

THINGS TO DO > RESTAURANTS FOOD AND DRINK · Review

5 takeout splurges when you want to celebrate: OC's Best Places to Eat 2020

Critic Brad A. Johnson says let's face it: Birthdays and anniversaries are different in 2020, and these fine dining takeout ideas in Orange County make the added hassle worth it.



Marché Moderne

Marché Moderne, easily the finest French restaurant in Orange County, rolled out a three-course dinner (four courses if you count the amuse bouche) packaged for curbside pickup. The menu changes weekly and hasn't been repeated. One week featured duck confit. Another, it was braised lamb à l'orange, and the week after that seared scallops and shrimp with lemongrass and coconut curry tossed with hand-rolled linguini. I missed out on all three of those, but I managed to snag the braised veal shank with mushroom and tomato risotto along with honey panna cotta with rhubarb compote for dessert. It's almost as good as having a private chef. The weekly takeout specials cost about \$50 per person. Wine and freshly baked bread also available. 7862 E. Pacific Coast Highway, Newport Beach, 714-434-7900, marchemoderne.net



Veal osso bucco with mushroom-tomato risotto from the takeout menu at Marché Moderne in Newport Beach (Photo by Brad A. Johnson, Orange County Register/SCNG)

