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## Best New Restaurant San Francisco 2013 - [Comments \(0\)](#) Rich Table

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Occasionally a restaurant springs into being fully formed, like [Momotar](#), the boy in Japanese folklore found floating downstream in a peach. Rich Table, which opened in late July 2012 in Hayes Valley under the leadership of husband-and-wife team Evan and Sarah Rich, is such a restaurant. Its playful take on California comfort food was enough reason for the early buzz: Items like house-made sardine potato chips, yeasty doughnuts dusted with mushroom powder, and "dirty hippies" (a shot of buttermilk [panna cotta](#) layered with wheatgrass puree and topped with seeds and sprouts) show the delicate balance between innovative fine dining and casual cuisine. But more importantly, from the outset, it was a restaurant with an ineffable sense of atmosphere. Rich Table is one of those rare restaurants where everything — food, service, décor, drinks — comes together in just the right way. Despite the fact that it's been on the top of everyone's list for more than a year, it still feels neighborhood-y and welcoming. Reservations can be hard to come by, but we love showing up early, taking a seat at the bar, and sipping a cocktail from bartender Buffalo [Lograsso](#) as we see what the culinary team has dreamed up that day.



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