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DINING GUIDE

Anthony's Italian Kitchen, offers homemade Italian cooking using the freshest ingredients, featuring favorites such as pizza, pasta, and sandwiches. Voted "Best in Portland" for three years. Dine-in and catering services on offer. Beer and wine available. Open 11-8 Mon. through Sat. 151 Middle St #5, Portland; and new location Cumberland County Courthouse, 205 Newbury St. anthony-sitaliankitchen.com, 774-8668.

Bayside American Café (formerly Bintliff's) owned and run by Joe & Diane Catoggio since 2003. The menu includes delicious items like house-made smoked salmon, corned beef hash, crab cakes, sandwiches, salads, Benedicts, and more. Come and discover why customers love Bayside American Café. Breakfast, brunch, and lunch are served daily starting at 7 a.m. 98 Portland St., Portland, 774-0005 baysideamericancafe.com.

Bueno Loco offers a unique Mexican experience in Falmouth. We use only the freshest ingredients and make the best house-infused margaritas! Open daily for lunch and dinner. Happy hour 4-6 p.m.. Live music Thursdays 6-9 pm. Kids' menu. Dine in or take out. Plenty of free parking! View our full menu at buenoloco.net. 240 U.S. Rt. 1, Falmouth, 619-7057.

Bruno's Voted Portland's Best Italian Restaurant by Market Surveys of America, Bruno's offers a delicious variety of classic Italian, American, and seafood dishes—and they make all of their pasta in-house. Great sandwiches, pizza, calzones, soups, chowders, and salads. Enjoy lunch or dinner in the dining room or the Tavern. Casual dining at its best. 33 Allen Ave., 878-9511.

Bull Feeney's Authentic Irish pub & restaurant, serving delicious from-scratch sandwiches, steaks, seafood & hearty Irish fare, pouring local craft & premium imported brews, as well as Maine's most extensive selection of single malt Scotch & Irish whiskeys. Live music five nights. Open 7 days, 11:30 a.m.-1 a.m. Kitchen closes at 10 p.m. 375 Fore St., Old Port, 773-7210, bullfeeneys.com.

Crooners & Cocktails Dine in style surrounded by the sounds of Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin at our supper club throwback. Enjoy traditional American cuisine, classic cocktails, and great music celebrating a classic era. Open 6 days a week for dinner Tues.-Sat. 4 p.m.-1 a.m. and Sunday brunch 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 90 Exchange St., Portland. 536-0469, croonersandcocktails.com.

DiMillo's Now through December, relax and enjoy Head Chef Melissa Bouchard's masterful creations. Every day, she offers something new and delicious. Try our Early Dinner Specials, Monday-Friday or our wonderful Port Side Lounge, Portland's getaway for grown-ups. Happy Hour includes special menu Monday-Friday, 4-7p.m. Open daily at 11a.m., Commercial St., Old Port. Always FREE PARKING while aboard. 772-2216.

El Rodeo, an incredibly authentic Mexican

Scratch-made
Nice People
Totally Authentic

BULL FEENEY'S
portland's pub

773.7210 375 FORE STREET IN THE OLD PORT
FACEBOOK.COM/BULLFEENEYS @BULLFEENEYS

Restaurant and Bar, is locally-owned and family-operated at their convenient South Portland location. Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner. Tableside guacamole, sizzling fajitas, delicious margaritas, and live Latin music are to be enjoyed. See Facebook for daily specials. 147 Western Ave., South Portland, 773-8851

Eve's at the Garden, an oasis of calm and great food in the Old Port. Perfect for meetings and special occasions. Ingredients from Maine's waters and farms. The seasonal Ice Bar is ideal for outdoor dining. Happy Hour Mon. - Fri.; free valet parking. Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., Dinner 5-9:30 p.m. 468 Fore St., Portland, 775-9090, evesatthegarden.com

Hurricane Restaurant Enjoy New England cuisine with a modern twist, local seafood, full bar, award-winning wine list. In-house desert chef, river views. Sunday Brunch with make-your-own Bloody Mary bar. Entertainment Saturday nights. Celebrating our 25th year! Good restaurants come and go, great restaurants get better and better. Open 7 days. 29 Dock Sq., Kennebunkport, 207-967-9111, hurricanerestaurant.com

J's Oyster is a premier seafood destination and locals' favorite with indoor and outdoor waterfront seating on one of Portland's scenic piers. Established in 1977, J's offers classic favorites and friendly service. Coastal Living claimed J's one of "America's Best Seafood Dives 2016." Find us on Facebook. 772-4828

Kon Asian Bistro Steakhouse & Sushi Bar serves Asian cuisine with modern flair. Japanese, Sushi, Thai, Chinese, or hibachi tables. Private party rooms accommodates groups from business meetings to birthday parties. Choose fresh, delicious items prepared before your table. Family friendly; open Mon.-Thurs. 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Fri. to 11 p.m., Sat. 1 p.m.-11 p.m., Sun. 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. 874-0000, konasianbistrome.com.

Maria's Ristorante is Portland's original classic Italian Restaurant. Greg and Tony Napolitano are always in house preparing classics like Zuppa de Pesce, Eggplant Parmigian, Grilled Veal Sausages, Veal Chop Milanese, homemade cavatelli pastas, Pistachio Gelato, Limoncello Cake, and Maine's Best Meatballs. Prices \$11.95 - \$22.95. Tue.-Sat. starting at 5 p.m. Catering always available. 337 Cumberland Ave. 772-9232, mariasrestaurant.com.

Pedro's focuses on simple yet full-flavored Mexican and Latino food. Offering tacos, burritos and an impressive array of margaritas, sangria, beer, and wine. *Especiales de la semana* (specials of the week) keep the menu varied and fresh and showcase different Latino cultures. Seasonal outdoor dining available. Open daily, 12 p.m. - 10 p.m. 181 Port Rd., Kennebunk, 967-5544, pedrosmaine.com.

Pier 77 & The Ramp Bar & Grill Pier 77 has a formal dining room with stunning views of Cape Porpoise Harbor & live music each weekend, while the Ramp is more casual, with its own bar menu at hard-to-beat prices. Open year-round. 77 Pier Rd., Kennebunkport, 967-8500, pier77restaurant.com*

Rivalries Sports Pub & Grill An upscale sports bar serving creative pub food in a fun and comfortable atmosphere. Known for some of Portland's best casual food, Rivalries' menu has something for everyone. And with 30+ HD TVs and every major pro and college sports package, you won't miss a game! Located in Portland's historic Old Port. 774-6044, rivalriesmaine.com

Solo Italiano Traditional northern Italian cuisine mixes Maine freshness with Genovese flavor from international chef Paolo Laboa. Enjoy the crudo bar or the daily changing menu. Included in *Food & Wine Magazine's* 2016 "What to Do in Portland, ME." Open daily 5 p.m.-10 p.m. 100 Commercial Street Portland, 780-0227, soloitalianorestaurant.com

*reservations recommended



A Dash of Spice

Red Sea whisks authentic Ethiopian cuisine to hungry Forest City diners.

BY DIANE HUDSON

RED SEA splashes onto Washington Avenue as we enter to find bright yellow walls and taverna-style tables covered in white linen.

We begin with tapas-style starter plates, opting first for falafel (\$5, below). Served steaming hot, the chickpea patties radiate intricately balanced spices, herbs, and a de-



cent kick of garlic. Next up, sambusas (\$5, above right). We devour tasty pastry triangles filled with seasoned ground beef (or chicken or lentils as desired), served with a zesty citrus hummus.

Entrées arrive family style, in true Ethiopian tradition. The sampler plate (meat \$30, vegetarian, \$26) serves 2-3 diners, or you can order separate entrées presented together, as we did.

After much deliberation, we choose a plate of *yebeq alicha* (\$15), deeply flavorful

cubes of tender lamb stewed with potatoes, carrots, peppers, curry, and alluring spices. The Eritrean-style spicy haddock stew (\$13) delights with delicately textured chunks of fresh fish bathed in an exotic sauce.

Most satisfyingly, the entrees arrive heaped upon a huge platter of *injera*, a spongy sourdough bread made from "teff," a gluten-free flour surrounded colorfully by red lentils, kale, and fresh green salad. Four extra rolls of the delicious *injera* bread garnish four corners of the plate. The traditional method invites you to eat without utensils, breaking off pieces of the flatbread to scoop up the food—the sensation is freeing.

Libations at Red Sea are limited, especially beer. You'll find bottles of Heineken and Corona (\$3.50), or Blue Moon (\$4). A glass of Dark Horse Chardonnay (\$5) also proves a worthwhile pairing to the fragrant dishes on offer. However, for a real treat, sample the traditional coffee (\$3.75). Individually and freshly brewed, it's a fitting accompaniment to the only dessert (and it is stunning)—sweet, flaky parcels of baklava.

Quick trip, memorable vacation. ■

Red Sea, 30 Washington Avenue, Portland. Wed. to Sat., 11.30 a.m.-9.30 p.m.; Mon. & Tues., 12-9.30 p.m. 805-1488