

Foreword Review COOKING

Summer Cocktails: Margaritas, Mint Juleps, Punches, Party Snacks, and More

Maria del Mar Sacasa

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Leave it to Quirk Books to open a cocktail book with a recipe for preparing bacon. The playfulness continues throughout *Summer Cocktails* with scores of tempting drink recipes, remedies in the case of overindulgence (Antidotes), snacks to accompany potent potables, and a detailed section about making homemade syrups, infused liquors, and sour mixes.

The main focus, of course, is the cocktail recipes. Del Mar Sacasa offers a bounty of classics, lightened up for warm weather imbibing, as well as some "novel potions that flirt with the old guard," like the Flavor Flav, a martini frisked up with shiso and Shishito peppers; and the Honey Badger, a sassy concoction of bourbon, chile-spiced honey syrup, lemon juice, and sparkling wine. Many cocktails reflect the author's Latin American heritage and feature such zesty flavors as tamarind, cilantro, mango, and jalapeño.

Airy photos of rainbow-colored drinks in icy, sweating glasses and fun snacks for entertaining make this an alluring package, whether you are planning to be the mixologist at your next poolside party or just want to laze about in a hammock staying hydrated in style.

RACHEL JAGARESKI (Summer 2015)

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