

Travel Back in Time at the Central Coast's One and Only Speakeasy

By Serena Lopez

Photos by Sarah Kathleen Photography



There's a time machine in downtown Paso Robles. Located at 1122 Pine Street, behind Pappy McGregor's Pub, the speakeasy 1122 is a portal to another decade. With no signs or windows, this spot is easy to miss if you don't know what you are looking for.

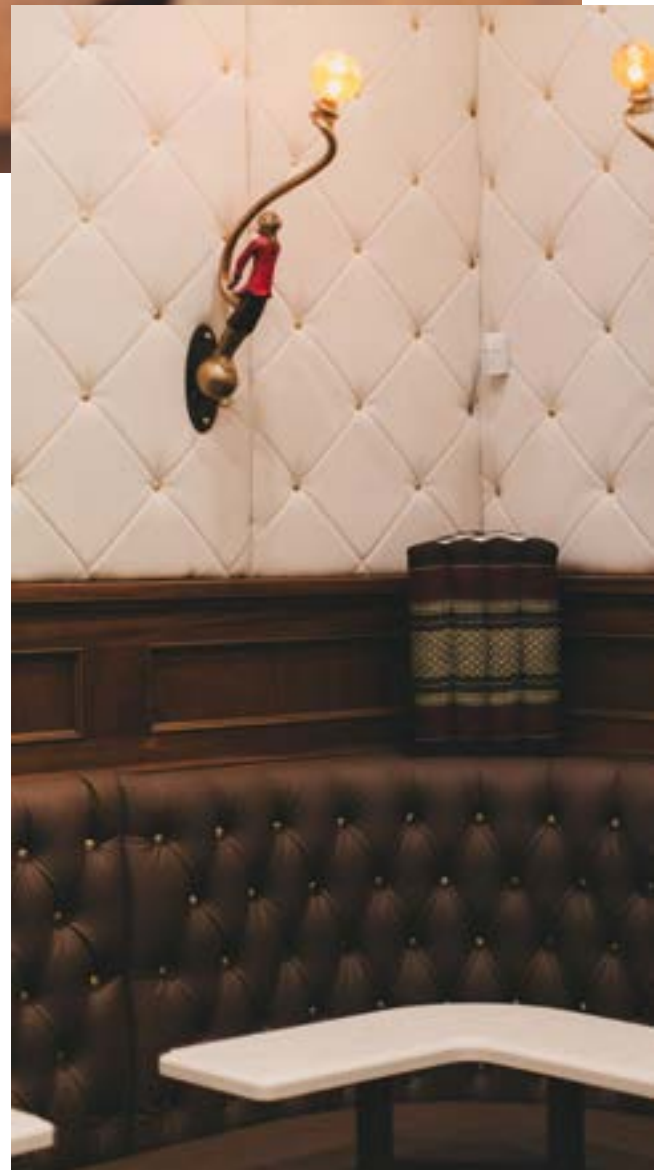




“What we loved so much with the secretness of [speakeasies], how small they were, the charm, and the really good vibes they had,” 1122 co-owner, Donovan Schmit said. “Lucky for us, at Pappy McGregor’s, we had a large back patio that had a small garage on it...and the footprint was the perfect size.”

You will know you found the speakeasy by the era-appropriate gas lanterns outside and the dark, wooden door with an eye slot. Make sure you press the doorbell when you arrive. This notifies the host to come out and provide a wait time for your party. The bar only holds about 30 people so wait times may vary. Keep in mind, this is the shortest waitlist you’ll find to time travel back to the Roaring Twenties.

When it’s your turn to enter the speakeasy, the host will take your party inside a small entryway surrounded by dark curtains and inform you of the establishment’s guidelines. Silence your phone and do not take any phone calls in the speakeasy. You’re going back



to the 1920s, so try not to let your 21st century show too much and don't forget to socialize with other human beings.

Schmit mentions this being his favorite part of the speakeasy experience. "It's all about making everyone turn off their cell phones, talk with each other and meet new people! It really gives 1122 a buzz of conversation throughout the room."

And the soft buzz that fills the air is the perfect complement to the jazz music flowing through the speakers. When the host pulls back the curtain to reveal the speakeasy, you will think you are in the middle of a Fitzgerald novel.

"We knew we wanted a 'high end, spit and polish' style speakeasy that would make people gasp when they walked in and want to be there all the time. Which 1122 knocks it out of the park on the visual beauty," Schmidt said about the interior design of the speakeasy.

With the button-tufted walls and the crystal chandelier glimmering in the low amber lights, the speakeasy captures the glamour and grandeur of the twenties. The crystal cut glasses and gold accents throughout the space come together to create the honest ambience of a prohibition-era speakeasy.

After finding a seat at the bar or in one of the diamond-tuft booths, it's time to make the biggest decision of the night: your drink. Bound in leather, the menu offers cleverly named house cocktails and the classics you'd find Ernest Hemingway and Gloria Swanson sipping on.

Every cocktail is entirely crafted in house down to the infusions, syrups, garnishes,



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and tinctures. The speakeasy also offers table service three times a week where drinks are finished right in front of you by one of 1122's world class bartenders.

“Our cocktail menu is made up of over 30 classic cocktails dating back to the prohibition era and the 1920s,” Schmit said. “There is truly something on our menu for every palate and spirit lover.”

With over two years of developing the idea and building the space, 1122 is the epitome of the rebellious yet regal spirit of the Roaring Twenties. The speakeasy immerses you into another time period. From the music to the mixing spoons, the magic is in the details at 1122.

1122 is located at 1122 Pine St. Paso Robles, CA (Directly behind Pappy McGregor's)

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IRENE RYN

Broker Associate CALBRE #01304231

The Top 5 things you can do to increase the value of your home (is not what you think)

- 1. Curb Appeal** - This is vital and ignored often! You need to stage your home inside and OUT.
- 2. Less is ALWAYS more** - Consider your home a Museum for others to walk through, to admire the space and flow of your home, not your personal items.
- 3. The rule of 3 or less!** Remove everything from your counters. Nothing more than 3 items on every counter and yes even your kitchen (that means maybe moving the toaster, ack!)
- 4. It's time for the deep clean** - Do it BEFORE you go on the market.
- 5. Showings...Be prepared to be GONE** - This is the buyer's time to envision themselves in THEIR new home, not in your home. If you are there, you are intruding on "their time."

Every home has its special features

After 20 years in real estate, I know how to sell those features and prepare your home to maximize its value



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