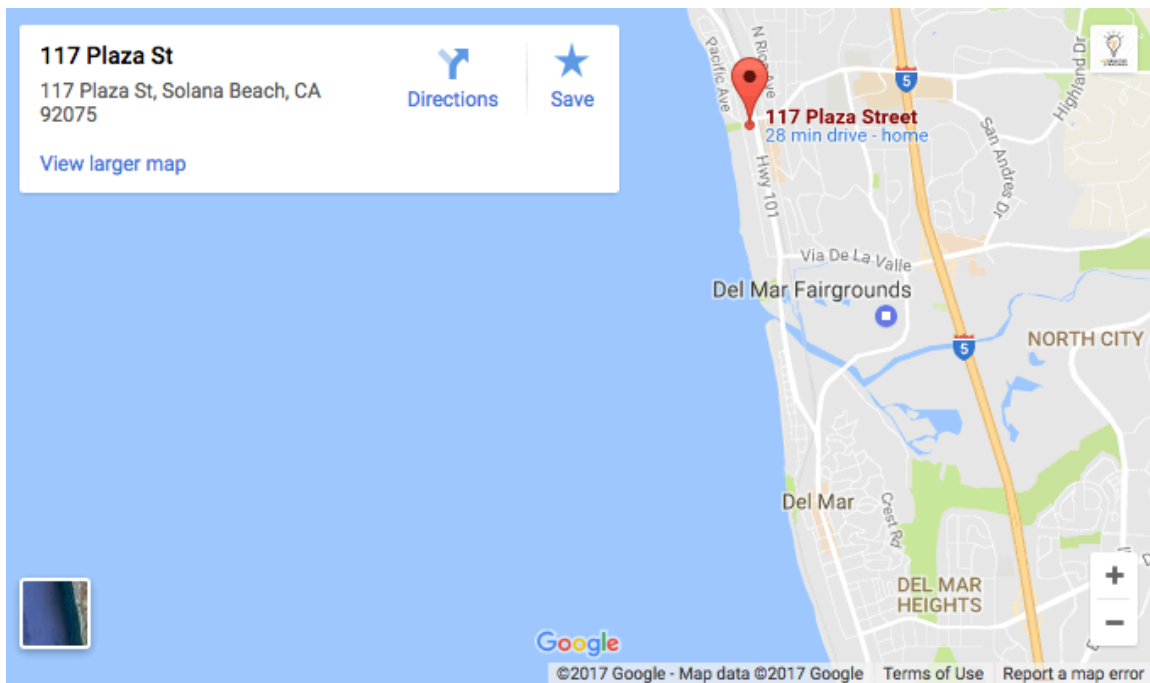




Pillbox: Grab a Great Bite in Solana Beach



A Retro Modern Beachside Bar & Grille That Truly Showcases the San Diego Lifestyle

"I like to keep things simple. It's really about the wine, food and the beach view. Nothing can beat that." -Emeril Lagasse



The sun is shining, and **Solana Beach** is calling your name. So why is Solana Beach a great town? If you're looking to find some local boutiques, the design district on **Cedros Avenue** should be on your to-do list. If the water is your goal, check out the quaint section of sand called **Fletcher Cove Beach**. This great beach town up the coast is where you can soak up some sunshine and then sit back with a fresh cocktail in a local bar and restaurant called **Pillbox Tavern**.



The Fletcher Cove Beach section is also referenced by locals as “Pillbox,” hence Pillbox Tavern which resides just above the cove. The table tops and wall murals inside really pay tribute to the west coast lifestyle.



Pillbox is super quaint with some cozy interior seating areas. However, if you're anything like me, you can't get enough of that familiar salty air, so pull up a seat outside on the patio or the window high top in between for the best of both worlds.



Now that you've settled in, it's time for some drinks. On a warm day, I look for a cocktail that will be refreshing, and I got just that with the Lemon Gintini. This lemony drink is a mix of gin, lemons, ginger syrup, and in house sweet and sour. If you're looking for more of a traditional drink, they have a delicious house margarita.





Pillbox has as awesome variety of **shareable appetizers**. If fried pickles are on the menu, I will always order them. Pillbox put a unique spin on the traditional pickle, by cutting them into chips, adding a crunchy batter, and serving it with a spicy ranch. And to whoever thought to marry coconut and shrimp, they're clearly brilliant because Pillbox has some delicious Coconut Shrimp.





But the most unexpected and delicious appetizer we had, was hands down the Homemade Chicken Egg Rolls. We've all had egg rolls before, but you could tell these were freshly made and though they were fried, you could still taste the grill of the chicken and the crispness of the vegetables. This is a dish I would order over and over again without doubt.





Chopped salads are a staple at most restaurants and fairly universal, or are they? A good salad to me is full of extra veggies and beautifully presented. Pillbox took the standard chopped salad and added cucumber and corn off the cob for a yummy twist.



If you happen to be here in time to catch a special of the day, I highly recommend doing so. I was able to order this amazing **tri tip and cheddar melt sandwich** that was piled high with thick beef, grilled onions, and paired with some crispy tator tots.



If you like to end your meal with something sweet, take advantage of the chef's dessert of the month. During my visit, I had this decadent peanut butter cheesecake.



Overall, I love how vibrant **Pillbox Tavern** is and how accurately they capture beach life in a coast town. Summer is nearing and the days are longer, so head up the coast to Solana Beach for an afternoon at Fletcher Cove, and then sit back with some good food and drinks up the street at Pillbox.

