

Sandbar Sports Grill | A Central Spot in MB

Sunday, 24 April 2011

By Henry Lewis | WDSD Restaurant Reporter



Mere steps from the ocean, the bustling

boardwalk and ever-exhilarating Belmont Park, <u>Sandbar Sports Grill</u> has been a favorite of locals and tourists since it opened a decade ago.

This beachside sports bar in Mission Beach features a recently revamped menu, two bars (the "sky bar" overlooks the beach and Big Dipper coaster) and a helluva nightlife. Daily specials and a happy hour make the Sandbar a sweet spot to perch while simultaneously grabbing a bite, watching the sunset and catching the game.

After watching mountains of decorated tortilla chips pass by, you'll be unable to resist the huge platter of Mission Nachos decked with cheese, black beans, salsa fresca, delicious chorizo sauce, sour cream and guacamole (\$8.50). After this gets the ball rolling, refresh your appetite with the Mission Wedge salad, a huge hunk of crispy and wet iceberg lettuce dressed with rich, chunky blue cheese and chopped bacon (\$8.00). And once you see one of Sandbar's 10-ounce Knife Burgers, you'll want your own.



We sampled the traditional Sandbar burger, topped with grilled onions, cheese, lettuce, tomato and an oh-so-secret sauce on a buttery egg bun, accompanied by either the restaurant's famous tater tots or house fries (\$9.50). On the lighter side, the uniquely distinctive wraps include a Chinese chicken version that engulfs mixed greens, sweet and delicious Mandarin oranges, crunchy wonton strips, flavorful sesame dressing and creamy, delicious peanut sauce, served with a choice of fries or tots (\$9.50).

The vibe at Sandbar changes with the tides. Upstairs, enjoy the laid-back music while

overlooking Belmont Park and the ocean, sipping a Mimosa and indulging in the classic breakfast burrito with bacon, eggs, potatoes, avocado and mixed cheeses (\$7.00). Downstairs, hop on a stool in the cozy, woodwalled bar and watch your game on one of many flat-screens while enjoying one of the many draughts or bottled beers. When the sun sets, crowds pour in to Sandbar transform into a wild dance party, often themed. The drinks flow with the breeze.



Whether you're here for breakfast (served until noon daily), lunch, dinner, drinks or dancing, Sandbar Sports Grill may tickle your fancy. Jump off the coaster, shake off the sand, and order up some icy cold pitchers. The Sandbar also hosts private parties and special events.

SANDBAR SPORTS GRILL

718 Ventura Place

(858) 488-1274

sandbarsportsgrill.com

Hours:

Daily 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

Happy Hour: Monday – Friday 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. ½ off appetizers, \$3 bottles and drafts, \$3 wells, \$1 off 22 oz. beers, \$3 off pitchers

Daily Specials at Sandbar Sports Grill:

Monday: Karaoke Night starting at 9:00 p.m.; Pint Night w/ \$3 Drafts & ½ off Appetizers from 7:00 p.m to close.

Tuesday: Famous 2 Banger Night: Beer or a Cocktail and a Shot for \$5

Wednesday: \$2.50 Tacos from 4:00 p.m. to close; Drink Exchange & \$7 pitchers from 7:00 p.m. to close; Beer Pong Tournament from 9:00 p.m to close.

Thursday: College Night w/ Drink Exchange 8:00 p.m. to close; San Diego's first stock market night with drink prices rising and falling every 5 minutes; Dancing w/ Sleeping Giant's Video DJ Demon from 10:00 p.m. to close

Friday: ½ price drinks from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; \$3 Shot Specials 10:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.; and 2 Dance Floors w/ Sleeping Giant's Video DJ Demon from 10:00 p.m. to close

Saturday: College sports games w/ drink specials during all games

Sunday: \$10 Bottles of Champagne