

The Times, They Are a-Changin'

Here's how some area restaurants are keeping up

At the **Grant Grill** {619.744.2077; grantgrill.com}, located downtown in the Grant Hotel, Esteban Interiors of La Jolla was recently brought in to redesign the lounge in one of



the city's most iconic restaurants. In keeping with the classic elegance that has long defined the dining experience here, Esteban Lopez himself designed custom pieces for the room, including metal bar tables and Caesar stone quartz slabs.

"In bringing on Esteban Interiors, we were looking for a designer who could capture the charm and history of the space while interjecting a modern edge," Tom Scaramellino, Director of Operations for The US Grant hotels, says. "The design goals were not only to mix elements [the hotel group is] known for, but also to add unexpected modern elements, giving it a current and eclectic feel," Lopez adds.

"I think part of our success has been our value-priced menu."

A revised bar menu and live jazz performed by Kevin Cooper and friends four days a week should ensure that even the most finicky guests are quickly whisked away for an evening of reverie and escape—two things that are definitely in high demand these days.