

PARTY LIKE THE PROS

L.A. event planners are used to throwing lavish parties, but we were curious where these venue-savvy Angelenos entertain on their own dime. Their picks:

**Sharon Sacks,
Sacks Productions**

The Tower Bar, 8358
Sunset Blvd., West
Hollywood. (310)
848-6677.
www.sunsettowerhotel.com.

When thinking of a chic and unique place to entertain, it's the Sunset Tower Hotel that comes to mind. The Tower bar is the rebirth of Bugsy Siegel's apartment and just across the lobby is the beauty of the Terrace Room. Pick your number of guests and they will make sure you entertain in privacy.

**Brent Bolthouse,
Bolthouse Productions**

Giorgio Baldi, 114 W.
Channel Road,
Santa Monica
Canyon. (310)
573-1660.
www.giorgioaldi.com

The small room in Giorgio Baldi is by far my favorite place to entertain. It's the best food in Los Angeles. I love that it's family-owned and they are amazing people.

**Cara Kleinhaut,
Caravents Inc.**

The Oviatt
Penthouse, 617 S.
Olive St., L.A. (213)
488-9951.
www.oviatt.com

You enter this classic, Art Deco downtown jewel through a secret elevator. It is an amazing, private suite, fully furnished with original Art Deco furnishings from the '30s. A private patio is adjacent to the penthouse space, allowing expansive views of downtown and giving a true urban vibe to your party.

**Craig Donohue, The
Donohue Group**

Eno, One
Ritz-Carlton Drive,
Dana Point. (949)
240-2000.
www.ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/LagunaNiguel/Dining

Eno feels like a private wine cellar and showcases wine, artisanal chocolates and cheeses. [They have] 300 to 500 varietals of wine from around the world, offered by the bottle, glass or flight. Chocolate lovers can select from an ever-changing menu of handmade truffles crafted by local chocolatiers.

**Mary Micucci, Along
Came Mary Productions**

Mozza, 641 N.
Highland Ave., L.A.
(323) 297-0100.
www.mozza-la.com

A perfect pick for a holiday gathering is the private room at Pizzeria Mozza. I'm addicted to those delectable pizzas and artisanal wines. And wait until the private room at the Osteria opens next year.

**Matt Stoelt,
Stoelt Productions**

Inn of the Seventh
Ray, 128 Old
Topanga Canyon
Road, Topanga.
(310) 455-1311.
www.innoftheseventhray.com

Situated deep in Topanga Canyon sits an overwhelming and truly transforming venue. Each table as well as all of the private rooms evoke the juxtaposition of the big city with the stillness of nature. I love this spot to get away from it all, to dine and entertain, on some of the best organic food L.A. has to offer.

**Mark Yumkas,
Angel City Designs**

Baked It Myself,
14543 Erwin St., Van
Nuys. (818)
787-0601.
www.bakeditmyself.com

This company makes homestyle foods from its catering kitchen in Van Nuys. The owner has a chef's tasting table in the front part of this contemporary loft space. I personally did a party [20 people] for my sister here where the guests came and we each made our own hors d'oeuvres then sat down to an incredible Tuscan-style dinner.

**Marley Majcher,
The Party Goddess**

Smitty's Grill, 110 S.
Lake Ave.,
Pasadena. (626)
792-9999.
www.smittysgrill.com

My favorite place for entertaining small groups is "The Grill Room" at Smitty's Grill in Pasadena. They have valet parking, no room charge (just a reasonable food minimum) and are located away from the hustle and bustle of Old Town and the Paseo.

**Lauri Taylor,
Marquee Events**

Maestro's, 246 N.
Canon Drive,
Beverly Hills. (310)
888-8782.

My favorite place with private rooms to rent is Maestro's. For a smaller group of about 10 to 12, I love the Chef's Room, where guests are welcomed by the executive chef himself, and they are treated to his wisdom/presence throughout dinner. It's a bit pricey but worth the attention and exclusivity.