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SOUTH FLORIDA
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GUIDE

GUIDE TO

*Art Basel
& Beyond*

HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

+ Exclusive Interview with Martina Navratilova

"Interstellar Thoughts - Mohawk"
by Giano Currie
Courtesy Zenith Art & Fashion

THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

No matter your faith, we can all agree that holiday cheer is good for the soul. Mix that with food from one of these top Miami restaurants, and you'll have yourself a merry little Christmas.

BY BECKY RANDEL

PREPARE TO BE WOWED

Perhaps no Sunday brunch buffet in Miami compares to that of **Jaya at The Setai**, where stations upon stations of fresh food from cuisines around the globe are available, each more mouthwatering than the next. On Christmas, expect the typical Sunday offerings—and then some—along with free-flowing Champagne and live jazz in the luxury hotel's immaculate courtyard. *2001 Collins Ave., Miami Beach; 855.923.7899; thesetaihotel.com*

FEELS LIKE HOME

La Petite Maison, which originally opened in Nice, France, then expanded to London and Dubai, has been quietly thriving in Brickell for over a year. Combining French Mediterranean and Niçoise cuisines, the menu promises an exceptional meal in an equally spectacular space. The restaurant is available to host private events throughout the holiday season and will be open for Christmas dinner. *1300 Brickell Bay Drive, Miami; 305.403.9133; lpm london.co.uk/miami*



La Petite Maison's Escargots

Jaya at The Setai's Sunday brunch

Jaya at The Setai's Sunday brunch



Yardbird's Lobster Mac and Cheese

SOUTHERN FRIED CHRISTMAS

Chicken and biscuits for Christmas dinner? What about lobster mac and cheese? Sign us up. **Yardbird Southern Table & Bar**, Miami's favorite Southern food locale, is once again offering a special menu for the holidays. Previous seasons' menus have featured items such as Charleston she-crab soup, pecan hickory-smoked prime rib and crave-worthy desserts such red velvet firecracker cake with eggnog ice cream. Wash it down with some signature bourbon punch. *1600 Lennox Ave., Miami Beach; 305.538.5220; runchickenrun.com*

BEACHFRONT BRUNCH

For a sunny Christmas brunch, head to **AQ by Il Mulino** at **Acqualina Resort & Spa**, where you can expect live music, a visit from Santa and an all-you-can-eat buffet featuring carved meats and fish, fresh sushi, homemade pasta, seafood, made-to-order omelets and dessert—plus unlimited mimosas, bloody marys, mojitos and prosecco. *17875 Collins Ave., Sunny Isles; 305.466.9191; acqualinaresort.com*

LOCALS' FAVORITE

Just whispering the name **Sylvano** can get you in trouble with protective locals, but we can't help but talk about this restaurant's excellent Italian food, inviting ambiance and constant stream of sporting events—for the true fans. The popular Miami Beach restaurant, which recently opened a Design District location, will be open on Christmas. *1925 Liberty Ave., Miami Beach; 305.673.3959; 2426 NE Second Ave., Miami; 786.703.8200; sylvanos.com*

IMAGES COURTESY THE SETAI/LA PETITE MAISON

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A Sweet & Savory New Year

Ring in 2020 with good friends, plenty of drinks and great food.

BASEMENT BASH

At **Basement at The Miami Beach Edition**, an open bar, ice skating, bowling and a headlining DJ combine for an unmatched NYE party. *basementmiami.com*

GLAMOUR GLAMOUR

Glamour reigns at **Faena Miami Beach**, which is offering prix-fixe, NYE dinners at its award-winning restaurants surrounded by dancers, costumes and more. *faena.com*

BRICKELL'S FAVORITE PARTY

Marion and next-door sister lounge **El Tucán** know how to throw a party—and NYE is no different. Expect dazzling entertainment, flowing drinks and divine meals at both hot spots. *marionmiami.com; eltucaanmiami.com*

HOLLYWOOD STYLE

Celebrate NYE with the Jonas Brothers at **Fontainebleau Miami Beach**, various dining packages are available, including one for families. *fontainebleau.com/nye*

INVENTIVE DINING

Barton G. is a local mainstay, and is the perfect spot to ring in the new year with an unforgettable party, holiday menu twists and nonstop action. *bartong.com*

CLASSIC 305

It wouldn't be NYE in Miami without Mr. Worldwide, who is once again hosting a concert at **Bayfront Park**. This year, he's including a VIP Food & Wine Party in a designated area with unlimited food and drink. *worldwideinye.com*



El Tucán

BUBBLY & BRIGHT

Consider toasting to the new year with **Bruno Paillard Extra Brut Première Cuvée**. Creamy fine bubbles blend gently with crisp acidity and soft minerality for an easily enjoyable, yet complex Champagne. Take your celebration to the dinner table and use it as a complement to a soft cheese such as brie or a raw shellfish appetizer. \$50; *champagnebrunopaillard.com*



Jacqueline Coleman is a certified sommelier and wine writer. Visit her website at *historyandwine.com*.



ROSY-CHEEK RED

Don Melchor Cabernet Sauvignon is a remarkably expressive red wine: strong, sturdy and quite striking. If you are planning on hosting the meal of all meals, treat your guests to the dark complexity of this Chilean cabernet. Concentrated red and black fruits and spice mingle flawlessly with structured tannins and fine acidity. Serve with a hearty celebratory dinner of steak, pâtés or truffles. \$100; *donmelchor.com*



WHITE CHRISTMAS

A perfect table-pleaser, the **Tablas Creek Vineyard Côtes de Tablas Blanc** is a blend of Viognier, Grenache Blanc, Marsanne and Roussanne white grape varieties. Apricots, lemon, some light spice and fresh minerality give this wine from Paso Robles, California, a beautifully clean, lingering finish—a wonderful accompaniment to your holiday spread. \$30; *tablascreek.com*