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The Next Big Thing

While you don't want to serve anything so "out there" that your guests are tempted to sneak away and grab a burger, it *is* smart to hire a caterer who knows the latest trends and can keep your wedding menu from seeming generic. Here, some top caterers' favorite new ideas. **EDITOR: KIM FORREST**

CAKES & MENUS

	CATERERS ARE ALL ABUZZ ABOUT...	— IS THE NEW POACHED SALMON	"IT" HORS D'OEUVRE	NOW UPSTAGING CUPCAKES...	GUESTS ARE LOVING...
Linda Marino La Bonne Maison Catering, Watertown	Vegetarian 		Spaghetti carbonara bites	Cookies "Serve your families' favorites." 	Live-action pizza stations "Guests can pick their own toppings."
Michael Baker Bakers' Best Catering, Newton Highlands	Local, seasonal, and organic menus 	Twists on surf and turf "Pair nori-crusted tuna with duck confit."	Jalapeño-jack grilled cheese bites paired with gazpacho shooters	Passed mini desserts like tiny ice cream cones or key lime tarts	Late-night snacks 
Kim Richard Gourmet Caterers, Boston	Passed small plates "Instead of a seated or buffet-style dinner."	Day boat cod or scallops 	Mini duets "Pair mini burgers with shot glasses of summer ale."	Mini desserts 	Family-style side dishes "Great conversation starters."
Molly Whitridge The Catered Affair, Boston	Updated classics such as deconstructed beef Wellington	Local cod "Miso-roasted for winter, corn-and-crab-crusted in the summer."	Upscale tacos with butter-poached lobster or sesame duck	Pie 	Ethnic street food served from carts 
Amy Hudon Wildflour Catering, Charlestown	Indian 	Salmon cooked on cedar planks	Mini comfort foods like chicken pot pies or meatballs	Pie 	Ice cream trucks 
Ariadne Clifton Ariadne Catering, Cambridge	Unique ethnic cuisines e.g., Brazilian	Local catch of the day "Pair it with a unique sauce."	Anything fried like crab cakes, plantains, or yucca fries 	Pots de crème	Menus featuring food from exotic cultures 

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