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The Arizona Republic (Phoenix, Arizona) · Thu, Dec 11, 2008 · Page 128
Downloaded on Oct 18, 2024

Well-mixed cocktail can add spice to holiday enjoyment

Scottsdale, Paradise Valley bubble over with great drinks

SHAKEN & STIRRED

By Allison Hamila
SPECIAL FOR THE REPUBLIC

NORTHEAST VALLEY — Drinks and the holidays are perfect companions, both bring people together. Enjoyed with friends or family, these cocktails, from the overly adorned to the simply spiked, will make even a Scrooge consider a sleigh ride.

Bubbling Rubies at Stone Rose Lounge

Stone Rose Lounge has introduced the season's most glamorously named cocktail we have ever heard of. The most decadent on Stone Rose's collection of holiday cocktails, the Bubbling Rubies is a mix of Belvedere vodka, black currant liqueur, crème de cassis, champagne, lime and white cranberry juice. Stone Rose Lounge is one of the Valley's most Los Angeles-inspired nightspots and makes for a sexy, non-traditional holiday destination. It's got an outdoor bar that seems to float on a pool below, fire pits and panoramic windows, making it the perfect place to dress fancy and sip seasonally.

Details: 7575 E. Princess Drive, Scottsdale, 480-585-4848, fairmont.com/Scottsdale.

Flipped out Reindeer at Trader Vic's

This old-fashioned frothy cocktail is called a flip, a type of drink popular in the 1950s. So it's perfect for the retro cool at Trader Vic's. The Reindeer is made with bourbon, rum, ginger, coconut and allspice liqueur, vanilla sugar and egg white for frothiness. It's blended with ice and served in a mug with a cinnamon stick. It's like eggnog, tiki-style. Enjoy this concoction and then walk across the grounds to Hotel Valley Ho to gaze at the aluminum Christmas tree in the lobby, illuminated from beneath by a color wheel. It's like going to a party in the 1950s, minus the cocktail wieners.

Details: 6850 E. Main St., Scottsdale, 480-248-2000 hotelvalleyho.com.

Peppermint Patty Martini at Eddie V's, Roaring Fork, Wildfish Seafood Grille

We doubt there will be any lords a leaping, but there will probably be plenty of ladies dancing with Eddie V's drink assortment this season. The three restaurants are promoting their "12 Cocktails of Christmas," and that's a lot of liquor. The Peppermint Patty Martini is the perfect complement to the season, evoking childhood memories of *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. It's made with Godiva Original Chocolate Liqueur, Rumple Minze peppermint schnapps, Baileys Irish Cream, cream and a bit of simple syrup, then trimmed with a candy cane.

Details: Locations across Scottsdale at eddiev.com.

The Eggnog Martini at Lon's at the Hermosa

Spiked eggnog is really the ultimate holiday cocktail. The perennial wintertime beverage is upped substantially with class at Lon's. The Eggnog Martini is a concoction made with Myers' dark rum and Captain Morgan rum, homemade eggnog, and Stolichnaya vanilla vodka. This is presented in a sugar-and-honey-rimmed glass, garnished with a cinnamon stick. The flashback setting of Lon's is teeming with tradition, with wrought-iron chandeliers, wood-beam ceilings, saddles and Native American blankets, all accented for the season with lights, garland, wreaths and luminarias.

Details: 5532 N. Palo Christi Road, Paradise Valley, 602-955-7878, lons.com.

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Oct 18, 2024

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