

Suraj Shaw

Bartender and bar leader · London

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PROFILE

Bartender with five years in London hospitality across flagship bars, VIP stadium events, fine dining and hotel management. Part of the opening team at the Guinness Open Gate Brewery in Covent Garden. I have run bar operations for events of 600+ guests, managed a hotel as Managing Director, and trained teams on cocktail prep and service standards. Calm on a packed bar, quick on new menus, and good at turning first visits into regulars.

EXPERIENCE

Bartender · Guinness Open Gate Brewery, Covent Garden

Dec 2025 to now

- Opening team at Guinness's flagship London brewery. Work across OBY, Porters and Gilroys bars plus tasting spaces.
- Pour the two part Guinness Draught serve, build cocktails and signature serves, and guide guests through limited, experimental and seasonal brews.
- Introduced a Champions system, bottle rotation, cocktail prep training and food pairing guidance for the bar team.
- Handle high footfall service while keeping set up and stock to brand standard.

Platinum Bartender and Supervisor · Constellation, London

2022 to 2024, 2025 to 2026

- Premium bar service in VIP hospitality boxes at the O2 Arena and major London stadiums.
- Moved between venues, menus and client briefs at short notice. Recognised by supervisors for reliability and strong guest feedback.

Managing Director · Hotel Raj Suraj, India

Oct 2024 to Jun 2025

- Ran the family hotel, including its bar and restaurant, staffing, budgets and guest services.
- Introduced digital booking and inventory systems that cut booking errors by 30%. Set new service standards across food, beverage and rooms.

Vice President, CEDPS (elected), Trustee · Union of Brunel Students

Jul 2022 to Jul 2024

- Oversaw Loco's Bar, the union bar: service standards, stock, staffing and rotas.
- Managed bar service at the Venue, the campus nightclub, across club nights and large events.
- Ran socials for 600+ guests and added demand led food and drink stalls that lifted attendance and revenue.

Head Bartender · Darjeeling Express, London

Jan 2022 to Jun 2022

- Ran the bar through busy dinner service at Asma Khan's restaurant. Owned stock checks, ordering, set up and close.
- Earlier Chef de Rang (Sep to Dec 2021): 10+ tables a shift, trained new staff and drove premium upsells.

Kitchen and Sous Chef (part time) · L'Antica Pizzeria, London

May 2021 to Aug 2021

- Prep and line support in peak service of 50+ covers. Kept hygiene standards tight.

BAR SKILLS

- Classic and modern cocktails, batching and prep
- Draught, craft beer and wine service
- Stock control, ordering and cellar
- Opening and closing procedures
- Responsible service and Challenge 25
- EPOS, cash handling and card
- Upselling and food pairing
- Team training, rotas and supervision

EDUCATION AND OTHER

BSc (Hons) Computer Science, University of Westminster, expected 2027. **CertHE Computer Science**, Brunel University London, 2022.

Right to work in the UK. Speaks English, Hindi and Bengali.