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EDITED BY ALLISON AUSTIN SCHEFF



FOOD WE LOVE

BERRY HAPPY

Come early summer, the menu at Madison Valley's airy Café Flora really starts to come alive: Asparagus, rhubarb, peas, carrots and tender baby lettuces make their way to plates as soon as they've popped their heads up in the garden. I find myself drawn to the restaurant's atrium, dewy and warm, filled with bursting with lush plantings, for one of the simplest but most satisfying desserts of the season: **CAFÉ FLORA'S BOWL OF HAYTON STRAWBERRIES**, just picked at the height of ripeness, with a lightly sweetened pool of soft whipped cream. We wait all year for these sweet, sweet strawberries, and with a dab of plush cream—well, yes, happiness is as simple as that. *Madison Valley, 2901 E Madison St.; 206.325.9100; cafe-flora.com* —ALLISON AUSTIN SCHEFF