## SAN DIEGO FOOD FINDS BLOG

BEST RESTAURANTS AND LOCAL EATS/PO BOX 675362, RANCHO SANTA FE, CA 92067

## **Finding Watermelon**



National Watermelon Day is August 3<sup>rd</sup>, the perfect time to grab a sweet slice and get an immune-boosting dose of vitamins A, B-6 and C, plus hydration during the dog days of summer. Check out these local San Diego restaurants

for some food and beverage twists on this impressive fruit, that's not only refreshingly tasty but also oh-so-good for you!

Backyard Kitchen & Tap, located in Pacific Beach, is both an indoor and outdoor bar sure to set the stage for memorable dining and lively late-night entertainment. Backyard's scratch menu, local brews, and craft cocktails with house-made infusions offer a variety of options, sure to meet the desires of any palate. For lunch, head on over and try their **Watermelon Salad**, made with baby arugula, English cucumber, baby heirloom tomatoes, shaved radish, candied pistachios, feta and a red wine vinaigrette. Pair your salad with a **Cucumber Cooler**cocktail, a concoction of Ketel One Vodka, cucumber and watermelon extract, elderflower liqueur and a watermelon cube for garnish.

Del Sur Mexican Cantina is a South Park eatery, located just off the corner of 30th and Juniper, that boasts a menu created to offer traditional Mexican fare with a healthy twist. With options including tacos, burritos, soups, salads and plenty more, you'll be sure to leave feeling fully satisfied. Plus, they also offer plenty of vegetarian and vegan options! Grab a seat on the vibrant patio and try the **Watermelon Basil Martini**, served with 1800 Reposado Tequila, watermelon juice, lime and basil syrup. Yum!

Steps from the ocean in Pacific Beach, Mavericks Beach Club captures and celebrates California's infectious beach and surf culture while providing and all-around, daily beach party! Here you can sit back and relax with a group of friends while sipping a Watermelon Mule, the delicious combo of Skyy Watermelon Vodka, fresh lime juice and ginger beer. Whether you enjoy watching sports, challenging your friends to a game of cornhole or imbibing cocktails while soaking up the sun, Mavericks really does have it all.

The Duck Dive, a premier neighborhood beach lounge and eatery, has the perfect ambiance to spend the day sipping on some tasty watermelon cocktails. Kick start your weekend with a **Take Me to Mexico**, made with Los Altos Plata Tequila house infused with fresh watermelon, basil, jalapeno, shaken with agave, lemon and fresh watermelon. You'll be ready to take on the rest of the weekend after drinking one of these!

Found in Carmel Valley's bustling Village at Pacific Highlands Ranch, Casa Rústica brings south-of-the-border specialties to the neighborhood. Spice up your life and try a **Smoked Watermelon Margarita**, a drink created to be enjoyed during the heat of the summer. Made with tequila blanco, mezcal, lime and watermelon, each flavor in this one-of-a-kind cocktail can be savored. During Casa *Rústica*'s daily Happy Hour, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., this and five other margaritas are all only \$5 – so what're you waiting for, go get your fix on National Watermelon Day!

Spill the Beans is a Gaslamp District café that serves coffee and scratch-made bagels, along with freshly pressed juice from the Local Juice Co. You'll be able to start your morning with one of their organic, local, and fresh pressed juices, ensuring that you are ingesting the maximum amount of nutritious ingredients. Try the **Sustain** juice made with goji, aloe, mint, cucumber, watermelon and schizandra, a Chinese herb. The Smoking Gun, neighbor to Spill the Beans, also uses many of the fresh juices in their cocktails, so there are plenty of ways to celebrate your love for watermelons at these two spots.

Located in San Diego's historic Gaslamp District, Lazy Hippo offers a new concept in breakfast and lunch with exotic, modern and traditional dishes. Head on over in the morning to start your day with a delectable and healthy breakfast paired with a fresh pressed **Watermelon and Mint** juice. If you're opting for a

healthy choice, go with the **Banana & Peanut Butter Oatmeal**, consisting of Greek yogurt mixed with peanut butter, chia seeds and nonfat milk, topped with banana!