

THINGS TO DO

Need an idea for getting into the holiday spirit?

Pop-up bars abound, as restaurants and hotels in San Diego County dress up in seasonal decorations

By **Carlos Rico**
UNION-TRIBUNE

Various bars, restaurants and hotels in San Diego County are creating holiday cocktails and dressing up their venues with seasonal decorations such as Christmas lights, presents and ornaments. Some of them will also have live music, themed food and photo opportunities.

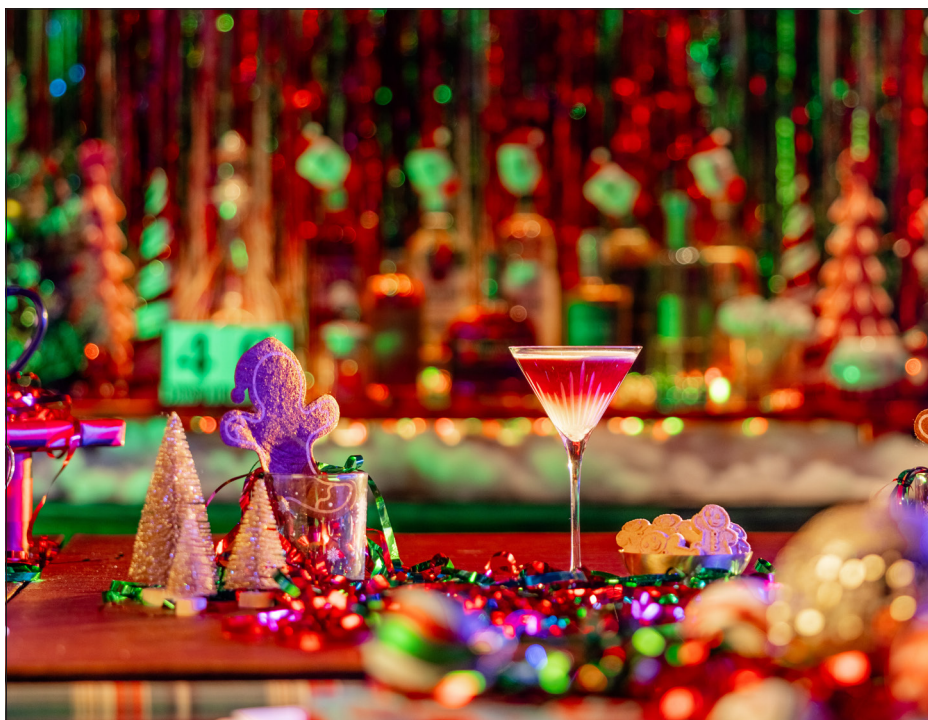
Here are those businesses with holiday-themed pop-up activations and events this holiday season, based on online listings and promotions and listed chronologically.

InsideOUT: The Hillcrest area restaurant, inside-OUT is introducing its Holiday Oasis Experience seasonal event. The public can partake in 14 holiday-themed cocktails such as the \$17 “Chai-lent Night,” which contains bourbon, honey, chai tea and orange juice, and the \$18 “Mele Kaliki-Tiki,” which includes tequila, pineapple juice, lime juice, grapefruit

juice, allspice liqueur and falernum syrup. The venue is decorated with holiday lights and Christmas trees. *Now through Jan. 5. 1642 University Ave. #100, San Diego. 619-888-8623, inside-outsd.com*

Omni La Costa Resort & Spa: Audrey’s at Omni La Costa Resort & Spa is collaborating with mixologist Julie Reiner to launch Blitzen’s, a holiday pop-up bar. The menu features cocktails created by Reiner, and Audrey’s is being decorated with Christmas displays. *5 to 9 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays. Nov. 15 through Dec. 30. 2100 Costa Del Mar Road, Carlsbad. 760-438-9111, omnihotels.com/hotels/san-diego-la-costa*

Cutwater Winter Lodge: There’s an opportunity to taste Cutwater’s holiday drinks at its distillery in Miramar. The Cutwater Winter Lodge will introduce seasonal cocktails, a hot chocolate bar and photo opportunities with a branded gondola. *Nov. 21 through Dec. 31. 9750*



The Sleigh Ride cocktail at Omni La Costa Resort & Spa’s Blitzen’s holiday pop-up bar, Thursdays-Saturdays, through Dec. 30. **KAYLA ENRIGHT**

Distribution Ave., San Diego. 858-672-3848, cutwaterspirits.com/tasting-room

Brickmans: Lakehouse Resort’s main restaurant Brickmans is transforming into a holiday-themed pop-up bar. Miracle at Brickmans promotes Christmas craft cocktails, holiday decor and limited edition seasonal mugs for purchase. Also, 10% of

Christmas mug sales will go to the nonprofit Seva Foundation. *Nov. 29 through Dec. 31. 1750 San Pablo Drive, San Marcos. 877-526-2671, thelakehouserestort.com/miracle-at-brickmans*

Duck Dive: Locals can step into the holiday season at Duck Dive for its annual Great Dicken’s Holiday Cocktail Pop-Up. The Pacific Beach bar is turning

into a winter paradise with Christmas decorations throughout the venue. This year’s holiday cocktail menu offers three options. The Great Dickens is a shareable drink served in a punch bowl that contains vodka, an apple cider blend and lemon juice. The Scrooged combines a red wine blend, blood orange aperitif and mulling spices. The Berry Christmas features vodka,

an elderflower liqueur, blueberry liquor, lime juice and coconut cream. There will also be a six-food item menu consisting of appetizers, pastries and a salad. *Nov. 30 to Dec. 31. 4650 Mission Blvd., San Diego. 858-273-3825, theduckdive.com*

Jingle Bar San Diego: The Christmas pop-up Jingle Bar is arriving in San Diego at Bang on 5th. The Asian fusion restaurant and bar is converting into a Christmas wonderland with holiday-themed cocktails, games, music and Christmas decorations. There will also be a best-dressed contests and gifts for the winners. *Dec. 1-29. 762 Fifth Ave., San Diego. \$15.62. 619-677-5650, events.thejinglebars.com/events/jinglebar/1438371*

Margaritaville Hotel San Diego: For the three Fridays before Christmas in December, Margaritaville Hotel San Diego will host a holiday pop-up for the first time in its lobby bar. The event includes signature holiday cocktails, seasonal décor and live music. *5 to 8 p.m. Dec. 6, 13 and 20. 435 Sixth Ave., San Diego. 619-819-9500, margaritavilleresorts.com/margaritaville-hotel-san-diego/live-entertainment/holiday-happenings*



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Written & Created by **ROGER BEAN**



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