

News: Tonto revamped, supper served at Daily Dose

by [Carey Sweet](#) - Jun. 25, 2009 05:20 PM
Special for The Arizona Republic

Tonto Bar & Grill menu gets summer makeover

Chef-owner Eric Flatt has revamped the menu at his eclectic Tonto Bar & Grill, a gem that's tucked off the beaten path inside the Rancho Mañana Golf Club in Cave Creek.

As with his other restaurant, Cartwright's, in downtown Cave Creek, the menu changes with the seasons and emphasizes local product, because, as Flatt says, "what is freshest is what is closest."

A new gazpacho fairly sings of summer, crafted from charred tomato, cucumber and Arizona watermelon drizzled with basil oil. There's also a compressed salad of arugula and manchego layered with candied Arizona pecans, sun-dried cherries, tart green apples and pistachio vinaigrette; or a salad of fresh beets tossed with Fossil Creek goat cheese, watercress, preserved rhubarb and raspberry vinaigrette. Another salad of shaved romaine gets dressed up with fried Brie, candied almonds, apple vinaigrette and orange supremes. And those are just appetizers.

For entrée salads, try the spicy Sonoran of grilled squash, chili lime jicama, tortillas, Anaheim chiles, Anasazi beans, queso fresco and Arizona Desert Sweet shrimp; or Asian spinach and vegetables with soy pearls, crispy calamari rings, yuzu vinaigrette, wasabi peas, soy nuts, daikon sprouts and hoisin drizzle.

Flatt and chef Aaron Geister have also added entrée platters of lumpia (Filipino egg rolls) stuffed with marinated chicken and vegetables and dunked in ponzu sauce; and thyme roasted Alaskan halibut over English peas and red Bhutanese rice.

Tonto pastry chef Amanda Crick rounds things out with new summer desserts like angel food cake topped with Riesling poached fresh peaches, peach glaze and whipped cream; or a layered semifredo of rhubarb ice cream, gingersnaps and ginger ice cream with strawberry rhubarb compote.

Details: Tonto Bar & Grill, 5736 E. Rancho Mañana Blvd., Cave Creek, 480-488-0698, azeats.com/tonto.