



# Tasting Kitchen - TK

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## Nordic Twist

A little bit of Scandinavia came to Hong Kong this October, at an event held at [Popinjays](#) in [The Murray, Hong Kong, a Niccolo Hotel](#).

Hosted by Aqua Nordics, purveyors of sustainable and eco-friendly Nordic products, the evening featured a line-up of three tasty akvavit-inspired cocktails and was helmed by Aaron De Guzman of Hong Kong's Apothecary.

Akvavit is a neutral spirit flavored with herbs and botanicals found throughout Scandinavia. For the evening, Guzman used a Finnish akvavit produced by Ägräs under master distiller Tomi Purhonen. Ägräs Akvavit is made to be enjoyed at room temperature and features notes of caraway, anise, angelica and citrus. Each Nordic country has its own take on akvavit, with those from Finland described as round and on the sweeter, herbaceous side.





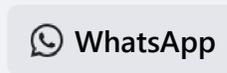
homemade tepache, Campari, Fernet-Branca, and sweet vermouth. "We wanted to really bring out the spice notes and sweetness," explained Guzman referring to the drink's flavor profile. Next was Sun Echo, which is more in line with an Old-Fashioned style of drink. Sun Echo stands out from the crowd, however, with an uncommon line-up of spirits that include genever, poitin, Eau de Vie, and akvavit. The spirits come together to create a dark, almost bitter Chinese tea flavor that opens up the longer it sits. Finally was the evening's newest creation, The Uncharted, perhaps best described as a daiquiri twist incorporating akvavit flavors and tonic. A fan of akvavit since he first tasted it, Guzam says he loves the versatility and flavor of its spice notes. "To approach akvavit in cocktails, you need to understand the depths of the flavors in it." So the next time you order your favorite cocktail, perhaps it's time for a little Nordic twist?

[The Nordics, You & Me - From Finland to Scandinavia the Nordic Journey](#)



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