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Tavern and Museum

Your local interactive guide to the San Diego area  
featuring Maps, Activities, Dining + Entertainment

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YOUR  
**Latin Food Fix**

IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

BY: CHRISTINA VALLE

There's no need to cross the border for your Latin food fix. Check out our recommendations of where to grab Latin cuisine right here in San Diego — no passport required!

**BARRIO STAR - BANKER'S HILL**

Barrio Star is home to Mexican soul food in San Diego's Banker's Hill neighborhood, where you can enjoy tacos with homemade tortillas filled with a variety of protein options such as soy chorizo, salmon, potato and steak. Sip on crafted cocktails like their spicy, sweet and award-winning Roasted Jalapeño Blackberry Margarita and Mexican Mule. Eat and drink within the restaurant's festive atmosphere, which evokes the spirit of Mexico with vibrantly painted walls and Day-of-the-Dead décor. [barriostar.com](http://barriostar.com), 619.501.7827

**SIRENA GOURMET LATIN SEAFOOD RESTAURANT - LITTLE ITALY**

Sirena Gourmet Seafood Restaurant brings Latin-inspired seafood dishes to San Diego's bustling Little Italy neighborhood. Executive Chef Jaime Chavez uses unique ingredients to create modern, carefully crafted dishes with vibrant flavor and appearance. This chic, upscale eatery features a Nikkei and raw bar, plus brunch, lunch, dinner and happy hour menus. Enjoy drink pairings from an extensive wine or beer list full of local selections created to complement the flavors present in every dish. [sirenagourmet.com](http://sirenagourmet.com), 619.564.8970



**BRACERO COCINA DE RAIZ - LITTLE ITALY**

Chef Javier Plascencia's menu features modern Mexican with both small and large plates, as well as family-style shareable platters. In the spirit of the bracero tradition, fresh masa is prepared on-site with tortillas made-to-order. A "crudo bar" featuring local Carlsbad shellfish and wild Baja seafood offers fresh international specialties such as tiraditos, ceviche and sashimi. Sip on specialty cocktails and order craft brews from San Diego and Baja and wines not only from California, but also from the vineyards of Baja. [bracerococina.com](http://bracerococina.com), 619.756.7864

**ISABEL'S CANTINA - PACIFIC BEACH**

Tucked away on Felspar Street, Isabel's Cantina is Pacific Beach's secret for inventive fusion fare. The cozy wood-trimmed dining room is the perfect setting for hearty breakfast favorites like their King Cakes and Power Burritos, and comforting dinner dishes like Chile Rellenos and Big Noodle bowls. Wash it all down with a Mexican Mocha or a freshly squeezed Orange-Pineapple-Kale juice. [isabelscantina.com](http://isabelscantina.com), 858.272.8400

**ROMESCO MEDITERRANEAN BISTRO - BONITA**

A fusion of traditional northern Mexican and Mediterranean flavors, Romesco showcases ingredients native to both Baja and those locally sourced from San Diego, such as delicate microgreens, organic meats, specialty salts and a variety of seafood. Order favorites such as the Roadside Ahi Tuna Tostada and the award-winning Paella. Be sure to leave room for Tijuana's Border Churros. [romescocomex.com](http://romescocomex.com), 619.475.8627