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Comic-Con 2018: Where to eat like a superhero



Café 222's Captain America Waffles are shaped like the superhero's famous shield. (Café 222)

San Diego Comic-Con, the ultimate pop culture festival on the planet, opens for its first full day Thursday, July 19, and local restaurants are geared-up for

the occasion. Costumed superhero and superheroine fans can take a break from the convention madness and refresh with a bite and/or cocktail at any one of these establishments. Most Comic-Con menus and cocktails are available through Sunday, unless otherwise noted.

Barleymash will serve a lineup of comic cocktails like the Pop Tart Party, made with Skyy Vanilla Vodka, fresh strawberry and a Pop Tart rim and the Capri Sun Cooler, Toucan Sam, Cuckoo for Coco and Cinnamon Toast Crunch shots. 600 Fifth Ave., Gaslamp Quarter. (619) 255-7373. barleymash.com

Tajima's Naruto Ramen (\$11), based on a popular Japanese anime, includes bamboo shoots and Naruto fish cakes, as well as Miso Ramen classic ingredients like pork chashu, Japanese seaweed, sesame seeds, green onion and half a ramen egg. Stop by the Mercury location (4411 Mercury St.) for a Firecracker cocktail (\$12), made with shōchū (a Japanese distilled beverage), plum wine and a sweet explosion of popping candy crystals. Both specials are available through July. Five locations: North Park, Hillcrest, East Village and two in Kearny Mesa. tajimasandiego.com



Tajima's Naruto Ramen is based on a popular Japanese anime. (Tajima)



Deadpool Drumettes (The Smoking Gun)

The Smoking Gun will serve a Comic-Con menu featuring bites like Deadpool Drumettes, with homemade ranch and cayenne sauce; a half-pound Captain America Slider and Chips and The Hulk salad. Guests can also try a plate of Juggernachos, topped with smoked chili and poblano cheese sauce, sour cream and jalapeños. 555 Market St., San Diego. (619) 233-3836. thesmokinggunsd.com