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COMPLIMENTARY | SPRING 2019

ABOUT TOWN



Root for the
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Captivating
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Partying Hard in
the Big Easy

Playful Spring
Looks on the Go

Evolution
of a Chef

COCKTAILS IN BLOOM

Seven creative cocktails featuring edible flowers and herbs

BY WENDY VAN DIVER

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It's time to celebrate springtime, San Diego! Thanks to those winter showers, there's a bumper-crop of herbs and flowers to inspire some very creative cocktail creations. So raise your glass—before the first sip, stop to smell the elderflower, mint, lavender, beets and berries!



**BEARS, BEETS,
BATTLESTAR
GALACTICA**

gin • beet syrup • beet sprig • micro orchid

With a name inspired by an episode of *The Office* where Jim copies Dwight's mannerisms, this compelling libation is its own delectable bit of nonsense. \$14 at NINE-TEN, La Jolla



SUN BLOSSOM

gin • St. Germain • cucumber • grapefruit • lemon • edible flowers

This luscious drink features the coveted liqueur, St. Germain, made from handpicked French elderflower blossoms. Its dreamy hue often matches the sunset in the dining room where it's proudly served. \$16 at The Marine Room, La Jolla



MORNING MARTINI

vodka • grapefruit juice • sugared rim • fresh mint sprigs

Talk about a wake-up call. We knew grapefruit juice was rich in vitamins and antioxidants, but we'd never tried it with fresh mint. This fragrant drink bursts with flavor—the perfect accompaniment for egg dishes and salads. \$10.25 at Americana Restaurant, Del Mar



LAVENDER GIMLET

honey • grapefruit • lime • lavender simple syrup • fresh blueberries • lavender sprigs

The key to this luscious cocktail is "fresh." Only fresh grapefruit juice and fresh lime juice are used. Lavender simple syrup provides just the right touch of sweetness.

Craft cocktail packages start at \$16 at Root Cellar Catering Co., Solana Beach



LAVENDER CRUSH

vodka • lavender lemonade • lavender-infused honey • fresh blueberries

A lot of love goes into making this cocktail. The lavender lemonade and lavender-infused honey are made in-house in small batches. Very easy on the eyes and the palate! \$9.50 at Brockton Villa, La Jolla



BERRY BUSH SANGRIA

Rosé • fresh blueberries • fresh strawberries

The first few sips of this light and festive wine cocktail are on the dry and crisp side but then—thanks to the abundance of fresh berries—it's a major fruit-fest. Order with Antipasti. \$9 at Bella Vista Social Club & Caffé, La Jolla



JUNIPER + ELDERFLOWER

gin • elderflower liqueur • lemon • fresh raspberries • simple syrup • egg whites • elderflowers

Said to bring good luck, elderflowers are often used in wedding decor. We definitely feel lucky discovering this yummy pink concoction at the "Pink Lady." \$17 at THE MED, La Jolla