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# ShowBoats

International



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blue holes*



Sneak peek  
at the Miami  
boat show

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Drinks

## Reds, whites and blues

*Malachy Duffy* shares recipes for Blue Curaçao cocktails as refreshing as an ocean breeze.

The appeal of tropical concoctions often lies as much in their eye-catching allure as their potency. Trader Vic's signature mai tai, with its hues evocative of a Hawaiian sunset, comes swiftly to mind. But for pure visual punch nothing beats a blue cocktail.

Although they may vary widely in intensity and hue, these have one common ingredient: Blue Curaçao. Developed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century on the Caribbean island of Curaçao, the liqueur takes its predominant flavor from the dried peel of a citrus fruit, the laraha. This evolved from the sweet Valencia orange trees imported by Spanish explorers. Not able to thrive in the dry climate and the arid soil, the Valencia became the smaller, bitter laraha. But the peel proved to be distinctly aromatic, which led to the rise of Curaçao liqueur. (This is naturally clear; how the blue colorant came to be added is unknown.)

With the surging interest in cocktails, Blue Curaçao, once relegated to the dusty recesses of most bars, has sprung up as a popular ingredient with cocktail craftsmen. Here are recipes I've gathered from distinguished bars around the world.

One of my favorite resorts in the Caribbean is Malliouhana in Anguilla. Their signature cocktail is light, refreshing and resembles the stunning waters that the resort overlooks.

### Malliouhana Sea

6 fresh mint leaves  
 ½ oz. fresh-squeezed lime juice  
 ½ oz. Blue Curaçao  
 1 oz. white Mount Gay Rum  
 3 ½ oz. prosecco  
 Dash floral bitters  
 Dash simple syrup (combine equal parts of sugar and water over gentle heat)

Place five of the fresh mint leaves and lime juice in a shaker glass and muddle well. Fill shaker with ice, then add rum, Blue Curaçao, floral bitters and simple syrup. Shake well. Pour in a highball glass and top off with prosecco. Garnish with a fresh mint leaf.

While Nantucket is hardly a tropical island, its ties to the sea are intimate and timeless. Nantucket is home to some of the country's top resorts, including the White Elephant, whose Brant Point Grill is a favorite dining spot. Here is one of its year-round popular drinks.

### The Wave Cocktail

1 ½ oz. Captain Morgan Spiced Rum    1 ½ oz. fresh-made sour mix  
 ¾ oz. Blue Curaçao    (equal measures of fresh lemon, lime and simple syrup)

Add all ingredients to a cocktail shaker. Add a dusting of cinnamon sugar to the rim of a martini glass, pour the drink into the glass and garnish with a twist of orange.

Hawaii's Big Island is home to one of my favorite places in the entire world — the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel. This drink was specially created for *ShowBoats International* by the hotel's Director of Restaurants and Special Events, Raymond Kanehailua.

### Mauna Kea Blue Skies

2 sprigs tarragon  
 2 thinly sliced lemon wheels  
 ¾ oz. Blue Curaçao  
 1 oz. Perrier  
 ¾ oz. Bombay  
 Sapphire East gin  
 ¾ oz. St-Germain elderflower liqueur  
 ¾ oz. fresh lemon juice  
 Muddle tarragon sprigs and lemon slices in a Collins glass. Add gin, Blue Curaçao, St-Germain, lemon juice and Perrier. Stir to combine. Serve over ice.

### HOW TO SPEND \$1,000 AND GO BLUE



**Three cases of Senior Curaçao of Curaçao Blue.** Said to be the original Curaçao, this is made on the Caribbean island itself. \$1,007, [astorwine.com](http://astorwine.com)

#### Five cases of HpnotiQ liqueur.

A sky-hued liqueur that was created in New York, but now made in France. A blend of vodka, cognac and tropical flavors, it is especially popular with the nightclub set. \$1,140, [missionliquor.com](http://missionliquor.com)

#### Six bottles of Johnnie Walker Blue Label.

This is the pinnacle of the Johnnie Walker portfolio. The main component is the very smooth single malt Royal Lochnagar, to which a dash of peaty Islay single malt is added. \$1,014, [calvertwoodley.com](http://calvertwoodley.com)

#### Two cases of Ocean Vodka (1-liter bottles).

This smooth spirit has a unique provenance: It is made from organic sugar cane on the island of Maui, the only such product in the world. \$1,008, [crossroadswines.com](http://crossroadswines.com)

### Crystal-blue persuasion

The venerable Irish firm Waterford is branching out from its more traditional crystal wares. The Mixology Argon Blue decanter has a sleek shape and melds blue and clear crystal. \$375, [waterford.com](http://waterford.com)

