



VENDETTTA'S 291 BRIDGE STREET | VAIL 970.476.5070 | VENDETTASVAIL.COM

by LAURA LIEFF photos by BY BARRY ECKHAUS

elebrating 40 years as a family-owned and operated establishment, Vendetta's is known as a local favorite while also offering a welcoming family atmosphere. For those looking for a slice of their famous pizza for lunch, or the ultimate Vail après experience, Vendetta's double-sided bar has the Rocky Mountain views the world travels to Colorado to see for themselves.

As for the menu-it is extensive but thoughtful, casual yet delectable. Enjoy a wide variety of pizza such as Popeye's Passion, The Boneyard, Jack Attack, Snow Pig, Knight Moves and Ray Jay's Wave, among many others. Lunch starters a hearty, befitting the demands of hungry skiers who need to fuel up. Garlic bread, Mac

Daddy wings and chicken tenders are all popular, along with a choice of soups and salads. Lunch portions of Vendetta's specialties such as chicken parmesan, Cajun shrimp, lasagna and honey-Dijon salmon, join the list of filling sandwiches like the turkey club, vegetarian and meatball hoagie.

But if you want to live like a local, head to Vendetta's after a day on the hill. You may or may not see several members of Vail's Ski Patrol, sharing tales with locals and visitors alike. Families and friends gather for a sitdown dinner to enjoy a classic Italian meal in their main dining room, right in the heart of Vail Village.

Start off with an antipasto like the carpaccio - thinly sliced beef tenderloin with caper, tomato, red onion and arugula, hit with some lemon zest, parmesan and white truffle oil. Served with a crostini for a bit of texture, it's a classic. The pasta options are plentiful, rolling from spaghetti and meatballs to fettuccini alfredo to stuffed shells. The Salsiccia is studded with Sicilian sausage, green peas and fresh mozzarella, in a decadent vodka sauce over rigatoni. But to really pull out all the stops try the Lasagna Al Forno, a mix of ground veal and sausage with the Bolognese sauce, layered with noodles and cheese.

The wide variety of Vendetta's entrée choices offer Italian-style counterpoints to the pizza and pasta menus. Pollo

PRICE

Pizza \$4 slices - \$30 pies Lunch \$9 - \$20Dinner \$10 - \$42

AMBIANCE

Casual/family-friendly Italian dining

SIGNATURE DISHES

Carpaccio, Pollo Parmigiana, and Cioppino

Parmigiana is comforting, served with spaghetti, and the baked tilapia might sound demure but gets dressed up with scallops, lobster and shrimp, all with a beurre blanc sauce. And of course, there is the tried-and-true osso buco - slowly braised veal shank, saucy and tender, served with saffron orzo.

Large group events are easily accommodated in Vendetta's spacious downstairs dining room, which offers a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere to enjoy delicious Italian food and wine. •

TOP LEFT Carpaccio: thinly sliced beef tenderloin, caper, tomato, red onion, arugula, lemon zest, white truffle oil, parmesan, crostini. TOP RIGHT Cioppino: lobster, shrimp, mussels, scallops, calamari, arrabiata-saffron broth, pappardelle, parmesan, toasted garlic bread. $\textbf{LEFT}\ Pollo\ Parmigiana:\ parmes an\ encrusted$ chicken breast, marinara, mozzarella, spaghetti.