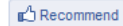




18 summer cocktails in Greater Phoenix

by Kellie Hwang - May 5, 2012 10:53 PM
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A summer cocktail should be an escape in a glass.

Whether it's tiki-inspired and conjures up images of island getaways, is a boozy version of homemade lemonade, or is filled with fresh fruits and juices, a summer cocktail should help you find relief from the heat.

"The perfect summer cocktail is light, fresh and clean, and blatantly tells your palate you're drinking something to cool you off," said Richie Moe, bartender at Citizen Public House in Scottsdale. "I want a summer cocktail to take me out of the extreme desert heat of Arizona."

Here are some refreshing cocktails at bars and restaurants around the Valley that will help to make the onset of 115-degree heat a bit more bearable. Just don't forget to sip plenty of ice-cold water while you're enjoying cocktails.



Passion Mango Martini at Sapporo

Bar manager Michael Hanley created this fruity concoction (\$12) by blending Skyy Citrus vodka, Bacardi O rum and mango- and passion-fruit purees in a blender. Raspberry liqueur is poured first into a martini glass, followed by the blended mixture to create a marbling effect.

"This icy blended drink is atypical in that it offers the coldness of a frozen drink with the drinkability of a non-frozen drink," Hanley said. "Devout fans almost unavoidably order a second one while sitting on the patio watching the beautiful Arizona sunsets through our veil of water misters."

Details: Sapporo, 14344 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale. 480-607-1114, sapporoscottsdale.com.

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