

The Craving: November 13–19

The Craving is all about helping you satisfy your craving for all of the best from San Diego's local food scene. Come back every week for the latest menu updates, new cocktail programs, happy hours, and special offers from San Diego's best restaurants and bars!

World Record Bar Pours Rare Irish Spirits

[The Whiskey House](#), downtown's Guinness World Record holder for most whiskey varieties, is serving up something special. Their November Whiskey Club on Wednesday the 20th features Dublin's legendary Spot Whiskey for an evening of pure Irish magic.

Starting at 6 PM, whiskey lovers can dive into five exceptional pours from the Spot lineup, including rare finds like Green Spot Chateau Montelena and Red Spot. Kick things off with a classic Old Fashioned before exploring these prestigious Irish spirits, all while enjoying traditional Irish bites from the buffet.

Snag your ticket (\$95 plus fees) on [Eventbrite](#).

PB's Coziest Holiday Pop-Up Returns to Duck Dive

[Duck Dive](#) is decking their Pacific Beach halls for the Great Dickens Holiday Cocktail Pop-Up, kicking off November 30. Think twinkling lights, festive vibes, and enough holiday magic to make even Scrooge crack a smile.

This year's cocktail lineup is pure winter wonderland in a glass. Sip on the Berry Christmas, Everyone! (a dreamy mix of Absolut Elyx and St. Germaine with blueberry cordial), warm up with the mulled wine-based Scrooged, or gather your crew for The Great Dickens—a Santa punch bowl of vodka and spiced apple cider that serves four.



The holiday munchies are just as festive: dive into a decadent Baked Brie wrapped in puff pastry, the crowd-favorite Duckin' Onion bloom, or pan-fried Brussels sprouts loaded with bacon and goat cheese.

Party Like it's High School Again This Thanksgiving Eve

[The Smoking Gun](#)'s turning Thanksgiving Eve into the ultimate reunion bash in the Gaslamp! This "Drinksgiving" hot spot is keeping the happy hour vibes flowing from 3 PM all the way to 10 PM, perfect for catching up with your hometown crew.

Fuel your nostalgia with their famous Butter Burger, crispy Fried Pickles, and that guilty pleasure, Frito Pie. The drink game's strong too—think cold brew-spiked Espresso Martinis, Casamigos Blanco Smiles for Margs, and those Instagram-worthy spinning disco ball Punch Bowls.

Keeping it casual? Grab a \$20 bucket of Easy Rider, Tecate, or Hamms. Between bites and sips, hit up the arcade for some friendly competition. Because nothing says “home for the holidays” quite like beating your old buddies at pinball!

Winter Flavors Take Flight at Mission Valley's Newest Coffee Haven

[Ox Coffee](#) is bringing cozy winter vibes to Mission Valley with a new seasonal menu dropping November 22. The freshly-minted roastery, which opened its doors in February beside Mission Valley Breakfast Company, is already making waves as the coffee wizard behind local favorites [Breakfast Republic](#) and [Fig Tree Cafe](#).

Their winter lineup sounds like a warm hug in a cup—think Snow Cap Cold Brew topped with house-made vegan peppermint foam, soul-warming Cranberry Tea Bliss, playful Jolly Elf Cider, and their take on the classic Pumpkin Latte.

For the perfect coffee companion, they're serving up indulgent Funnel Cake Fries and wholesome Overnight Oats.

This marks Ox Coffee's first winter season, and they're clearly going all-in on the festive flavors. Watch this coffee hot spot heat up the neighborhood with their house-roasted beans and creative seasonal sips!

Breakfast Republic Now Feeding Holiday Hope All Month Long

The heartwarming holiday collab between [Breakfast Republic](#) and Magic 92.5's Christmas Wish just got even better. What started as a week-long campaign is now extending through December at their Encinitas spot, with 100% of proceeds from two killer dishes going to families in need.

Here's the delicious deal: Order the Breakfast Jambalaya (loaded with shrimp, Portuguese Linguisa sausage, and three eggs any style over a bed of perfectly seasoned rice) or the plant-based Jammin' Bennie (featuring a mouth-watering blackberry-jalapeño jam and vegan hollandaise sauce).

Every single penny from these dishes goes straight to Magic 92.5's Christmas Wish program, continuing their years-long tradition of spreading holiday cheer.

Ready to make your breakfast count? Swing by 251 N El Camino Real in Encinitas. Good food, good karma—now that's something worth waking up for!

The One Where Duck Dive Hosts ‘Friends’ Trivia Night

PB’s favorite neighborhood spot, [Duck Dive](#), is channeling Central Perk on November 27 for two hours of ultimate ‘Friends’ trivia. From “PIVOT!” to “We were on a break,” superfans can test their encyclopedic knowledge of the gang’s most iconic moments starting at 8 PM.

The evening comes complete with themed cocktails (no one’s serving coffee in oversized mugs here) and exclusive ‘Friends’-themed prizes that would make even Gunther jealous. Grab your own Monica, Rachel, Chandler, Joey, Ross, and Phoebe—or the whole crew—for this nostalgia-packed showdown.

Snag your tickets [here](#) and call (858) 273-3825 to lock in your table reservation. Just like Joey doesn’t share food, Duck Dive won’t guarantee entry with tickets alone—you’ll need both to join the fun.



Shakshuka Steals San Diego’s Breakfast Scene

[Breakfast Republic](#)’s newest seasonal showstopper is bringing serious Mediterranean vibes to your brunch game.

The star of the show: tender poached eggs nestled in a spice-kissed tomato sauce with roasted bell peppers, all lounging on a cloud of house-made hummus. They've kicked things up with crunchy chickpeas, aromatic dukkah, and fresh micro basil, plus pillowy garlic naan that's begging to sweep up every last drop of that sauce.

Catch this flavor bomb at any Breakfast Republic location—from La Jolla's coastal cool to North Park's urban buzz to Encinitas' laid-back vibe.

Rock Star Holiday Parties Hit Little Italy

[Music Box](#) is dropping the mic (and their prices) with \$500 off venue rentals for company holiday bashes. This indie-owned Little Italy hot spot serves up three stories of pure party potential in a legendary concert hall that's hosted everyone from Jennifer Hudson to Billy Idol.

Want your holiday shindig to hit different? The same stage that's seen One Republic and Halsey could be yours, complete with personalized attention from their event pros. But like any good encore, this deal won't last forever.

Ready to give your team the rock star treatment? Hit up Paige Barone at

Good Eats, Good Deeds at The Smoking Gun

Downtown's retro-cool hotspot, [The Smoking Gun](#), is turning happy hour into helping hour this November. The 70s-inspired bar has teamed up with Feeding San Diego for a month-long food drive that turns your good deed into a chance to win big.

Each unexpired can donated (think chili, ravioli, chicken, soup, or tuna) scores you a raffle ticket for a shot at a \$100 Smoking Gun gift card. The more cans you bring, the better your odds—plus you'll be helping feed local families who need it most.

Fall Gets Fancy at Glass Box's Scenic Del Mar Perch

[Glass Box](#) is shaking things up through Thanksgiving with elevated autumn sips that perfectly match those golden-hour views.

Their pumpkin-spiced espresso martini gives your afternoon pick-me-up some seasonal swagger, while the chai margarita proves tequila plays nicely with warm, exotic spices. For spritz lovers, there's the Autumn Aperol—a cozy twist on everyone's favorite aperitivo.



Make it a proper feast by pairing these fall-forward cocktails with Glass Box's heavy hitters: wagyu tataki for the luxury lovers, poke nachos for the adventurous, or that can't-miss tenderloin steak fried rice. And hey, with views like these, no one's judging if you decide to sample all three cocktails!

Ocean Views Meet Elevated Bar Bites at George's

One of San Diego's most celebrated spots (hello, Fodor's top 10!) is rolling out a fresh lineup of sophisticated snacks on their stunning Ocean Terrace bar. [George's at the Cove](#)'s Executive Chef Masa Kojima has crafted five perfect nibbles to pair with those iconic La Jolla views.

The menu hits all the right notes: fresh boquarones with whipped herb crème fraîche (\$12), an ultra-luxe grilled cheese featuring Paso Robles' Holey Cow (\$8), premium La Brújula tinned seafood (sardines \$23, mussels \$24), and addictively crispy house-made potato chips (\$6).

Available daily from 11 AM, these bites are exclusive to the bar area—and coming soon to the newly renovated Level2 in December. Who knew happy hour could get even happier?

Fight Night Hits Gaslamp's Newest Hot Spot

[Hasta Mañana Cantina](#) is turning up the heat this Saturday with the Jones vs. Miocic showdown! Roll through to the Gaslamp's freshest Mexican spot for a night of epic UFC action, killer drink specials, and mouthwatering bites.

Doors open at 7 PM, and since it's first come, first served, you'll want to grab your crew and get there early to snag the best seats in the house. No tickets needed—just bring your fight night energy and an appetite!

Spill the Beans Serves Up Thanksgiving in a Bagel

November at [Spill the Beans](#) brings a nostalgic nod to holiday flavors with their new Stuffing Bagel and Cranberry Habanero Cream Cheese combo. The bagel captures Thanksgiving magic with herbs de Provence, celery salt, carrots, and sweet onions, while the spread balances sweet cranberry with a spicy habanero kick.

Want the full holiday experience? Try their BBL(t)—bacon, lettuce, and tomato topped with that zippy cranberry habanero spread. Find this festive creation at all three locations in Gaslamp Quarter, Seaport Village, and Mission Valley.