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Discussion

Genevieve's Kitchen--Doylestown



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Genevieve's Kitchen, in the space formerly occupied by Drew Abbate's very fine Vine and Fig Tree Bistro, across from the County Theater in Doylestown, has been open just three months and was packed on a recent Saturday evening.

Featuring Italian-influenced cuisine, including homemade pastas and a variety of meat and fish dishes, Genevieve's is a relatively casual, BYO restaurant. There are three rooms: a front room (which can get quite loud when all tables are occupied), a center room adjoining the open kitchen and a rear room. As warm weather arrives, outdoor seating will be available.

We visited for the first time on a recent Saturday evening. Reservations for Fridays and Saturdays appear to be a must.

Upon entering, I was impressed with the friendliness and elegance of the floor staff. This restaurant features, obviously, a woman chef (relatively rare in Bucks County, as it is elsewhere), but also a staff of attentive and friendly servers, hosts and bus people, all of whom are women.

Prices are average for upper-echelon Bucks County restaurants, with starters ranging from \$8-12, salads in the same range, pastas \$15-17 (although a 'ravioli of the day' is priced markedly higher) and fish and meat entrees are \$15-25 (specials were priced up to \$32 on the evening we visited). The total check, for a couple sharing a starter or salad, each having a pasta or main, and sharing a dessert, can be \$65-100, including tax and tip.

Highlights at our recent meal included a medley of three varieties of raviolis (ricotta/asparagus, ricotta/celery, plus a third) and a grouper served over mashed potatoes in a red sauce. The grouper was done perfectly and the accompanying potatoes tasty. The ravioli were quite good, although I would have liked them to be plated so that each one could be tasted individually, instead of stacked, which resulted in some mixing of flavors.

Genevieve's had enough floor staff to accommodate a full house on a Saturday evening. As I mentioned, they were cheerful and attentive and seemed to work in pairs.

Genevieve's is a welcome addition to the Bucks/Hunterdon county dining scene. We now have at least a half dozen fine dining destinations, including The Pass in Rosemont, D'flore and Hamilton's Grill Room in Lambertville, Via Ponte in Stockton, Maize in Perkasie and, now Genevieve's in Doylestown.

<http://www.genevieveskitchen.com/>

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