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Southern Eclipse ~ A cocktail made with Wild Turkey, cognac, maple syrup and an amazing view. Just one of the delicious signature cocktails at The Loft in Montage Laguna Beach.

After we had such a great time and an amazing meal at Studio, Montage Laguna Beach invited us back down to try one of their other restaurants. The Loft features a great menu created by Chef de cuisine Casey Overton, amazing panoramic views of the resort, and an incredible selection of cheeses and honey. The fabulous Studio Garden cocktail was such a great beginning on the last trip, I knew that we should start by sampling a few of The Loft's signature cocktails... and they did not disappoint.

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The Loft is located on the fourth floor of the resort, which is oddly down the stairs from where you enter the hotel. Its prime location gives it a unique perspective on the rest of the resort below.



La Vie en Rose is a very refreshing drink. The giant grapefruit peel adds a great deal of flavor that only intensifies the longer you savor the drink. It's made with Peychaud's bitters and that slightly floral flavor profile combined with the St. Germaine really opens up the cocktail and keeps it very light.



The Southern Eclipse is just the opposite and deliciously dark. The cognac and bourbon when combined with the maple syrup create a wonderfully full and well rounded taste.



The cocktail menu even includes a beertail.. the playfully named Dutch Touch, which pairs Dutch genever with Heineken.



The beer fades to the rear providing both a base malt flavor and light carbonation. This drink, which is perfect for summer, almost tastes like a limeade. The Bols Genever and orange bitters give the cocktail great complexity, but leave it amazingly easy to drink.



The view may also work its way into the flavor of the drinks. The Loft looks out on the South facing side of the Montage Laguna Beach resort, making the afternoon an ideal mix of open shade and sun. It is the perfect perch to enjoy a drink or three before heading on to dinner.