

COCKTAILS

The Amazing Lobster Claw Bloody Mary from Lobster Joint

By Matt Donato @DoNatoBomb . On April 17, 2014

Brunch. A magical meal only truly appreciated after moving into a foodie/drinkie(?) mecca like New York City. What isn't there to love about a hybrid mealtime that lets you fatten up on insane combinations? Like Breakfast Hamburgers, Pork Belly Biscuits, and Chunked Crab Hash? All the while being encouraged to drink, during the day.

The problem is, with so many locations attempting to cash in on the hipster fad of weekend brunching, you never know when you're going to get a bland mimosa and an omelette that looks like something your roommate could have whipped up, or a tantalizing plate sent from the heavens above accompanied by a chalice of sweet, alcoholic nectar.

After moving to Greenpoint, Brooklyn and stepping up my Sunday Funday game, I've been brunching pretty hard for the last few months. Some days the decision is made based on alcohol pricing and quantity, opting for the bar that offers unlimited drinks and doesn't kick you out. Other times the decision is made based on a hankering for my favorite dish, even though it might hit my wallet a little harder. I know, first world problems.

This particular Sunday, I'm sticking with quality over quantity, and keeping things local, because it's small businesses like **Lobster Joint** that are bringing a vibrant life to rapidly growing areas like Greenpoint.



Credit: Serious Eats

Ignoring the fact that I'm here at least once a week stuffing my face with "New England Comfort Food" like you won't find anywhere else in NYC (best lobster roll for my money), it's the brunch that you absolutely NEED to try. Go for the \$19 prixe fixe that makes your mouth water with items like a Fried Oyster Scramble, Lobster Rancheros, and Lobster Benedict. Again, best Bene' in NYC if you're asking me.

But that's not even the crowning achievement our mad scientists of lobster fusion created. You get your choice of drink, one being your standard Mimosa choice, and the other being a Lobster Claw Bloody Mary – and it's every bit as awe-inspiring as you imagine. Yup. I'll wait while you let that sink in.

Served in a proper pint glass, the Lobster Claw Bloody Mary is a meal on its own. I remember bringing a friend who asked if he could order additional drinks, which of course you can, but I laughed at the task of putting down more than one of these bad boys based on its massive scale.

I've had watery, tasteless versions of this drink, but Lobster Joint gets bloody like no other. Thick and hearty, this spicy concoction is full of flavor, but won't burn your tongue off with the amount of hot sauce and horseradish. The vodka doesn't overpower any flavoring either (as some establishments will simply hope you get drunk and forget their Bloody Mary lacks any inspiration). Lobster Joint perfects this

tomatoey beverage by jam-packing your glass with celery, lemon, lime, a full pickle, two olives – oh, and a freakin' lobster claw.



Credit: Chambre de Sucre

Holy Mother of Mary, when this thing comes out it should be served on a golden platter with a line of worshippers kissing the very ground your server walks on. For anyone seeking advice on where to start, my consumption usually follows the same routine – pickle first (because pickles rule), lobster claw second (meaty appetizer), squeeze in the lemon/lime, stir with your trusty celery stalk, and start drinking like an absolute boss.

I've never had a meal that failed to impress at Lobster Joint, and I've never had a Lobster Claw Bloody Mary I haven't struggled to finish. You may be in pain after licking your plate clean of Hollandaise sauce and ketchup-covered hash browns, but it'd be a national tragedy to let even the tiniest sip of this Mary go to waste.

If you're looking to get drunk on cheap brunch drinks, there will be another time and place for that. If you want to sit down for a seafood-inspired brunch you won't find anywhere else (except at the other full Lobster Joint location in the Lower East Side), then Greenpoint's Lobster Joint has your deep sea hook-up covered.

Now if you'll excuse me, the best damn Bloody Mary in the city is calling my name.

Where: Lobster Joint is located at 1073 Manhattan Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11222.

http://masonjar.shindig.me/the-amazing-lobster-claw-bloody-mary-from-lobster-joint/