

nibble & sip

Through the looking glass

August 26, 2009

Our trip through San Diego's historic Little Italy used to consist of a stroll down well-maintained India Street, with perhaps a diversion to **The Waterfront** on Kettner or **Pappalecco** for gelato on Cedar. No more! We've found a veritable gem in the heart of Little Italy – **The Glass Door Restaurant and Lounge** – with some of the best views in the city.



The Glass Door is located on the fourth floor of the modern **Porto Vista Hotel** at Columbia and Fir Streets. The décor inside the long interior bar area is funky and modern, with loads of vintage Moroccan lanterns, replete with amber-tinted glass, hanging from the ceilings. (Take a moment to visually inspect the to-die-for bar, made entirely of gorgeous colored glass.) The hostesses and bartenders are nearly *always* friendly – we've taken many visitors here and haven't been disappointed with the level of service! – and the menu is best described as new American bistro fare with Asian, Moroccan, and European influences. Do yourself a favor and try the *frites* in black truffle oil and sprinkled with sea salt – delish! We also recommend the Blue Jidori, a salad of organic field greens with crumbled bleu cheese and a flavorful roasted Jidori chicken breast; also of note is the mac n' cheese, which consists of three types of cheese with Andouille sausage. To complement your meal, we suggest the Sweet Tea, a delicious concoction made with sweet tea-infused vodka. And do stop by during **The Glass Door's Sunset Happy Hour**, where many small plates (including kobe sliders, spring rolls, and more) sell for \$6 apiece, and select drinks (think sangria, wine, mojitos, margaritas, and Cabo Wabo margaritas) are a mere \$4. Sign us up!

And the arguably best part about the space is the west wall, which boasts floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors (and permits entry onto **The Glass Door's** fabulous patio, where there literally isn't a bad seat in the house). Even the jaded San Diegan can't help from thinking (*again*) how lucky we are to live in America's most beautiful city.

The Glass Door Restaurant
 1835 Columbia Street, San Diego, CA 92101 (Little Italy)
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