

LEISURE / FOOD & DRINK / RESTAURANTS

Claremont Restaurant Week Kicked Off with Mixer at DoubleTree

July 10, 2015

11:41 PM MST



Ray at Tikka Wraps & Curry Bowls' table for the Claremont Chamber of Commerce Mixer and Media Preview for 2015 Claremont Restaurant Week

John R. Aberle

Claremont Restaurant Week Chamber Mixer and Media Preview

Rating: ★★★★★

Today starts the third annual Claremont Restaurant Week. On Wednesday, July 08, 2015, the Claremont Chamber of Commerce together with Discover Claremont hosted a their annual Claremont Restaurant Week Chamber Mixer and Media Preview for the 2015 Claremont

Restaurant Week. Ron Antonette of Discover Claremont was the initial greeter and cordial host for guests of the chamber and for the media.

It was a busy event with 14 restaurants and caterers sharing samples of their food. The foods were delicious. The exception might be for people who don'tt enjoy a certain style of food, like the Mediterranean dishes like baba-ghanouj, dolmas and tabouleh or if a dish was too spicy for their palate.

Restaurants Participating in the Chamber Mixer and Media Preview



John R. Aberle

The following restaurants participating in Claremont Restaurant Week 2015 also provided the samples for all of the people turning out for the Chamber Mixer and Media Preview.

Bardot

Address: 206 W. Bonita Ave. Claremont

Phone: (909) 621-2255

Website: www.bardotrestaurant.com

Menu (click here)

Salmon on a bed of quinoa with cherry tomatoes, edamame plus gazpacho made with watermelon and also a corn and avocado relish to top the gazpacho

These items were very good and would make a nice summer meal.

Casa Moreno Mexican Grill

Address: 101 N. Indian Hill Blvd. Claremont

Phone: (909) 447-5000

Website: www.casamorenogrill.com

Menu (click here)

Casa Moreno Mexican Grill served mini tacos with barbacoa and rice. Barbacoa is a marvelous choice for taco meat. They had a green salsa available although this reviewer missed it.

Euro Cafe

Address: 546 E. Baseline Rd. Claremont

Phone: (909) 621-4666

Website: www.eurocafeclaremont.com

[Menu \(click here\)](#)

She had a sample of quiche and a bread pudding topped with caramel sauce. Despite the bread pudding being dense, it was moist and had very good flavor

Lounge @ Hotel Casa 425

Address: 425 W. First St. Claremont

Phone: (909) 624-2272

Website: www.casa425.com

[Menu \(click here\)](#)

Jordan's dishes were the Esquietes (Roasted Corn Dip) made with fresh roasted corn, chipotle, and roasted garlic plus Grilled Peach Salad made with grilled yellow peaches, avocado, shaved Parmesan, arugula and a champagne-peach vinaigrette.

By the way, as a personal note, Jordan and his wife are celebrating the birth of their child last week.

Nuno's Bistro & Bar

➤ Address: 2240 W. Arrow Rte. Ste 4A. Upland

➤ Phone: (909) 624-0500

➤ Website: www.nunosbistro.com

[Menu \(click here\)](#)

They had three different appetizers:

➤ A delicious seafood stuffed mushrooms

➤ A blue cheese, candied walnut and a mandarin orange appetizer on an endive leaf

➤ Beef on a little slice of toasted bread was a tasty and enjoyable appetizer

Due to this reviewer trying to avoid dairy because of its impact on his sinuses, he didn't try the endive appetizer. His spouse thought they were heavenly.

The Orchard Restaurant

- At the DoubleTree by Hilton Claremont
- Address: 555 W. Foothill Blvd. Claremont
- Phone: (909) 626-2411
- Website: [click here](#)

Menu ([click here](#))

The Orchard Restaurant offered guests a couple samples of their first course for the Claremont Restaurant Week 2015. This first sample was their Ahi Tuna Poke with sea beans, petite greens, and yuzu ponzu. They used little shooters to provide this example.

Their second taste delight was their Scallops Rockefeller Style which was a scallop on spinach with béarnaise sauce. They used actual flat sea shells as the little plates to serve their delicious scallops. The béarnaise was lovely and the scallops were tender yet firm.

The Orchard's Restaurant's is in the host hotel, the Hilton DoubleTree Claremont. As a special treat they also gave out their famous chocolate chip cookies in individual bags for the guests.

Packing House Wines

- Address: 540 W. First St. Claremont
- Phone: (909) 445-9463
- Website: www.packinghousewines.com

Menu ([click here](#))

Packing House Wines restaurant demonstrated a lot of creativity with their Shrimp Sandy served on black plastic sea shells as little plates. The Packing House Wines restaurant made their Shrimp Sandy with Lemon Ginger Shrimp sous-vide, miso broth, red curry, edible sand,

and fried wakame (sea vegetable, or edible seaweed). They created a little beach using panko (very tiny) bread crumbs as the sand. They made a white sea foam that covered the shrimp and wakame which they used to create the seaweed.

While the reviewer's spouse did not enjoy the miso, curry or ginger, the reviewer himself, thoroughly enjoyed this creation, especially the firm shrimp. These are all flavors he likes.

Special service to the guests and media members was the sign that gave the ingredients to this dish.

Pappas Artisanal

- Address: 2232 D Street, La Verne 91750
- Phone: (909) 596-5050
- Website: www.pappasartisanal.com

Menu (click here)

This caterer provided an unusual appetizer with stuffed potatoes with sour cream, chives, more. The reviewer enjoyed the brief taste but stopped because of the amount of dairy in the filling.

Pie Street Pizza

- Address: 1 N. Indian Hill Blvd. Claremont
- Phone: (909) 624-4040
- Website: <http://www.piestreetpizza.com/>

Menu (click here)

Their approach is to "Create your own pizza." The samples appeared to be on flatbread. One of the samples they offered was their BBQ Chicken. This reviewer new got a sample because they were always gone shortly after they placed them on the table so obviously the consensus was that Pie Street Pizza's pies were delicious.

Pine Haven Cafe

- Address: 1191 E. Foothill Blvd. Upland 91786
- Phone: (909) 946-4674
- Website: www.pinehavencatering.com

Menu ([click here](#))

Pine Haven Café provided an assortment of dishes for diners to try:

- Pork belly taco topped by watermelon salsa and cheese and avocado sauce – a delightful dish
- House made potato chips that were excellent
- Apple taco dessert, blueberry taco dessert, and Mexican Lemon Cake were clever and delicious.

Saca's Mediterranean Cuisine

Address: 248 W. 2nd St. Claremont

Phone: (909) 624-3340

Website: www.gotosacas.com

Menu ([click here](#))

They offered the most choices of anyone at the chamber mixer. They were especially considerate of their guests because they put the signs in front of every dish. These were wonderful Mediterranean dishes like Falafel Bites, Mediterranean Salad, Humus, Kalamata Humus, Kalamata Olives, Tabouleh, Baba-Ghanouj, Dolmas (vegetarian), Pickled Turnips, Pita Chips, and a Moroccan Mint Tea, made with green tea, that was wonderfully refreshing.

SaladFarm

Address: 373 W. Bonita Ave. Claremont

Phone: (909) 621-2255

Website: www.saladfarmclaremont.com

Restaurant Week [Menu \(click here\)](#)

Oriental chicken salad – this was a nice, light, refreshing small plate.

Tikka Wraps & Curry Bowls

- Indian Gourmet Kitchen
- Address: 1 North Indian Hills Blvd. #D104 / Claremont Village, Claremont
- Phone: (909) 624-3030
- Website: www.Tikkacurry.com

Ray presented three dishes:

- Saag Paneer which is chopped spinach and chunks of homemade cheese cubes cooked in an onion based curry
- Basmati rice
- Chicken Tikka Masala which is chunks of chicken tenders cooked in a cream based curry

For someone who really dislikes spicy – as in hot – dishes, she should avoid these. But for those who thoroughly enjoy curry dishes, this assortment was delightful.

Tutti Mangia Italian Grill

Address: 102 Harvard Ave. Claremont

Phone: (909) 625-4669

Website: www.tuttimangia.com

Restaurant Week Menu: ([click here](#))

Tutti Managia served three items that were exceptionally delicious:

- Costola di Manzo: aged balsamic braised long bone short ribs that were fall off the bone tender (the bone was already missing) served on a bed of polenta. When fact checking, Sara said that it is off the Summer Three Course Seasonal Menu. It has a wonderful flavor with a hint of sweetness from the aged balsamic used.

- › Salad with sun dried tomatoes, fava bean and arugula with a piece of garlic crostini toast
- › Lavender Panacota – honey comb, edible flower, and a drizzle of honey on it – The reviewers spouse loved it. It was like an egg custard. Italian style set cream

Additional restaurants participating in Claremont Restaurant Week

The Press Restaurant

- › Address: 129 Harvard Ave. Claremont
- › Phone: (909) 625-4808
- › Website: www.thepressrestaurant.com

Rounds Premium Burgers

Address: 885 S. Indian Hill Blvd. Claremont

Phone: (909) 626-2626

Website: www.roundsburgers.com

Jeni Wren's Cafe

- › Address: 1077 W. Foothill Blvd. Claremont
- › Phone: (909) 625-7444
- › Website: www.jeniwrens.com

The Junction

Address: 1 N. Indian Hill Blvd. #103

Phone: (909) 626-5100

Website: www.thejunction.us

La Parolaccia Osteria Italiana

- Address: 201 N. Indian Hill Blvd. Claremont
- Phone: (909) 924-1516
- Website: www.laparolacciausa.com

Viva Madrid

Address: 225 Yale Ave. Ste. B. Claremont

Phone: (909) 624-5500

Website: www.vivamadrid.com

Walter's Restaurant

Address: 310 N. Yale Ave. Claremont

Phone: (909) 624-4914

Website: www.waltersrestaurant.net

Zpizza

Address: 520 W. First St. Claremont

Phone: (909) 621-7555

Website: www.zpizza.com

Additional Information on the 2015 Claremont Restaurant Week

Special Events

For those wanting to make a holiday out of this event, some local hotels have specials for the the Claremont Restaurant Week:

“Dine and Stay” Specials During Claremont Restaurant Week, July 10-19

Details about Claremont Restaurant Week:

“The Claremont Chamber is proud to announce our third annual Claremont Restaurant Week which will be held July 10-19, 2015. Restaurant week is a 10-day dining event that showcases eateries throughout Claremont and adjacent cities. Participating restaurants will offer special lunch and dinner menus at set prices. The event is designed to introduce new customers to our local restaurant, build regional awareness of Claremont as a dining and leisure destination.”

Source of this announcement: [Claremont Chamber of Commerce](#)

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John Aberle

Southern California Restaurant Examiner

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