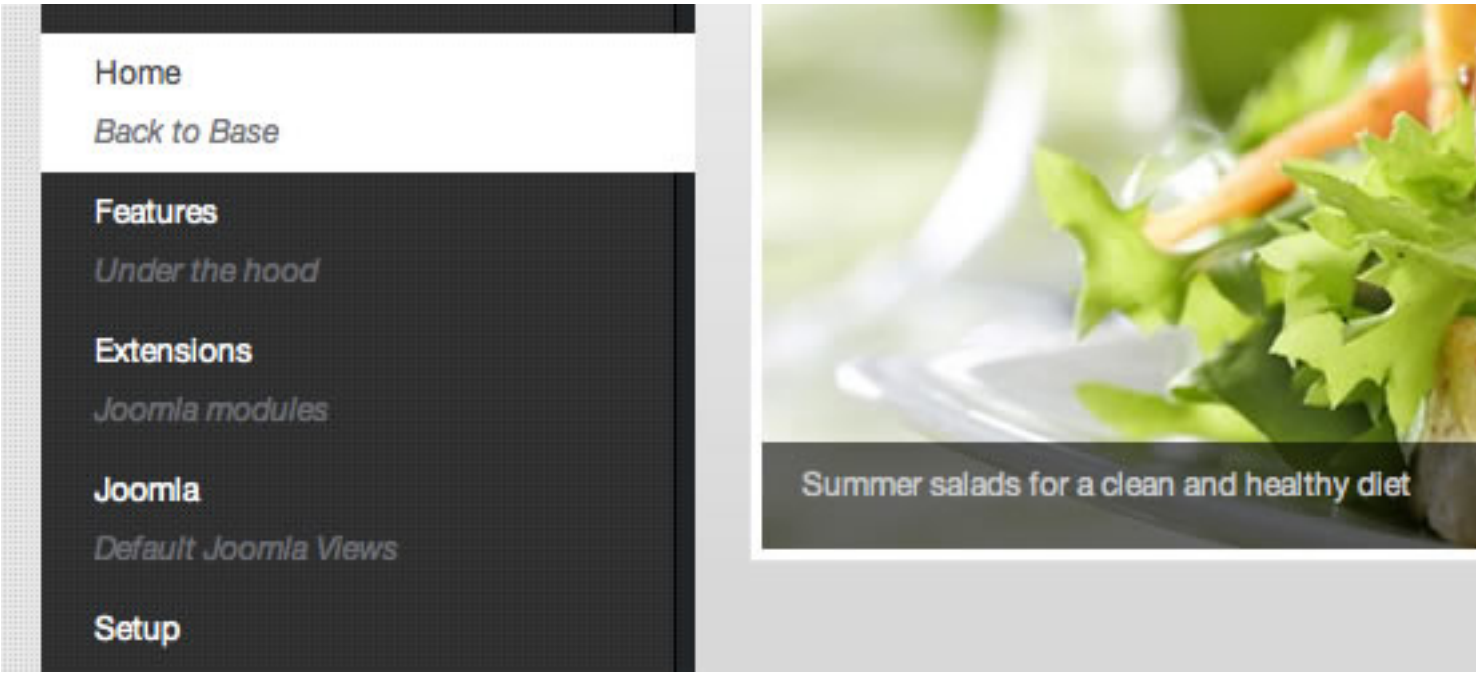


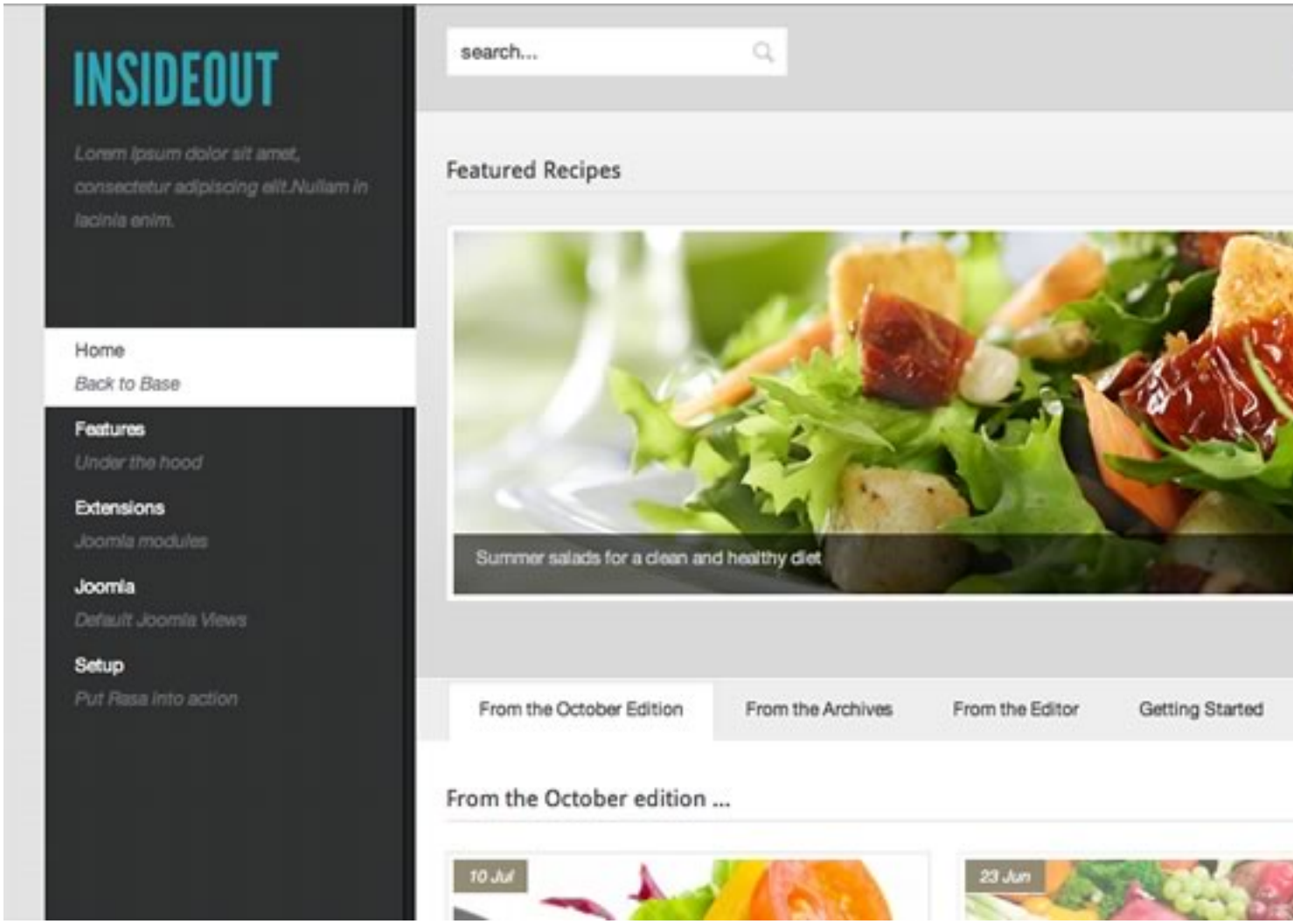
One of the striking things about this template is the menu you can see in the left column. The menu is fixed in its position so that regardless of where you are on the content page you will always have access to the menu items.

One of the key considerations in using fixed dynamic fixed elements in web design is that to make sure that the element is never longer than the browser window or that if it is there is a work around in place. This is crucial because when a fixed element such as a menu extends beyond the browser window then the menu items that are below the browser window are not accessible to the user.

So the Inside Out template establishes a few different scenarios via some nifty javascript that tests the height of the left column to see if its smaller or taller than the browser window and implements either a fixed positioned menu (if the contents are smaller) or an absolutely positioned menu (if the contents are taller). The javascript for this function is in the templates/insideout/js/template.js file.

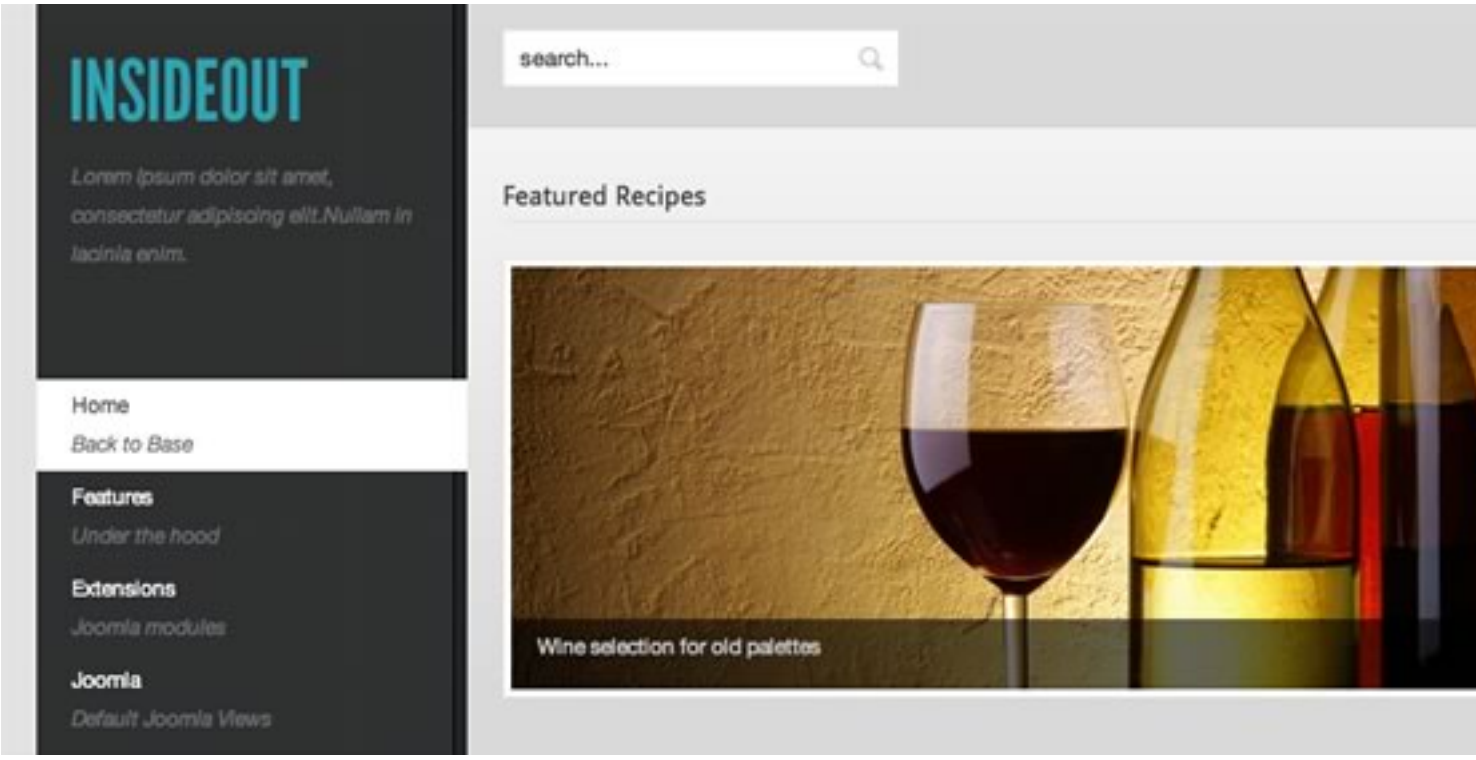
The menu in a fixed state.

The end result being that when the menu is smaller it's fixed in position and it stays at the same place regardless of where you are on the page as per the screenshot below. Notice that there is plenty of room in between the left menu and the bottom of the browser window.



The menu in an absolutely positioned state.

While if it's taller then it becomes absolutely positioned and scrolls as per the normal behaviour of elements that are not fixed in position. Notice that the left menu items extend beyond the browser window.



As you scroll down the page the left column moves upwards.

Home
Back to Base
Features
Under the hood
Extensions
Joomla modules
Joomla
Default Joomla Views
Setup
Put Rasa into action
Wine selection for old palettes
From the October Edition
From the Archives
From the Editor
Getting Started
From the October edition ...
10 Jul
23 Jun

the