

Countdown to 2018 With These Bubbly Cocktail Recipes

By Beth Demmon
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The past 365 days have had so many high highs and low lows, we know you're ready for a glass (or two) of bubbly this New Year's Eve. Don't Pennington once famously described champagne as "tasting the stars", which, to be fair, is a pretty accurate description of the festive champagne cocktails of so necessary to properly ring in the new year. We asked spirits specialists for their best fizzy concoctions for sipping whenever you're planning to count down to midnight. Best of all, we tested each and every cocktail to make sure you don't have to be a master mixologist to make drinks like a master mixologist.

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Lover in Paris

by Alicia Perry, [Polite Provisions](#), San Diego, CA

"There's something so refreshing about a well made sparkling cocktail. Personally, I'm a sucker for The Lover in Paris. It's a bubbly grapefruit-forward cocktail, which showcases Absinthe in a more delicate and palatable way. It's super simple and easy to make at home but tasty nonetheless." - Brian Wong, Manager at Polite Provisions

Ingredients

- 2 Dashes Absinthe
- 1/2 oz. Fresh squeezed grapefruit juice
- 1/2 oz. Pamplemousse Liqueur
- 1/2 oz. Soda water
- 2 oz. Sparkling rose

Directions

Combine ingredients and mix well. Garnish with seasonal berries (blackberries & raspberries work best) and a grapefruit zest.



Seafoam Spritz

by Matty Conway, [Astinia](#), San Francisco, CA

"This drink is a bright, refreshing spritz. The vegetal bitterness of the Salmers works great with the floral sweetness of elderflower."

Ingredients

- 1 oz. Salmers Gentiane Liqueur
- 1 oz. Giffard Elderflower Liqueur
- 1/2 oz. Fresh lime juice
- 1/2 oz. Agave nectar
- 2 oz. Brut Prosecco

1/2 Dashes Lemongrass Tincture

- 1 Cup of dried lemongrass
- 2 Cups chopped fresh lemongrass

Directions

To make Lemongrass Tincture: infuse in 1 liter of Everclear (or other overproof neutral grain spirit) for a few days. Combine all ingredients (except prosecco) in mixing tin. Shake vigorously for four seconds with cracked ice cubes. Strain over fresh ice in tulip glass or wine glass. Top with 2 oz of Brut Prosecco and garnish with lime wheel.



Extra Fancy

by Valerie Bancroft, [The Nolas](#), San Diego, CA

"It has always been my desire to create a beautiful cocktail for women. I'm a woman who has been in a male-driven industry for most of my career, and I felt a void, so I want to give back to the ladies. Extra Fancy is a feeling, an occasion, a look, a taste. It's her night to celebrate the raise she's been working so hard for. It's passing the bar after her third attempt. It's wearing her grandmother's favorite set of pearls for the first time. It's diamonds, lace, fur coats, top hats, speaking in French, the perfect red lipstick...there are so many reasons for women to celebrate so why not have something 'extra fancy' to toast with?"

Ingredients

- 1 oz. Hendricks Gin
- 1/2 oz. St. Germaine Elderflower Liqueur
- 1/2 oz. Giffard Crème de Violette
- 1/2 oz. Honey
- 1/2 oz. Lemon
- Yuzu Cidrequat

Directions

Turn on Frank Sinatra's "The Way You Look Tonight" and dim the lights. Shake all ingredients together and strain into champagne flute. Slowly top with Yuzu Cidrequat and garnish with a lemon peel.

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