

Pub Cold Room Buying Guide 2026

Compare cooling systems, understand installation requirements, and make a confident investment decision.

1. COMMERCIAL COOLING SYSTEM COMPARISON

Selecting the right refrigeration layout dictates your venue's long-term energy profile and product stability thresholds:

Integral Plug-In Remote Split System Water-Cooled Package

System Type	Ideal Application	Key Advantage	Structural Limit
Micro-pubs / Small bars	Low upfront cost; swift install	Rejects heat directly into venue space	
Medium to busy pubs	No heat or noise inside room	Requires external condenser routing	
Enclosed city cellars	High multi-unit efficiency	Needs dedicated water loop infrastructure	

2. ESSENTIAL INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

A compliant physical environment avoids mechanical failures and premature compressor wear:

- **Subfloor Weight Support:** Floors must handle dense keg stacks safely. Standard requirements dictate a minimum 2000kg/m² load capacity with reinforced floor panels.
- **Thermal Ventilation Demands:** Plant rooms containing condenser units must maintain ambient temperatures below +32°C. Provide active mechanical airflow extraction if venting space is tight.
- **Condensate Waste Logistics:** Evaporator coils generate significant runoff water. Lay gravity drainage pipework at a minimum 1:50 fall angle or mount reliable mechanical pump lines.

3. SMART INVESTMENT CRITERIA

Protect your capital margins across your system's life cycle with these structural checkpoints:

- **Insulation Properties:** Insist on a minimum 80mm high-density polyurethane (PUR) wall panel profile with cam-lock joints to prevent thermal bridging leaks.
- **Eco-Design Regulations:** Ensure all refrigeration plants comply fully with 2026 low-GWP F-Gas quotas, selecting alternative eco-fluids like R448A or R454C.
- **Maintenance Contracts:** Opt for dual-stage preventive maintenance packages covering bi-annual chemical coil cleaning and system charge checks to extend equipment lifetime.

Protect your line margins with a balanced, energy-efficient cellar cooling platform.

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