

THRILLIST

SAN DIEGO

FOOD & DRINK

# San Diego's Best New Restaurants of 2018



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BEST NEW  
RESTAURANTS  
2018

2018 has been an interesting year for [restaurant openings in San Diego](#). Rising operating costs, a shortage of qualified kitchen staff, a spate of notable closings, and shifting tastes have all contributed to the ever-changing restaurant landscape in the city. This year, many of San Diego's best openings were higher-end "fast casual" concepts that eliminate some of the frills of sit-down dining, like table service, without skimping on food quality or decor. While some of those showcase the city's best, there are also a few exceptionally high quality finer dining spots that managed to slip in, as well. Here are eight of the best restaurants that opened in San Diego during 2018.



**Hidden Fish** | Crave Imagery

## Hidden Fish

Kearny Mesa (Convoy)

***A timed omakase menu high on quality and surprisingly low on gimmicks***

Already popular in other cities around the country, omakase is finally creeping its way into San Diego. The latest addition is Hidden Fish, a surprisingly reasonably priced omakase-only restaurant that comes to Convoy from Chef John Hong (a.k.a. Chef Kappa), formerly of Bang Bang. In true omakase style, seating is bar-only with eight spots reserved for guests who choose the 50-minute, 12-piece Omakase Teaser for \$50. The remaining five seats are for a 90-minute Omakase Premium experience, including 18 pieces for \$90. Fish is sourced from local waters as well as Japan's famed Tsukiji Fish Market.