

TASTE OF TEXAS

Winter
2021

what's COOKING

HOLIDAY HOURS

Mon - Fri 10:30 am to 10:00 pm

Saturday 3:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Sunday 3:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Christmas Eve

Waiting List Names taken until 7:00 pm,
Reservations preferred!

Christmas Day

Closed- Merry Christmas!

New Year's Eve

Open at 10:30 am serving continuously
till 10:00 pm. Reservations preferred!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Adult History Tour

Saturday, January 22

Steak School

Saturday, February 5

Wine Dinner

Monday, February 21

Adult History Tour

Saturday, March 5

TASTE OF TEXAS HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Give the gift of Texas hospitality!



Our most popular package – Eight Complete Trim 6 Ounce Filets: Aged 40+ days and fork tender, our Center Cut Filets set the standard of exquisite tenderness and taste.

New this year: The Surf and Turf Package: Two Complete Trim 6 Ounce Filets, two 4.5 Ounce Cold Water Lobster Tails, Herb Garlic Butter, Grilling Guide, and Signature Steak Seasoning.

A gift with their name on it: Personalized steak knives, carving sets, and more, instantly engraved with your gift recipient's name, initials, or company logo.

Perfectly Aged Texas Triple Play: Send the best of all steaks with this package of two 6 Ounce Complete Trim Filets, two 20 oz. T-Bones, and two 16 oz. New York Strips. With something for everyone, this selection is great for entertaining a crowd. Paired with our award-winning cookbook, this is the perfect gift for someone who has everything.



GET THE INSIDE SCOOP!

Scan this QR code to subscribe to text messages and emails for recipes, grilling tips, upcoming events, favorite gifts, news, and more.

HAPPY 44TH ANNIVERSARY, TASTE OF TEXAS!

Our gift to you – Gift Card Special starts Nov 19

November 19 marks 44 years since we opened our doors (at our wise old ages of 26 and 23!). We are so immensely grateful for the decades of fun with you- our customers-, our staff, and our suppliers. We had no idea that our little restaurant on the back side of Town and Country Village would turn in to the nation's 28th busiest independent restaurant.

As a "thank you" to you, our precious customers, we are starting our Christmas Gift Card Special on Friday, November 19 through Christmas Eve, December 24! For every \$100 in Taste of Texas gift cards you buy, we will gift you a \$25 Promo Gift Card valid for dine-in, in the Grill-At-Home Store, and online for 2022!

We have three easy ways to give a Taste of Texas Gift Card to someone:

1. In-store, dedicated parking available for our amazing Grill-At-Home Store.
2. Online, Shop online and have it delivered right to your door.
3. E-gift Cards, Perfect for hassle-free last-minute gift giving! Email Delivery.

Visit www.tasteoftexas.com to view all our gifting options!

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

Every Christmas season that comes around we think it's just not possible to Nina to top the previous year's decorations, but she has managed to outdo herself yet again! The decorations this year are STUNNING! You do not want to miss the lights, miles of ribbon, one-of-a-kind jeweled trees, needlework, antique skis, sleds, sleighs, and more! This incredible collection takes over 50 "elves" more than 800 hours to install. Our incredibly talented friend, Lori Bumbera, has partnered again with Nina to make the restaurant an absolutely magical Christmas Wonderland!



FAMILY NEWS



Blackards stay busy with three active girls. Hannah is enjoying several days a week of dance and tumbling, Lizzie is loving soccer and dance, and Maddie has started gymnastics. Mom drives some serious carpool miles! What a fun time of life!

Blackfords are over the moon to be moved back into their home after the February freeze pipe breaks and (later) storage unit water damage. It's definitely been a year of silver linings for the Blackfords. Henry is loving kindergarten, and Annie just celebrated her first birthday and was recently baptized at St. Martin's Episcopal Church. Kristin and Corbin are looking forward to a busy and fun eCommerce Christmas season.

Nina just completed Christmas Decorations and they are spectacular! She's loving the school tours being back in person,

so great to be with the students. Edd is coaching 8 year old granddaughter Lizzie in soccer and having a ball.

Hendee Hartlands are thrilled to be back in their house after a year long remodel. Sam is a Senior at McCallie School and is applying to colleges. Campbell just turned 16, about to start driving, and is playing football at St. Thomas HS. Hudson is 14 in his last year at Regis School and loves soccer and rugby. Reagan is 12 and enjoyed the fall season of volleyball and basketball at Presbyterian School. Conrad is 8 (going on 16!) and loves Presbyterian School.

Poulsons are busy keeping up with daughter Grayson who is a sophomore at TCU and son Jackson who is a Junior at All Saints Episcopal School in Ft. Worth. All are well and happy.

Customers praying over the Fallen Soldier Table



The news this fall of the 13 brave men and women who were lost in the botched Afghanistan withdrawal was absolutely devastating to all of us. In remembrance of these incredible Americans, for the month of September and October, we set up a Missing Man Table at the fireplace to honor their sacrifice. Watching groups of customers stand over the table, hold hands, and pray for the families of these soldiers brought tears to our eyes. Thank you for lifting them up in prayer! Here are what the various elements of the Missing Man Table mean:

- A white tablecloth symbolizes the pure intentions of serving one's country in the Armed Services.
- A single red rose for each service member symbolizes the blood Service Members shed for our freedoms.
- The red ribbon represents the love of country that induced these heroes to join the military.
- The slice of lemon represents the bitter fate of the Missing.
- The salt represents the tears shed by the families of those who gave their lives.
- An inverted glass represents that the Missing cannot partake.
- A lit candle symbolizes the hope that those missing in action will find their way home.
- An empty chair represents the absence of the missing and fallen.

Decorating the restaurant for Christmas – A Hendee Family Tradition



There's a funny story about why the Christmas decorations are so important to us, and it goes back to the very early days of the restaurant. We were still located on the back side of Town and Country Village, and the business was struggling. Money was tight and we had not taken a vacation in YEARS. Town and Country Village held a Christmas decorations contest and the grand prize was a trip to London, which Nina was absolutely convinced she would win. She went ALL OUT and transformed the "Old Taste" with garland, white lights, and red velvet bows. It was by far the most beautiful business in Town and Country Village. When it came time for judging the contest, Edd was voted judge which disqualified Nina from the contest. The unexpected blessing of the whole thing was seeing how many customers were drawn in by the beautiful decorations. From then on, it's been "game on" for our family each time Christmas decoration season comes around!

What makes dining at Taste of Texas Different?

Our goal when you walk through our doors to enjoy a meal with us is that you immediately know there is something different about the Taste of Texas Restaurant. Most importantly, we want you to know our love for God, our country, our family, our staff, and our community. We absolutely love our business, and we never want to take our customers' dining experience for granted, which is why we:



- Constantly scour the market to bring you the finest quality beef at the best value
- Require a minimum of 42 days of age on our steaks which results in incredible tenderness and deep flavor
- Trim each steak to exacting standards so that you get an incredible eating experience
- Bring you back to our butcher shop to select your own steak
- Offer Ribeye steaks by the ounce starting at 16 ounces
- Slowly roast our famous prime rib in house
- Use only the freshest and finest quality ingredients on our salad bar
- Bake three types of bread in house throughout the day so that you get the freshest bread possible
- Serve 11 fabulous desserts, 9 of them scratch made daily in house.
- Offer a complimentary photo and sparkler for birthday and anniversary celebrations
- Celebrate our international guests with a menu translated into 16 different languages, a complimentary Texas bandana, and a photo wearing our signature Stetsons
- Diligently curate an award-winning wine list and offer 22 incredible wines by the glass

Staff Updates

Cindy and Lem's long awaited "Japan" honeymoon... in Seattle

Manager Lemuel Restauero and his new bride Cindy just celebrated their first anniversary by finally taking their Covid-Delayed honeymoon! They had dreams of a trip to Japan, but opted to get as close as possible in this crazy Covid world and visited Seattle, WA instead. Happy Anniversary, Cindy and Lem!

Armando Ocampo and Jamie Tatum are getting married

After more than four years of dating, long time server Armando Ocampo is finally marrying Jamie Tatum! These two met while waiting tables at Taste, and they make a great couple. This makes close to FIFTY marriages of people who met while working at Taste of Texas! We wish you the best, Armando and Jamie!



Two New Baby Girls

Congratulations to Taylor Allerman and Sam Khouri on the birth of their daughters. Taylor and his wife welcomed their little one in August, and Sam had her baby in September after waiting tables for her whole pregnancy! She's tough!

Ivan Ramirez Runs Up Mountains

If server Ivan Ramirez has more than two days off together, chances are he's driving toward the mountains to run up them! Ivan completed the grueling Pikes Peak Marathon on August 21 this year – 13.3 miles straight up hill to the summit of Pikes Peak at 14,115 ft above sea level. Way to go, Ivan!



TASTE OF TEXAS[®]

Restaurant

10505 Katy Freeway
Houston, Tx 77024

TasteofTexas.com
713.932.6901



We Care for Our Employees!

Our staff is incredible and it is our JOY to support and encourage them. Did you know that we offer grade bonuses for A's and B's each semester, as well as several scholarships? In fact, when you come to a special event – a history tour, a wine dinner, or a steak school – you are a part of that education help! We donate 100% of the proceeds from these events to our staff education fund. We also keep a Christian counselor on retainer for our staff's use when needed. We also send many of them to debt consolidation counseling to help them on the path of financial well-being. This fall, we moved our decorations warehouse and Nina held an online artifacts auction for some one of a kind items we couldn't use anymore. It was a HUGE SUCCESS raising \$10,000 which went directly to our employee scholarship fund. We are so grateful for these young people God has put in our lives!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please check our website for details and register online at www.TasteofTexas.com

Adult Texas History Tour with Nina

January 22 and March 5

Adult Texas History Tour with Nina: Join Nina for a morning of Texas History and Legends like you have never heard it before. Lunch is included. Cost is \$50 plus tax per person.

Steak School

February 5

You'll learn about USDA grading, trim specifications, the aging process, and how to grill a perfect steak every time. This makes

a wonderful gift for the steak lovers and grillers in your life. Cost is \$150 plus tax per person and includes a steak lunch. Come hungry!

Wine Dinner

February 21

Please join us for our next Taste of Texas Wine Dinner. Another amazing 5 course dinner and wine pairing. Cost is \$195 per person and includes tax and gratuity. Space is limited.

Please note: We do not ship tickets for the events. You will receive a confirmation email after registration is complete, and your name will be added to the event's guest list. Proceeds from all events benefit our employee scholarship program. Space is limited, so please reserve early.