

The Happy Hour Tour

Second Story Restaurant



3501 Sepulveda Blvd.
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
(310) 750-0312
www.secondstoryrestaurant.com

Parking: Hotel Valet Available, but plenty of neighborhood parking (just read the signs!)

Days: Daily

Time: 4-7pm + All Day Sunday (4-10pm)

Drink Deals: \$4 House Wines by the Glass, Well Cocktails, Draft Beer (served in frosty mugs!)

Food Deals: ½-off Select Appetizers, Salads, Sandwiches, Entrees, AND Dessert

Weekly Specials:

- MONDAY Free Corkage!
7:30pm - 10pm
- THURSDAYS - Taco Thursdays - \$2 Filet, Chicken and Fish Tacos; \$4 Coronas & Pacificos
7pm - 9pm
- FRIDAY - Half Off All Wine
7:30pm - 10pm
- SATURDAY - Buy 2 entrees and receive a free bottle of house wine. Limit 2 bottles per table.
7:30pm - 10pm

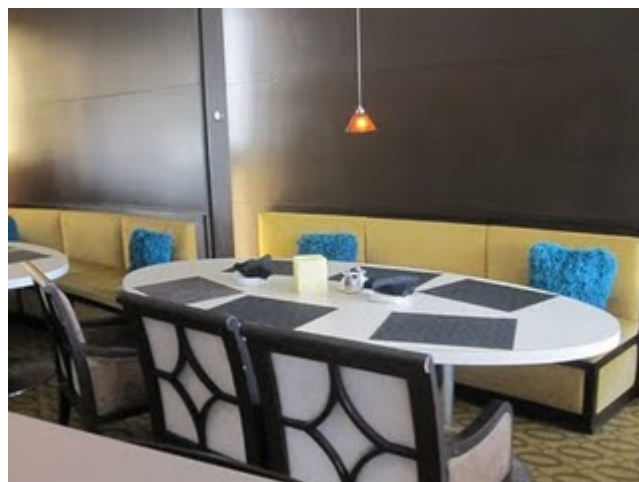
JG & I do our best to hit Happy Hours all over the wide urban sprawl that is Los Angeles, but one of our biggest challenges is trying to make it to weekday-only Happy Hours that end at 7pm when our typical workdays don't end before 6pm. It almost takes a vacation day for me to make some of these faraway Happy Hours, and it was just that, an early dismissal afternoon, that gave me the opportunity to visit the heretofore un-Toured South Bay area with pal, AP, who was in the area for work training.



Hotel Belamar Lobby

South Bay seems like it offers the best of the two areas that it bridges - Orange County and Los Angeles. It's suburban and laid back with plenty to do and it's still close enough to LA-proper to feel like you're part of the city. Best of all, there are a ton of Happy Hours in close proximity, which of course = Happy Hour Tour!!

I had mapped out several locations and done a little research on where we might like to go. I'd heard that Cozymel's, a Mexican restaurant, featured an all-Tuesday night Happy Hour, so I figured we could always end up there. And given that Cozymel was a (mini) chain, we decided on the locally owned Second Story Bar & Restaurant as our first stop.



Located on the you-guessed-it Second (and top) Story of the Belamar Hotel, Second Story is a cool retro treat, completely in line with the boutique hotel's mod theme.

The restaurant features the best of the mod scene - wood accent paneling, low bench-couches with fuzzy pillows, groovy chandeliers, and a block of four TV's all showing the same "Charlie's Angels!" Kitsch-perfection!

The [Happy Hour menu](#) is pretty cool too - everyday, from 4-7pm - the items on the menu marked with a Martini icon are ½ off. What's even more cool is that it's not just appetizers; the other happy hour eats include Entrees (Marina Fish & Chips - \$8 on HH, Fire Grilled Organic Chicken served with Potatoes & Shrimp - \$12 on HH, and Pancetta Wrapped Pork Tenderloin - \$12 on HH), Sandwiches (Chipotle Gruyere Burger - \$7.50 on HH), salads (Blackened Chicken Salad - \$7.50 on HH), and my favorite - dessert (Bread Pudding with Bourbon Caramel Sauce & Vanilla Ice Cream for \$4!)



Cheese Fondue with Bread Chunks, Apples, & Strawberries - \$6



Hummus Bowl with Baby Vegetables & Soft Pita Triangles - \$5.50

Being on a Happy Hour Tour and not wanting eat a full dinner, we stuck with Appetizers - Cheese Fondue with Bread Chunks, Apples, & Strawberries for \$6 and a Hummus Bowl with Baby Vegetables & Soft Pita Triangles for \$5.50. The fondue was kept warm over a tea light burner (very cute!) and was just warm enough to be tasty, but not burn your mouth! The presentation of the hummus with the Baby Vegetables was terrific - you definitely felt like you got your money's worth!



AP & \$4 Chardonnay

You also may feel that way with your drinks - Happy Hour offers \$4 House Wines, Well Cocktails, and Draft Beers. Seeing a neighbor with a frosted beer mug, I decided on the draft Stella Artois (among the choices of Stella, PBR, and Newcastle) while AP enjoyed a glass of Chardonnay.



Bread Pudding with Bourbon Caramel Sauce & Vanilla Ice Cream - \$4

And of course, even though we didn't want to over-eat, we couldn't pass up the novelty of a Happy Hour-priced dessert! We were totally glad we did it - the bread pudding was muy delicioso! Note to other Happy Hours - think about including a dessert on your HH menu!!

The only thing I might have asked for was one of their signature cocktails to be on Happy Hour special. I know wine, well drinks, and beer cover just about everyone, but a weekly \$6 specialty cocktail might be a nice addition to the terrific menu.



--JB

Rating: 4.5 Martinis