Valentine's Day

La Grotta on Main – an elegant restaurant with excellent food

At night, the only lights that shine at La Grotta on Main are the candles that grace every table and mantle. The fireplace, set in one corner of the northern Italy restaurant, gives off some light, but its main function is to help the aura of the restaurant – warm, cozy and cave-like. (La Grotta means cave in Italian).

The brick-like walls, hand-painted frescoes and crisp white linen table clothes and napkins tucked in large wine glasses, gives the nine-month old restaurant an unique look.

"It's a cozy atmosphere," says Chris Cadorin, who co-owns and manages the restaurant with his father-in-law Pierangelo Scagliotti. "It's elegant for those who come out for a nice romantic dinner and it's nice for business lunches."

During the day, sunlight streams through the French doors and in the summer, people can sit on a patio that faces the back of Unionville.

But the atmosphere alone doesn't keep people coming back to the restaurant – the delicious and abundant amount of food with reasonable prices, does.

"We have a nice variety. There is something for everyone. And we are very accommodating. If you don't want this sauce we can change it."

There are 14 varieties of homemade pastas in both tomato and cream sauces, fresh fish, veal, chicken, salads, soups and appetizers.

People can choose wines from Italy, Chile, California, Australia and Canada from La Grotta's wine cellar.

People can finish their meal with a variety of home-made traditional Italian dishes like Tirami Su and Spumoni and a variety of coffees, teas and hot chocolate.

Customer service is also very important to the family-owned-and-operated restaurant.

Cadorin himself waits on tables and if people don't like something, they are encouraged to let the staff know.

"If customers aren't satisfied, they will not come back. Service has to be key and food has to be key."

And at La Grotta, they are. Cadorin says he has a loyal group of customers who come to his restaurant for a variety of reasons – birthday and engagement parties, business lunches and Valentine's Day dinners.

The roast rack of lamb is a popular dish at La Grotta and no wonder: The lamb is coated with dijon mustard and herbs and finished with a Barolo wine sauce and fresh rosemary. Seasonal vegetables accompany the dish. People can order a bottle of wine from La Grotta's extensive wine cellar and finish the meal with a cup of Sicilian Nut Coffee – coffee with three liqueurs and whipped cream.

Special Valentine's Day Dinner

"We are going to have a special Valentine's Day dinner menu."

There will be two dinner sittings: one at 5:30 pm and one at 8 pm. Ladies will be presented with red roses and the menu will host more of the finer items, he says.

Reservations are being accepted. Please call (905) 940-0235.

Gift certificates are available at the restaurant located at 205 Main Street Unionville.

Chef David Charyk (l) and Chris and Theressa Cadorin, who own and operate of La Grotta on Main, offer up a bountiful delight of northern Italy cuisine.

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