



Backyard Kitchen & Tap

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Located on Garnet in the heart of Pacific Beach, Backyard Kitchen & Tap gives the PB crowd a high quality dining experience and fun local hangout. Under the same ownership of PB Ale House, Backyard Kitchen & Tap gives Ale House fans a place of refuge while its fire damage is being repaired.

The venue at Backyard Kitchen & Tap is classier than most PB eateries and is a great spot for a date or nice dinner with friends and family. Equipped with two full bars, outdoor fire pits and multiple dance floors Backyard is also a great spot for a night out.

We were seated at the fine dining tables at your left upon entering. This section of the restaurant provides an intimate dining experience that is close to the bar and stage. During our dinner we enjoyed a performance by musician Dawn Mitschele from **The Acoustic Spot**. Backyard Kitchen & Tap features a musician from the Acoustic Spot every Wednesday at 7:00.

The Drinks

Backyard Kitchen & Tap offers an extensive menu of hand crafted cocktails, most notably their spiked lemonades. To start the night we tried one spiked with vodka and one with rum. Each drink, while sweet, did have a generous amount of alcohol and was a refreshing way to begin the meal.



The Food

We started our meal with the Baja Shrimp Ceviche. Unlike most ceviche appetizers, this ceviche features hearty chunks of Mexican white shrimp and isn't bogged down with other fillers to make the dish look larger. Also, the spicy and tangy flavors added by a dose of sangrita sets this ceviche apart from most.



Next, we moved onto the Brussels Sprouts, our favorite meal of the day. Sautéed with an enormous portion of bacon and glazed with maple syrup, this dish is just the right amount of salty and sweet.

However, we were most impressed by the size of the dish. Listed as a side on the menu, it was plenty big for two people, and a nice change of pace from many restaurant's minuscule dish sizes.



Another PresSDiego favorite of Backyard Kitchen & Tap was the lobster mac n' cheese. This is one of the creamiest mac n' cheese dishes we've ever had! The dish features giant rigatoni noodles, white cheddar sauce, shaved parmesan, and chunks of Maine lobster. The creaminess of the cheddar sauce mixed with the fluffy chunks of Maine lobster make this dish a can't miss entrée option.



Finally, we finished off the meal with a s'more in a cup. This ultra-sweet dessert comes with honey graham cracker, chocolate ganache, toasted marshmallow, and smoked sea salt caramel. Definitely an awesome way to finish off the meal.



Final Take

While Backyard Kitchen & Tap is more pricey than most restaurants in Pacific Beach the ambiance and quality of the food and drinks makes the experience worth the extra money. The venue offers a place for both an intimate dinner and fun night out with friends.

