

## Patriotic Cocktails for Independence Day (Photos)



This [Fourth of July](#), ditch the beer and head for the liquor cabinet, because sparks are going to fly with some fantastic cocktail recipes brought to you by [SMOKE Liqueur](#) and [Aviation American Gin](#). SMOKE is a new ready-to-drink liqueur made with a unique blend of top-shelf vodka, pineapple, coconut and Moscato (a white dessert wine) to create a sweet, tropical flavor. Pair this one with a sunny, pool-side 4th of July BBQ. For something on the dry side, grab handcrafted Aviation American Gin. This American gin is distilled to be focused less on the juniper, and more on the botanicals of lavender, cardamom and sarsaparilla for something distinctly Pacific Northwest. What can be more appropriate than drinking a delicious spirit distilled right here in the U.S.?

### **AVIATION AMERICAN GIN Watermelon Cucumber Cooler**

#### *Ingredients:*

1 ½ oz Aviation American Gin  
2 Slices cucumber chunks  
1 ½ oz Freshly pressed watermelon juice (or muddle 3 1" chunks)  
½ oz Simple syrup  
¼ oz Freshly pressed lime juice  
Pinch Salt  
1 ½ oz Soda water

*Directions:* Press watermelon to make juice (squeeze the watermelon in a juicer or muddle

in a mixing glass). Strain and reserve 1 ½ ounces of the juice. Place cucumber in mixing glass and muddle. Add remaining ingredients through salt. Shake vigorously for 30 seconds. Fine strain into a highball glass filled with ice. Top with soda water. Garnish with a cucumber slice on rim.

### **AMERICAN AVIATION GIN Cele-Berry Punch (Serves 8)**

#### *Ingredients:*

24 blackberries  
8 Strawberries  
24 Blueberries  
12 oz Aviation American Gin  
4 oz Cointreau  
4 oz Simple syrup  
6 oz Freshly pressed lemon juice  
16 oz Soda water

#### *Directions:*

In a mixing bowl, muddle berries. Add all remaining ingredients through fresh lemon juice. Mix. Fine strain into a punch bowl. Cover and cool until ready to serve. When ready, add a block of ice and soda water. Mix. Garnish with mixed berries and mint.