

Dining & Drinking

SUPER DINERS RESTAURANT REVIEWS DINING GUIDES FOOD & DINING EVENTS FOOD & RECIPES

'Hey Ms. Dining Out': Waterfront Edition

Suggestions on where to get a bay-view bite: a Superdiner plays lead counsel

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Q: We are flat out of ideas and would like to eat at a restaurant on the water in the area of Mission Bay, Shelter Island, or the Airport/Harbor Island. Lou

A: *Ms. D. sought counsel from Gary Schons - a senior assistant attorney general and U-T Superdiner. Here's Gary's answer:*

If Lou is simply looking for a bay-view dining experience, let's cruise the waterfront:

Mission Bay - try Baleen at Paradise Point Resort. Upscale dining, nice ambiance, menu favors seafood, some nice creations out of a semi-open kitchen. Have not been there in a while, but never disappointed. \$\$\$

Harbor Island - **Island Prime**. Deborah Scott nails it. It's like three restaurants in one - the formal dining room with the full-on menu, the bar for noshing, and C-level for casual dining. At sunset in the coming months the view across the bay to the downtown skyline rivals the view of Manhattan from the River Inn on the East River - spectacular. \$\$-\$\$\$



HOWARD LIPIN

The view at Island Prime Restaurant, located at 880 Harbor Island Drive.

Shelter Island - Let me throw you an off speed pitch here - I love the [Red Sails Inn](#). Old place, dark harbor-side ambiance inside, nice patio out, food is competent and inexpensive, bar is great and it reeks of [San Diego's](#) sailing culture and history, some of which is docked right outside. You'll return again and again, as I have for over 40 years. \$-\$\$

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Coronado - Lou didn't mention it, and it is often overlooked, but a short jaunt across the bridge, Coronado offers the other side of the big bay. [Il Fornaio](#) offers steady Med. influenced fare with a great view looking back on the city. \$\$-\$\$\$ But, the best of this entire lot is [1500 Ocean at the Hotel Del](#). Dining inside or out, the food is creative "coastal cuisine" and simply spectacular. It's a quintessential San Diego setting and a meal to remember. (Note: The restaurant recently lost [chef Brian Sinnott](#).) \$\$\$

-Gary