

## GREAT OUTSIDE PATIOS FOR COCKTAILS IN SANTA MONICA

When you want to relax outdoors while sipping a cocktail, there are several places in the Santa Monica area where amazing views mixed with delicious drinks can provide a great backdrop for getting together with friends. The Fairmont Miramar hotel in Santa Monica is literally across the street from the beach and offers a lovely, tranquil outside patio which is a part of their Lobby Lounge. You can order appetizers and specialty drinks while relaxing outside listening to the peaceful cascade of the waterfall into the koi pond. Sun umbrellas and tasteful wicker furniture make the patio area comfortable while lush landscaping provides semi-privacy, so the patio is also ideal for special events. Valet parking is available as is street metered parking.

Just south of the Fairmont, atop the Santa Monica Place shopping mall is the Sonoma Wine Garden, an upscale wine bar and restaurant with a lovely, casual patio surrounded by ocean and city views. Known for their huge selection of wines with a menu that emphasizes wine tasting and food pairings, Sonoma Wine Garden's outdoor patio called the Ocean Deck is reminiscent of a fancy rooftop garden. Furnished with comfortable patio furniture, sun umbrellas, heat lamps and a large fire pit, the outdoor patio is a popular gathering place for locals and tourists alike in addition to being pet friendly. Parking is available in the mall's parking lot.

Just down the street on Ocean Ave with a great backdrop of Santa Monica Pier, the Pacific Ocean and the beach is the patio at The Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel which not only provides a great view but also offers a great happy hour. From 5 to 7pm on Mondays to Fridays for \$6.60 per plate, Loews offers a selection of various appetizers in addition to a special happy hour drink menu. A popular destination to watch the sunset, you can either sit poolside, next to the outside fire pits or near the bar for happy hour. During the summer on Thursdays, music from the twilight concerts on the pier can be heard. With the beach at your feet, the Loews is one of the most relaxing places to enjoy a cocktail no matter what time of year. You get 3 hours of free valet parking when you purchase food or drinks.