



Warm Up With These Holiday-Themed Cocktails

Local Bars/Restaurants Unveil Winter Libations

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Two of the holiday-themed cocktails include Martini Park's Ginger Snap Martini (left) and the Hot Potato Toddy from sola (right).



How many reminders do you need that the winter holiday season is here? The dropping temperatures? The Christmas music the stores are prematurely starting to play? Another reminder, and definitely a good one, is the changing menus at area restaurants, particularly when it comes to specialty seasonal cocktails. Here's a few delicious examples around the city:

- Martini Park (151 W. Erie) is offering two new holiday cocktails. The Sugar Plum (\$10) martini is a mix of Pearl Plum Vodka, Goldschlager, plum juice and garnished with shiny rock candy. The Ginger Snap (\$10) is a sweet combination of Snow Queen vodka, [Absolut Vanilla](#), Monin gingerbread syrup, cream and sprinkled with cinnamon. www.martinipark.com
- Le Colonial (937 N. Rush) offers winter warm ups such as the Alexandre (\$12) which combines Hennessy VS, dark creme de cacao, heavy cream and nutmeg. The [Chai Toddy](#) (\$12) mixes Captain Morgan Spiced Rum, a dash of Peppermint Schnapps, fresh-squeezed lemon juice, honey and hot chai tea. The Colonel (\$12) is Le Colonial's take on Kentucky's [Colonel Sanders](#) with [Jim Beam](#), Benedictine, and a dash of Angostura bitters. Every weekend in December, Le Colonial's upstairs bar will open at 3 p.m. for holiday shoppers looking for a break. (www.lecolonialchicago.com)
- Check out sola (3868 N. Lincoln) for the Hot Potato Toddy (\$10), a mix of sweet potato with Captain Morgan's spiced rum and vanilla whipped cream. www.sola-restaurant.com
- Drop by [Fulton's on the River](#) (315 N. LaSalle) for a Home for the Holidays martini, a red raspberry-inspired cocktail mixed with fresh rosemary and gin. The Fruit Cake has all the elements of the traditional fruit cake, but this isn't an item you'll want to re-gift. It incorporates seedless grapes and fresh-cubed pineapple mixed with vanilla and hazelnut liquor.
- J Bar, located inside the James hotel (610 N. Rush) offers the Pumpkin Spice (\$11). It's Absolut Vanilla, [Godiva White](#), pumpkin spice and whipped cream. The Nutty Angel (\$11) is a mix of Ketel One, Frangelico,