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REVIEWS

SPECIAL 2013 BEST OF YEAR ISSUE!

WINE ENTHUSIAST[®]

MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 31, 2013

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THE ART OF THE NEW YEAR'S DAY BRUNCH

Here's how to lessen the sting
and start 2014 in style.

PROVIDE COMFORT

Hold your brunch party in the early afternoon, allowing everyone (yourself included) enough shuteye after the big night. And keep it casual—no sit-down formalities, allowing guests to graze and roam. While you'll serve other food, be sure to greet guests some comfort classics: pastries, bacon, egg and cheese sliders, and, of course, bloody marys and coffee.

GET LUCKY

After everyone settles in, break out some luck-inducing fare. Skip the OJ for pomegranate juice. In several Mediterranean cultures, pomegranates represent abundance and prosperity, plus they're packed with antioxidants, which can always help after a night of indulging. Round or ring-shaped cakes symbolize closure for the old year and new beginnings. And in Eastern Europe, pierogies are said to bring good fortune.

GO BIG

Yes, it was likely flowing last night, but bubbly is the perfect way to bring elegance and sophistication to your affair. Now is the time to break out your magnum, fill everyone's glass and make your toast. Wish your friends prosperity and good health, and tell them their company on Day No. 1 has already made 2014 a roaring success. Cheers!

—Mike DeSimone & Jeff Jensen

