

FOOD & WINE

Turkey and pumpkin pie are good traditions — big messes aren't

AS TIME continues its march toward Nov. 27, we have another bunch of ideas for your turkey feast. You can safely assume that all of these diners will fill up, so reserve early, be prepared to pay for a deposit or the entire meal, and make sure you read cancellation policies carefully. The first section of this week's column is about dining out, while the end includes places to order and pick up goodies to eat at home. Next week, we'll be hitting some of the spots in Monterey, too. But first, there's a party Friday night ...

Harvest at Folktale

As vineyards turn from green to gold, Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley invites guests to join "a magical evening celebrating the close of the harvest season," Friday from 5:30 to 9 p.m.

The \$130 cost (not including tax, fees and gratuity) includes a choice of a gluten-free Harvest Celebration Menu with wine-braised short ribs or the vegan, gluten-free Plant-Based Harvest Menu with caponata (a Sicilian take on ratatouille, with eggplant and tomatoes) and a layered dish of turnip and mushroom. Each course is paired with one of Folktale's wines, and there will be live music, too. Purchase tickets at folktalewinery.com/upcoming-events. Wine club members receive a discount. Folktale is at 8940 Carmel Valley Road.

More turkey talk

La Playa Hotel at Camino Real and Eighth is having a Thanksgiving buffet from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fill your plate



The Monterey Peninsula has no shortage of places to find your Thanksgiving bliss. The venerable Cypress Inn (left) has a three-course prix-fixe meal with options beyond the bird, including prime rib, halibut or mushroom pasta. And the equally historic Hyatt Highlands Inn just south of town is holding a festive buffet with a side of exceptional views — perhaps even a spouting whale or two.

fillet, and a "grazing table" with artisanal cheese, cured meats and Ad Astra bread. Desserts include the usual suspects — apple, pecan and pumpkin pie — and mini cheesecakes and warm bread pudding for those who want to buck tradition.

The meal is \$135 for adults and \$75 for those 12 and younger. Visit laplayahotel.com/holidays for more details and to make the required reservations.

Ranch holiday

Carmel Valley Ranch's holiday buffet features turkey, ham, various accompaniments and a traditional selection of desserts. Reservations can be made at exploretock.com. Adults pay \$155, children older than 5 are \$70, and those 5 and younger eat free. Bookings are available from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Feast with a view

For a front-row seat to stunning coastline and ocean vistas, try the festive holiday buffet at Pacific's Edge Restaurant in the Hyatt Highlands Inn.

From 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., myriad options will tempt diners to try as many tasty treats as possible before the food coma sets in.

For the main dish, there's roasted turkey with traditional cranberry sauce and gravy, slow-roasted beef brisket and house-made barbecue sauce, ham, roasted salmon, and a vegetarian pasta.

Poached prawns, smoked salmon with capers and onions, steamed mussels, and seared ahi tuna are some of the seafood options, and salads and sides round out the meal. The dessert station will offer pumpkin and pecan pies. Dinner is \$105 for those 12 and older, \$50 for those 3 to 11, and complimentary for kids younger than 3.

Reservations are required and can be made through OpenTable. Call (831) 622-5429 for more information.

Get jazzy at Terry's

Terry's Restaurant in the Cypress Inn is giving thanks

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Soup to Nuts

with herb-roasted turkey, butternut squash soup, salads, all the traditional sides — from stuffing, and green beans almondine, to a glorious array of mashed, au gratin and sweet potatoes, along with brussels sprouts and baked mac and cheese. Or, choose from honey-glazed ham, salmon

DONATE A TURKEY FOR THANKSGIVING



Join Chris Shake and Sabu J.R. Shake along with The Salvation Army of the Monterey Peninsula for our Thanksgiving Turkey Drive. Make a difference for a family in your community by purchasing and donating one or more turkeys and/or hams.

WE MAKE DONATING EASY! We'll take your order and deliver it for you. Call us at (831) 372-2406 to place your order **OR** Scan the QR code to print out the order form to mail.

The Sabu Shake Sr. Good Samaritan Center will distribute the turkeys and hams to the families in need. All donors will be listed in a Thank You ad.



SCAN CODE

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF 2,000 TURKEYS/HAMS THIS HOLIDAY!



Sponsored by
- RESTAURANT PACIFIC GROUP -
Fish Hopper, Fish Hopper Kona
and Old Fisherman's Grotto
Chris Shake and Sabu J.R. Shake

THE QUAIL THANKSGIVING FEAST To-Go

FAMILY DINNER (SERVES 6-8) \$286
SINGLE DINNER \$60****

PICK UP AT CLUBHOUSE RECEPTION DESK
NOVEMBER 27 | 11:00AM - 5:00PM

DINNER
Mary's Organic Cider & Citrus Brined Turkey
Robuchon Potatoes
LaFayette Sourdough & Bacon Stuffing
Butternut Squash Pavé
Brassicas with Crisp Prosciutto & Shaved Asiago
Cranberry & Candied Orange Preserves

DESSERT
Clemente's Hand-Crafted Pie
CHOICE OF:
Classic Apple or Classic Pumpkin

ADDITIONS
SERVES 6-8 \$67** • À LA CARTE \$17**
Roasted Acorn Squash Soup
Fall Vegetable Succotash
Chicories & Badger Flame Beet Salad

Please note the last day to place an order is
November 21 at 12:00pm.

QUAILLODGE.COM/DINING
8000 VALLEY GREENS DRIVE, CARMEL | 831.620.8860

FOOD & WINE

TURKEY

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during a three-course prix fixe dinner from 1 to 8 p.m., and The David Morwood Band will play from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Living Room.

For starters, there's butternut squash bisque or an arugula and frisée salad, then it's time to dig into the turkey, 12-ounce prime rib, macadamia-nut halibut, or wild mushroom pappardelle in basil pesto cream sauce. Dessert is apple pie with vanilla bean gelato, or pumpkin pie with fresh cinnamon whipped cream. The meal is priced at \$85 per person for adults and \$45 for kids under 12. Visit cypress-inn.com/terrys to make reservations.



Big Sur's Solstice restaurant will serve Thanksgiving dinner family style from 4 to 9 p.m., with roast turkey, sides, and seasonal pies and tarts served with house-made ice cream.

Thursday drivers

Thanksgiving at Solstice (46840 Highway 1, Big Sur) looks to be worth the drive. The offerings for the three-course family-style dinner include an autumn salad, twice-baked sweet potato, brussels sprouts, turkey and a selection of seasonal pies and tarts with house-made ice cream for dessert.

Enjoy the sunset as you head south — the meal is offered between 4 and 9 p.m. and is \$120 for adults, \$60 for those under 12 and complimentary for wee ones under 3. Book at Exploretock.com.

From chef to you

If you'd like to wow your holiday guests with traditional pies produced by a two-Michelin-star restaurant, now's your chance. Aubergine, which is located

in L'Auberge Carmel at Monte Verde and Seventh and run by executive chef Justin Cogley and business partner Janet Elarmo, is selling pumpkin, apple and pecan pies for \$45 apiece, with pickup available on Thanksgiving morning.

The pecan pie includes smoked pecans, maple and dark chocolate, while pumpkin calls for sugar pie pumpkin, brown sugar and candied pumpkin seeds. The apple pie features brown-butter-roasted apples. Heating instructions will be included with all orders.

Orders must be placed by noon Friday, Nov. 21, and pickup will be available from 9 a.m. to noon Nov. 27. Tax and a 20 per-

See **TO GO** next page



THANKSGIVING BUFFET

Thursday, November 27 | 11am - 2:30pm

Delight your eyes and palate with a feast of traditional Thanksgiving favorites accented with Lucia's signature cuisine and all the trimmings.

HOLIDAY RECEPTION & TREE LIGHTING

Thursday, December 4 | 5 - 6pm

Join us for an evening of good tidings, hors d'oeuvres, and wine. The lighting ceremony will mark the official start of the holiday season. Complimentary for community guests.

CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER

Wednesday, December 24 | 5 - 9pm

Revel in the holiday spirit and gather for an evening of celebration. Our innovative four-course menus highlights the holiday classics along with plenty of options to satisfy your cravings.

CHRISTMAS DAY BRUNCH AND LIVE MUSIC

Thursday, December 25 | 11am - 3pm

Delight your senses this Christmas morning with a festive feast featuring all of your holiday favorites, elevated with Lucia's signature cuisine and seasonal touches.

LUCIA
RESTAURANT & BAR

BERNARDUS
LODGE & SPA

415 West Carmel Valley Road • Carmel Valley
(831) 658-3400 • bernarduslodge.com



Let's GATHER

AT PORTOLA HOTEL & SPA FOR

Thanksgiving

Savor the season with an unforgettable Thanksgiving Day Buffet in the beautifully appointed De Anza Ballroom. Indulge in a lavish spread of traditional holiday favorites, all while enjoying the soothing sounds of live piano music by David Conley.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025
1PM TO 8PM

menu highlights

THANKSGIVING DISPLAYS

California Cheeses, Cured Meats, Veggies, Shrimp, Local Baby Greens, Tortellini Salad, Beets with Feta

TRADITIONAL FARE

Stuffing, Whipped Potatoes, Yams, Squash, Green Beans, Fisherman's Sustainable Catch

CARVED TO ORDER

Prime Rib, Free Range Turkey

DESSERTS

Pecan & Pumpkin Pies, Cookies, Fruit Tarts & much more



pricing & reservations

Adults \$89.95 | Seniors \$79.95 (65 or older)

Children \$39.95 (ages 6-12) | Kids under 5 eat free

20% gratuity and tax will be added to all checks. Reservations required. Please call (831) 649-7870 or email lhenderson@portolahotel.com and reserve your table today!



(831) 649-4511 | Portolahotel.com

PORTOLA HOTEL & SPA
AT MONTEREY BAY