Picnics

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consist of smoked salmon on thin slices of white bread, fresh raspberries and champagne. He also suggested London broil (thinly sliced marinated flank steak) on rye or pumpernickel bread with Dijon mustard and a little lettuce, brie cheese, grapes and red wine.

"Fruit washes away the heavy flavor you have (with the sandwiches)," he explained.

And don't get too bogged down in picnic gear.

Cormack and Hilley suggest disposable plates and silverware, though Hilley does grant that paper plate holders come in handy. Hermann would add a bottle of water, wet wipes and mosquito spray to the list.

Newman said the fanciest picnic gadget he could recommend is a picnic backpack imported from England. The backpack comes with plates, napkins, real silverware and glasses, an insulated back pouch for hot and cold food, and space for two bottles of wine.

"It's a notch up in quality," Newman said.



Record-Eagle/Andy Taylor-Fabe

Folgarelli's in Traverse City offers a wide variety of picnic cold-cut choices.

