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DINING AND DRINKING

75 San Diego restaurants that have opened since the pandemic began

Despite industry struggles, optimistic restaurateurs debuted dozens of new spots from Chula Vista to Oceanside and La Mesa to Escondido

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Although times have been hard for the restaurant industry since March 2020, the past 16 months have been surprisingly fruitful for new restaurant openings around the county. Here's a look at more than 75 new restaurants that have opened locally since the pandemic began.

Smokey & the Brisket — La Mesa: Farmer's Table chef/owner Alberto Morreale debuted this combination barbecue/Italian restaurant in January at the former Lake Murray Cafe. 5465 Lake Murray Blvd., La Mesa. smokeyandthebrisketsd.com

San Diego Union Tribune (online) features Smokey & The Brisket 7.23.2021