

Buzzworthy Cocktails Without The Booze: The Best Non-alcoholic Sips in Smiths Falls

The New Year for many begins with the best of intentions, but January can be a long month and resolutions can be tough to stick with. Luckily, restaurants in Smiths Falls are making it easy to stick with one popular New Year's goal, this year.

For many, Dry January or Dry February have become an annual tradition and with a growing amount of excellent alternatives to traditional cocktails, wine and beers, achieving your New Year's goal is easier than ever before!

In recent years, many Smiths Falls restaurants have added non-alcoholic beers and mocktails as menu options, but one local restaurant in particular has positioned itself in a unique way by offering a wholly non-alcoholic cocktail menu.

Amy Rensby, owner at C'est Tout bakery, saw crafting a drink menu free of alcoholic beverages as a means to explore and create within her space at the historic Hotel Rideau, on Beckwith Street.

"C'est Tout has never been about alcohol. After nearly a decade, it didn't feel like something our guests were expecting or coming for," Amy explains.

She sees the decision to stay alcohol-free as a means to differentiate her business from other local establishments. "Whether in food or drink, we love pushing boundaries. With the growing focus on health and wellness, we saw staying intentionally alcohol-free as an opportunity to explore and create something special."

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Two of the expertly crafted non-alcoholic mocktails on offer at C'est Tout Bakery, in the historic Hotel Rideau.

Zero-proof Brews On The Menu, Too

Over at Bowie's on Russel Street West, owner Pat Maloney and team are serving up non-alcoholic beverages, with a local twist. Known for its outstanding live music, Bowie's music club also has a great selection of regional craft beers, cocktails and espresso. In recent years, they have also added a selection of non-alcoholic beers and ready-to-serve cocktails, produced by Ontario brewers like Collective Arts and Perth Brewery, as an alternative. The Pale Ale from Collective Arts is a great option for those that want to stick to their resolutions, but still enjoy hoppy pint.

Further down on Beckwith Street South, Lockmaster's Taphouse features NA beers on their menu, including offerings from larger brewers, like Heineken.

Their menu also includes a mocktail option, under the Beverages section. The staff are able to make alcohol-free versions of many popular cocktails, and are more than happy to do so if requested. The mocktail version of their Bubbly Whitney cocktail, featuring lemonade and cranberry juice, is particularly delightful.

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In the past, foregoing a drink at a local bar or restaurant on a night out might have meant having to stick with water, a soda, or perhaps cranberry juice from the soda gun behind the bar. As a patron at the bar, it might feel like you were missing out.

Today, with the rising popularity of mocktails and non-alcoholic beers - that actually taste great! - it is possible to indulge in a booze-free night out and not feel left out, and that is truly a refreshing change.



Pictured, above, a Bubbly Whitney, a popular mocktail from Lockmaster's Taphouse at 32 Beckwith Street South, Smiths Falls.

C'est Tout's Cranberry Cosmopolitan:

1 oz cranberry juice

1 oz peach concentrate

2 oz Tanqueray 0% or Ceder's Classic 0% gin

1/2 oz lime juice

