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Savor Sarasota Restaurant Week Still Going Strong

Sarasota restaurants, including award-winning Michael's on East, extend Restaurant Week menus

SARASOTA, Fla., July 6—Eleven Sarasota restaurants are extending their Savor Sarasota Restaurant Week menus beyond Restaurant Week, which ran until June 14.

Michael's on East is one of the few restaurants extending their Savor Sarasota menu. A local favorite for more than 20 years, Michael's is now receiving national recognition as it is inducted into the **2009 Nation's Restaurant News Fine Dining Hall of Fame**.

Michael's on East is joining an impressive list of restaurants located in major cities, such as New York City and Las Vegas. The Fine Dining Hall of Fame only inducts 10 of the country's finest restaurants each year.

This year's winners are recognized in the July issue of *Nation's Restaurant News* (www.nrn.com).

Michael's on East co-proprietors Michael Klauber and Phil Mancini were winners over 20 years ago while running **The Colony Dining Room** on Longboat Key, another restaurant extending their Savor Sarasota Restaurant Week Menu.

You can continue to enjoy multi-course lunches and dinners at participating restaurants in Sarasota County. Lunch is \$15 per person and dinner starts at \$25 per person.

Other restaurants with extended menus include **5 One 6 Burns, Bijou Café, Café Venice, Canvas Café, Currents Restaurant at The Hyatt Regency, Harry's Continental Kitchen, Phi Café at Hotel Indigo, Pino's 100 Central** and **Polo Grill & Bar**.

Michael's on East (1212 East Ave. S., Sarasota, 941-366-0007) changes the theme of their menu each month. July's menu features Mexican-inspired cuisine, including dishes like a gourmet Philly cheese steak and lobster rolls. You can have a \$15 power lunch Monday-Friday or a \$25 Summer Fling dinner Tuesday-Saturday.

The Colony (1620 Gulf of Mexico Dr., Longboat Key, 941-383-5558) is serving up fresh summer salads and island-inspired entrees.

5 One 6 Burns (516 Burns Ln., Sarasota, 941-906-1884) adds a gourmet flair to summer classics, such as BBQ baby back ribs with white cheddar macaroni and cheese.

Bijou Café (1287 First St., Sarasota, 941-366-8111) is serving mouth-watering lunches and dinner delicacies like lamb chops. Dinner is \$32.95 per person. Bijou Café is also offering First Friday Wine Tastings for \$18 per person.

Café Venice (116 W. Venice Ave., Venice, 941-484-1855) has light lunch fare like chicken Caesar salad and key lime pie, as well as decadent dinner items like escargot and raspberry ice cream truffle dipped in dark chocolate.

Canvas Café (239 S. Links, Sarasota, 941-366-2233) offers up a \$15 lunch menu with summer classics like crab and avocado gazpacho and their \$30 dinner menu has a dessert that varies depending on the chef's "daily inspiration."

Currents Restaurant at The Hyatt Regency (1000 Blvd. of the Arts, Sarasota, 941-953-1234) brings Cuban and Caribbean flavors into the mix with items like mojo-rubbed mahi.

Harry's Continental Kitchen (525 St. Jude's Dr., Longboat Key, 941-383-0777) brings international flavors to Sarasota with dishes like crawfish in a puff pastry shell, pan-seared salmon with tangerine chili sauce and stuffed artichokes.

Phi Café at Hotel Indigo (1223 Blvd. of the Arts, Sarasota, 941-487-3800) has extensive menu options and serves low-key classics like lump crab cakes and baked apple tarts.

Pino's 100 Central (100 Central Ave., Sarasota, 941-955-3739) offers a summer stimulus package—2 entrees for the price of 1, as well as \$4 martinis.

Polo Grill & Bar (10670 Lakewood Main St., Lakewood Ranch, 941-782-0899) has a savory menu complete with grilled artichokes, pastas and fresh salads.

While some participating restaurants are extending their Restaurant Week menus through July, many of the restaurants are extending their menus through October.

For more information and to view full Savor Sarasota Restaurant Week menus, please visit www.savorsarasota.com.

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