

Rosemary (No. 2)

I came across this drink on Pinterest. It is a beautiful cocktail. When you sip it, the first thing you note is the aroma of the oil from the rosemary, followed by the richness of the foam. The flavor is slightly bitter orange with the rosemary enhancing the herbal tones of the Campari and Aperol. It was created by Balena's lead mixologist Natalia



Cardenas.

I have altered it only slightly. I include it here because it is a perfect example of two things:

1. The use of fresh herbs in cocktails
2. Combining two similar spirits, in this case Campari and Aperol



Fresh herbs are an excellent way to underscore flavors in liqueurs and liquors. For instance, thyme goes very well in drinks containing Chartreuse or Aperol. When constructing a drink in which I'm considering fresh herbs, I will first make up the drink without herbs or garnish. Tasting at this point enables me to pick out flavors that I want to accentuate, (See note below). I can then crush the herb in my fingers and sip the drink from a shot glass. If

the aroma of the herb goes with the drink, I can decide whether to just use the herb as a garnish or push it further by stirring it (a little more flavor) or shaking it (a lot more flavor) with the drink.



Combining similar spirits to achieve balance is a fairly common trick. Just take a look at some Tiki recipes with multiple rums. In this drink, Cardenas has used Campari and Aperol. Campari is bitter/herbal-fruity while Aperol is herbal-fruity/bitter. Both have flavors of orange. Combined the bitterness is lessened while the herbal notes are enriched.

Here is the recipe:

- 3/4 oz. Campari
 - 3/4 oz. Aperol
 - 1 oz. Lemon juice
 - 1/2 oz. Simple syrup
 - 1 egg white
 - 10 Rosemary sprigs
1. Combine all of the ingredients, except 1 rosemary sprig, in a shaker without ice. Shake for 10-15 sec.
 2. Add Ice cubes (not crushed ice) to the shaker and shake until chilled, about 20-30 sec.
 3. Double strain into a chilled coupe
 4. Briefly pass the remaining rosemary sprig over a flame to release the oils before dropping it onto the drink.

Cheers!

Note: The Flavor Bible by Karen Page and Andrew Dornenburg is

an excellent source of flavor combinations.

Jungle Bird

From the Kuala Lumpur Hilton.



- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. dark Jamaican Rum (such as Appleton)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. Campari
- 4 oz. pineapple juice
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Lime juice
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. simple syrup

1. Chill an old fashioned glass with ice and water
2. While the glass chills, combine all of the ingredients in a shaker.
3. Shake with ice until shaker is fully frosted: 10 – 15 seconds
4. Pour unstrained into chilled glass
5. Garnish with a cherry and lemon and orange wheels

Champagne Flamingo

- $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. vodka
- $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. Campari
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. grenadine
- champagne

1. Chill a champagne flute with ice and water
 2. Combine all ingredients, except champagne, in a mixing glass and stir with ice
 3. Strain into chilled champagne flute
 4. Top with Champagne
 5. Garnish with a lemon or orange twist
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Rosita Cocktail

- $1 \frac{1}{2}$ oz. plata tequila
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. sweet vermouth
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. dry vermouth
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Campari
- dash of Angostura Bitters

1. Stir with ice
 2. Strain into an ice filled rocks glass
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Negroni

This is my personal favorite drink. I doubled down on the bitterness by adding bitters and the flamed orange zest. I serve it in a double old fashioned with an ice sphere.



- 1 1/2 oz. Plymouth Gin
- 1 1/2 oz. Campari
- 1 1/2 oz. Sweet Vermouth
- 2 Dashes Angostura Orange Bitters
- 2 Dashes Regan's Orange Bitters
- Fat Orange Zest

1. Chill an old fashioned glass with ice and water
2. Combine all ingredients, except the zest, in a mixing glass and stir with ice
3. Strain over fresh ice in chilled glass
4. Flame the fat orange zest over the drink and drop it in.

Peach Bellini

- 1 oz. White Peach Purée – recipe below
- $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. grenadine
- $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. Campari

- 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. champagne

1. Combine purée and grenadine in a mixing glass with ice.
2. While stirring, slowly add champagne.
3. Drizzle Campari into glass to reduce the foam
4. Strain into chilled champagne flute.

White Peach Purée

- 1 -4 white peaches, pitted.
- 1 Tbl. Per peach sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. water per peach
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. lemon juice per peach

1. Combine all ingredients in a blender and blend until smooth.
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Another Negroni

I ran out of sweet vermouth so I looked around the cabinet for another vermouth type fortified wine and spotted the Lillet Rouge. Somewhere I have seen a “Negroni” made with Aperol and Lillet Branc so I figured “why not.” Anyway, it is a bit darker and has a slightly heavier flavor. I prefer a Negroni

with sweet vermouth, but this isn't bad!



- 1.5 oz. Plymouth Gin
- 1.5 oz. Campari
- 1.5 oz. Lillet Rouge
- 2 dashes orange bitters – Suggest Regans or Angostura

1. Chill an old fashioned glass with ice and water
2. Combine all ingredients in a mixing glass and stir with ice
3. Strain over fresh ice in chilled glass
4. Garnish with orange zest flame and drop flamed zest into drink