

# DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN OPEN BAR & A CONSUMPTION BAR

## OPEN/ HOST BAR



### **COST MANAGEMENT:**

In an open bar, the event host or organizer covers the entire cost of drinks served to guests, regardless of the amount consumed. This is the best option for couples who know their guests are big drinkers.

### **GUEST EXPERIENCE**

Open bars enhance the guest experience by providing free access to a wide range of drinks and promoting social interaction.

### **NO BUDGET LIMIT**

Open bars don't have a predetermined spending limit. Instead of keeping track of the number of drinks consumed, the couple will pick a drink package that would fit their wants best. The price of the package is then determined by the number of guests coming and the number of hours they want the bar open.

### **OVERALL**

If you know your guests are heavy drinkers and would potentially drink more than 3 or 4 drinks at the reception then having a flat rate, open bar would probably be the better option.



## CONSUMPTION BAR

### **COST MANAGEMENT**

With a consumption bar, you are charged the exact cost for the actual drinks consumed during your event. Each drink has a price and you pay for what you and your guest actually drink.

### **GUEST EXPERIENCE**

Guests can order drinks from the bar without paying for them directly. The host covers the cost of the drinks consumed by their guests. The guest experience is about the same as an open bar, unless the host decides to transition from a consumption bar to a cash bar or have the bar close after a certain cost is hit.

### **BUDGET CONTROL**

Consumption bars allow for a bit more budget control, as the host can manage costs by specifying a maximum spending limit. Once that limit is hit, based on the hosts decision made with the beverage team, the bar will either transition into a cash bar or close for the night.

### **OVERALL**

If you know your guests aren't big drinkers or are primarily under the age of 21, then a consumption bar would be the better option for you. The cost will be much more affordable and a better price for how much is actually being consumed.

