



NATIONAL PICKLE DAY



Fried Pickle Spears at Tavern

National Pickle Day is November 14th and we've got a lot to celebrate about one of our favorite snacks. Not only are over 5.2 million pickles consumed each year in the U.S., but unless you prefer yours deep fried, pickles are both low in calories and a great source of vitamin K. You won't find yourself in a *pickle* if you head to any of these local favorites to celebrate National Pickle Day!

If you are downtown, Chef Andy Weiss of [The Smoking Gun](#) makes their our own pickles to pair with their Southern-comfort cuisine. Fresh and delicious, their pickles are cut into spears and served alongside other pickled vegetables like cauliflower, baby carrots, and French green beans. They are served in the old school Tupperware containers to go with the retro vibes The Smoking Gun offers. Pull up a stool at the bar and order a side of these bad boys along with a few sliders and a local draft beer to wash it down. You'll be tickled pink with your pickle choice!

[Pillbox Tavern](#), Solana Beach's "retro modern" beach bar, is a hip spot for regulars and visitors alike to unwind above the cliffside neighborhood of Fletcher Cove. Their menu has food and drink choices sure to delight every palate, including a selection of rotating local beer taps. Choose from salads, wings, sandwiches, or appetizers, and Pillbox even has a kid's menu fit for the little ones. Everyone in your group will devour the **Fried Pickle Chips**, deep fried crunchy coated pickles with a side of spicy ranch.

Located on Grand Avenue just a few blocks from the sand in Pacific Beach, [Tavern at the Beach's](#) vibe is coastal cool, and they certainly have the libations to pull it off. With 30 beers on draft and hand-crafted cocktails to choose from, you can't go wrong with any beverage you select. Tavern also offers a full-blown menu of delicious "best at the beach" cuisine featuring quality local ingredients. Pretzels, a variety of mouth-watering burgers, crispy Brussel sprouts and tacos are all featured on the menu, and don't forget about the **House Made Fried Pickle Spears**, the perfect appetizer for National Pickle Day. Dip into the Tavern's hammer sauce or ranch dressing, both of which come with the spears.

The **Fried Pickles & Co** shareable plate at [Park 101](#) is kind of a big *dill*, to say the least. Bursting with flavor and a slight spice, house pickles, onion rings, green beans, red bell peppers and jalapeño peppers create this tantalizing appetizer combination. Follow it up with a smoked meat platter, like the brisket or tri tip, each of which come served as a half-pound of meat with two sides. Your entire family can enjoy dining at Park 101 in Carlsbad, as the open-air plaza-style complex is both kid and dog friendly. They've even got some family-friendly lawn games, like giant Connect Four, to keep you occupied until your meal is ready!

Visit [Barrel Republic's](#) Oceanside or Carlsbad locations for an appetizing food menu to choose from while you taste beers to your heart's content. A Mecca for craft beer lovers, Barrel Republic rotates their beers on tap, so the possibilities are endless. As you'll likely need some sustenance while you sip, check out the starters, salads, burgers and flatbread options, including the **Chili Dusted Crispy Pickle Chips**, served with a small dish of spicy cayenne dip. If your mouth is on fire after finishing a plate, try a taster of the **Green Flash La Freak IPA** (Oceanside) or the **Ballast Point Spruce Tip** (Carlsbad), as the hops and bitterness in a good IPA typically pair well with spicy food.

[Pacific Beach Alehouse](#), well-known in San Diego for its award-winning brewery, offers many seasonal variations of craft beer and signature cocktails to pair with their iconic dishes, made from locally-sourced ingredients. Try the PB Ale House Law Street Lager or 858 Blonde, both light-bodied and great for easy drinking. For something to chow on while you sip your beer, order the house-made **Fried Pickles** with sriracha ranch sauce. These crunchy snacks will have you wishing every day was National Pickle Day!