

A full-page photograph of Jennifer Lopez. She is wearing a strapless, sequined dress with a blue and black color scheme and a ruffled, scalloped neckline. Her hair is styled in loose waves, and she is looking slightly to the side with a neutral expression. The background is dark with some light-colored geometric shapes.

PACIFIC

LET'S GET LOUD

Jennifer Lopez brings her It's My Party Tour to San Diego on June 10

INSIDE

11 NEW DINING ADVENTURES, SILVER SCREEN BLIND DATE, BREWS WITH VIEWS, COLORFUL EXHIBITS, 13 REASONS TO LAUGH A LITTLE MORE AND EVENTS TO KICKOFF SUMMERTIME

TASTE

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DINING OUT
BY PAM KRAGEN

Hungry like the wolf

New buzzy brunch spot
and 10 other restaurants
now open for feasting

From ultra-luxe brunch spaces to Italian food worthy of a Michelin star and a hideout that enters the future with computerized devices at each table, here are 11 restaurants that recently opened around San Diego County that promise to leave diners satiated. ◆



PHOTO BY TRACI HONG

MORNING GLORY

LITTLE ITALY

Brunch spots have become a ubiquitous presence on San Diego's dining scene. But leave it to boundary-pushing restaurateur Arsalun Tafazoli of CH Projects to shake things up with Morning Glory, a \$4 million, ultra-luxe brunch spot with a heavy metal

sensibility in Little Italy.

Chef Jason McLeod's menu has reimagined and juiced up traditional brunch dishes. Options include Japanese-style soufflé pancakes, the "McDiddle" with Spam breakfast sammy, baked egg shakshuka, caviar and egg toast, smoked lox with Chinese bing bread, housemade sausage patties, thick sipping cocoa, goat tacos and a not-so-proper afternoon tea service. There's even a vending machine dispensing mini-bottles of Moët & Chandon Champagne.

There's coffee, of course, but the beverage program is bar-forward with sparkling refreshers, brown, foamy and creamy cocktails and a half-dozen twists on the bloody Mary.

Morning Glory opened in mid-April in a 4,000-square-foot second-floor space overlooking

the pedestrian-only Piazza Della Famiglia. Designed with extravagant flair by Basile Studio, the restaurant has a wall of electronically controlled jointed windows that move in different configurations throughout the day. Louis XIV-style gold-tone sinks share space with skull-and-crossbones wall art and dishes.

The unorthodox design is perfectly in sync with Tafazoli's unique in-your-face ethos, and diners are eating it up.

Brunch is served from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily and no reservations are taken, so prepare to queue up. Word has it that late-risers may be in for a three-hour wait on weekends.

550 W. Date St., Little Italy, 619.629.0302, moringlorybreakfast.com