Minimum Drinking and Purchasing Age Laws

Country	Minimum Drinking Age (MDA)	Minimum Purchasing Age (MPA)	Notes
Albania	-	No MPA	
Algeria	-	18	
Argentina	18	-	
Armenia	No MDA	No MPA	
Australia	18	18	State and Territory laws prohibit sale or serving of alcohol to those under 18 years of age.
Austria	16, 18*	16, 18	On-premise consumption is subject to provincial regulation. In general, the MDA is 16 (*in one Bundesland MDA is 16 for spirits and 15 for wine and beer). Some provinces prohibit consumption of spirits for those under 18.
Azerbaijan	-	18	
Belarus	-	18	
Belgium	16	16, 18	The MPA in bars is 18 for spirits and 16 for beer and wine. No specific restrictions apply to purchase of beer and wine in shops. The law prohibits anyone under the age of 16 (unless married or accompanied by parent or guardian) from entering a "dance hall" where fermented beverages are sold.
Bolivia	-	18	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	16	The MPA of 16 applies to buying alcohol for on-premise consumption (e.g. in bars). No age limit is set for buying alcohol in shops.
Brazil	18	18	
Bulgaria	18	18	
Cambodia	-	No MPA	
Cameroon	18	-	

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Canada	18, 19	18, 19	The MDA and MPA are 18 in Alberta, Manitoba and Quebec, in all other provinces the MDA and MPA are set at 19. Drinking by minors under adult supervision is permitted in licensed premises in the provinces of Manitoba and New Brunswick and at home in Prince Edward Island, Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario and Saskatchewan.
Chile	18	18	
China	No MDA	18	
Colombia	18	18	
Costa Rica	-	18	
Croatia	-	18	
Czech Republic	18	18	
Denmark	16	16	Beverages with an alcohol content of 1.2% or more by volume (abv) must not be sold to persons under 16 years of age at shops where retail sale takes place. Such beverages (1.2% abv or more) cannot be brought into Denmark from other EU countries by persons under 16 years of age. This regulation does not apply to beer.
Ecuador	-	18	
Egypt	21	18, 21	The MPA is 18 for beer and 21 for wine and spirits.
El Salvador	-	18	
Eritrea	-	18	
Estonia	18	18	
Ethiopia	-	18	
Finland	18	18, 20	The MPA is 20 for purchasing spirits in shops and 18 for all other alcohol purchases.
France	16	16	Individuals under 16 years of age cannot enter bars, unless accompanied by parent or guardian.
Georgia	No MDA	16	

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Germany	16, 18	16, 18	The MDA and MPA are 16 for beer and wine, and 18 for spirits. Beer and wine may be served to individuals under 16 only if accompanied by parent or guardian.
Greece	18	17	The MDA and MPA apply to drinking in bars. No age limit is set for buying alcohol in shops or for off-premise consumption.
Guatemala	-	18	
Guyana	-	18	
Honduras	21	18	
Hong Kong	18	18	
Hungary	-	18	
Iceland	20	20	
India	18-25	18-25	Drinking age limits are legislated by individual states.
Indonesia	-	21	
Ireland	18	18	Individuals under 18 are allowed in bars, but those under 15 must be accompanied by parent or guardian.
Israel	-	18	According to the 2004 regulations, the MPA applies to purchases from kiosks and convenience stores (previously, only applied to on-premise purchase).
Italy	16	16	
Japan	20	20	
Kazakhstan	-	18	
Kenya	18	18	
Kyrgyzstan	No MDA	No MPA	
Latvia	-	18	
Liechtenstein	17	-	
Lithuania	No MDA	18	

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Luxembourg	18,17	16	The drinking age is 18; however, individuals that are 17 years old may consume alcohol in the presence of an adult. Also there is no legal purchase age for alcohol, but there are recommendations for alcohol to not be sold to individuals under the age of 16.
Macedonia	-	18	
Malaysia	No MDA	18	
Malta	No MDA	16	
Mauritius	18	18	
Mexico	18	18	
Moldova	18	18	The MDA and MPA of 18 apply to wine and spirits. No age specifications are made for buying or consuming beer.
Mongolia	-	21	
Namibia	-	18	
Netherlands	-	16, 18	The MPA is 18 for spirits. The MPA is 16 for beer, wine, and distilled beverages with an alcohol percentage under 15%.
New Zealand	18	18	
Nicaragua	-	19	
Niger	-	18	
Nigeria	-	18	
Norway	18, 20	18, 20	The MDA and MPA for spirits are 20. The MDA and MPA for beer and wine are 18.
Palau	18	21	
Panama	18	18	
Papua New Guinea	18	18	The MDA for consumption in private or with meals on licensed premises is not specified. The MPA for on-licensed premises is 18 and it is not specified for off-licensed premises and supermarkets.
Paraguay	-	18	
Peru	18	18	
Philippines	18	18	

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Poland	-	18	
Portugal	16	16	
Romania	18	18	
Russia	18	18	
Samoa	21	-	
Seychelles	-	18	
Singapore	18	18	
Slovak Republic	18	18	
Slovenia	18	15	
Solomon Islands	21	-	
South Africa	18	18	
South Korea	19	19	Consumption in private is at the discretion of parents or accompanying adults.
Spain	16, 18	16, 18	The MDA and MPA vary by region: some autonomous communities set the MDA and MPA at 18, others at 16 (Castille and Leon). The Spanish Government is currently considering a proposal to set the national MDA and MPA at 18.
Sri Lanka	18	18	
Suriname	-	16	
Sweden	18	18, 20	Purchase for off-premise consumption: the MPA varies. Generally, for beer and cider with an alcohol content of 3.5% or less the MPA is 18, and it is 20 for all beverage alcohol with alcohol content over 3.5%. The MPA for buying any alcohol beverage in the Swedish monopoly stores is 20 years of age. Purchase for on-premise consumption: the MPA is 18.
Switzerland	18	18	Federal law prohibits supplying spirits to individuals under 18. The MDA and MPA for beer and wine are controlled by the Cantons and vary between 14 and 16.
Thailand	No MDA	18	

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Trinidad and Tobago	-	18	
Turkey	-	18	
Turkmenistan	-	18	
Uganda	18	18	
Ukraine	No MDA	18	
United Kingdom	18	18, 16	The MDA and MPA are 18 in bars and off-licensed premises. The MPA for certain drinks, however, is 16 when purchased for consumption with meals in restaurants or pubs with separate eating areas. These drinks are beer, perry, cider and, in Scotland, wine. The MDA at home is 5, given parental consent.
United States	21*	21**	* In 19 states alcohol consumption by youth under 21 is not specifically illegal. ** Exceptions to the 21 law in some states include possession for religious purposes when accompanied by a parent, spouse or legal guardian; medical reasons; in private clubs or establishments; or in the course of lawful employment by a duly licensed manufacturer.
Uruguay	-	18	
Uzbekistan	-	18	
Vanuatu	18	18	The MDA of 18 applies not only to consumption on licensed premises, but also to drinking in private and to drinking with meals.
Venezuela	-	18	
Zambia	-	18	
Zimbabwe	18	-	