



Hot eats, cool drinks

Hungry and thirsty bettors have
postrace options galore

By Robin Kleven Dishon

When it comes to restaurants, most people will choose favorites over longshots any day. After all, you've come to gamble on the horses, not the dining scene. The following spots, ranging from ultra-casual to sleek and sophisticated, offer a great taste of the San Diego scene. Whether you are a big spender or a \$2 better, these eateries will be right on the money.

DEL MAR AREA

Addison in the Grand Del Mar Resort

If you hit the jackpot at the track, treat yourself to an evening of wining and dining at this luxurious resort, home to one of the area's top-rated restaurants. The cuisine changes with the seasons, but always reflects a strong California/Mediterranean sensibility based on the best from farm and sea - lamb and seafood are two consistent standouts here. Jesse Rodriguez, wine director/sommelier, takes special pride in creating customized food and wine pairings for each diner, providing inspired, often unusual pours. Give him a budget, say \$100 a couple, and you'll be treated to the likes of beerenauslese with your foie gras, a cult Pinot Noir with your rack of lamb, and vintage dessert Champagne with your crême brûlée. You'd be spending that much or more on a bottle anyway. Reservations highly recommended.

5200 Grand Del Mar Way Carmel Valley
(858) 314-1900; www.addisondelmar.com

Arterra, in the San Diego Marriott Del Mar

Arterra earned its foodie street cred as one of the area's better hotel dining rooms with a seasonally driven menu and a series of talented and experienced executive chefs. Currently helmed by Jason Mattland, who has added Asian flair to the classic American menu, Arterra serves up artful versions of long Island duck, rack of lamb, and whatever is freshest from the sea that morning, generally accompanied by purées, salads, or braises of San Diego's signature local produce. There's also an ambitious selection of sushi creations. In addition to the spacious, elegant dining room (prime seating is in the cushy booths), Arterra now boasts a chic outdoor lounge complete with fireplace, a well-priced bar menu, and private cabanas featuring bottle service, as well as a changing lineup of pricey cigars. A great grown-up get-

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Flush racegoers can take their winnings to Arterra's outdoor lounge and enjoy drinks and cigars by the fireplace.