

Bars, Saloons, Taverns... What's The Dif?

Some collectors collect Bars, some collect Saloons, some collect Taverns, etc., but aren't they all basically the same? Well, delving into this heady matter, I soon found that the answer is somewhat technical, complicated, and confusing. Still, undaunted, I persevered...

A "pub", short for "public house", is "an establishment licensed to serve alcoholic drinks for consumption on the premises."

A "tavern" is "a place of business where people gather to drink alcoholic beverages and, more than likely, also be served food, though not licensed to put up guests."

A "bar" is pretty synonymous with a pub, however it refers to a long bar at which stools are arranged for sitting.

A "saloon" emphasizes tables where drinks are served, rather than at the bar.

If you find this confusing, try this: A pub, a bar, and saloon are pretty much the same thing. The only thing that differentiates them is the decor. All bars are pubs, not all pubs are bars. All saloons are pubs, not all pubs are saloons." [answers.Yahoo.com]

And to make it even easier to understand, some states have their own distinct definitions in order to fit various business licenses.

