

# Summer Slurps

FROM THE BEACH TO THE POOSIDE BAR, HERE ARE OUR SEASONAL PICKS FOR WARM-WEATHER QUAFFING

by Rachel Burkons



## David vs. Goliath

We really enjoy a fight with a feisty underdog, one where the little guy boldly toes up to an opposing brute and says, "I'm better than you, and I will win." Taking that knockout stance into the beverage ring is **Virgil's Dr. Better**, a micro-brewed, all-natural soda that goes head to head with that *other* Dr. Drink, and blows it out of the bubbly, carbonated seas. Made with hefty vanilla, nutmeg, cherry and a hint of prune, Dr. Better also offers a no-sugar variety sweetened with stevia. Both varieties are so rich and creamy that we expect to see the big-bev behemoth retreat with its tail between its legs when faced with the bitter truth of this Better option.

## Coffee: Not Just for Caffeine

Oh, do we sing the praises of the coffee bean in the offices of THE TASTING PANEL! Proving that Hawaii's signature superfruit, estate-grown Kona coffee, has more to offer than that morning jolt is **KonaRed**, a 100% natural antioxidant beverage made from the red berry fruit that surrounds the precious coffee bean. But that berry fruit isn't just for protecting the interior caffeine haven: It is nutrient- and antioxidant-rich, and gives KonaRed a healthy dose of delicious berry flavor to boot.



## Soothing Sipper

We've all been there: the long day sunny on the beach, the welcoming warmth of the sand, the oops-I-fell-asleep-in-the-sun-and-now-it-hurts-to-move burn, the thank-goodness-for-aloe moment when your skin finally cools. Translating that cooling, soothing, healing power of aloe vera to the beverage world is **ALŌ**, a drink made from real aloe pulp and juice and offered in seven refreshing flavors. Chunky and exotic, ALŌ is cool and soothing, a clear translation from spiky plant-to-bottle.



## Cosmopolitan Chemistry

Crafting a great Martini mixer is no small feat; it must be sweet but not *too* sweet, fruity but not *too* fruitalicious, and palate-friendly without masking base spirits into oblivion. Answering the call with a lineup of six real-fruit flavors is **Amoretti Martini Mix**, a non-alc mixer so expertly designed that the company was founded by a molecular biologist/organic chemist. We were wowed by the mouthwatering richness of the blueberry, and want to get lost in the tropical warmth of the passion fruit.

## Oooh, Yeah

Let's be direct here: **Oogavé** is delicious. All natural, organic and sweetened with agave nectar, Oogavé's flavor lineup is bursting with refreshing, real-fruit flavors that are easy on the palate and waistline friendly at under 100 calories each. But Oogavé is more than just a smart soda: The brand is committed to sustainable practices and partners regularly with community support organizations. ■■

