647, and two views of Bokx 109.

