

# GRUB STREET

Where to Dine Al Fresco On Those Occasionally Warm Summer Nights

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The back patio at Starbelly in the Castro (3583 16th Street). *Photo: [Brian Smeets](#)*

It's almost officially summer in San Francisco, and despite being gypped out of a warm and sunny May, the next few months should offer at least a handful of days and nights when you'll want to eat outdoors, albeit sometimes with a heat-lamp nearby. To tide you over this weekend Grub Street brings you this list of our favorite dining venues with back patios and such, which you can feel free to refer back to the next time it's legitimately warm out.

*For the sake of brevity, we're limiting this list to S.F. and the East Bay, because we all know it's nice in Marin and points north, and down south is always warm.*

[Arlequin](#) - For those who don't know, there's a secret garden behind Absinthe and Arlequin with a quiet patio that feels very removed from city life, and where you're welcome to enjoy your Arlequin eats and a glass of wine.