



Blogs

NEWS

BLOGS

RESTAURANTS

CALENDAR

MUSIC

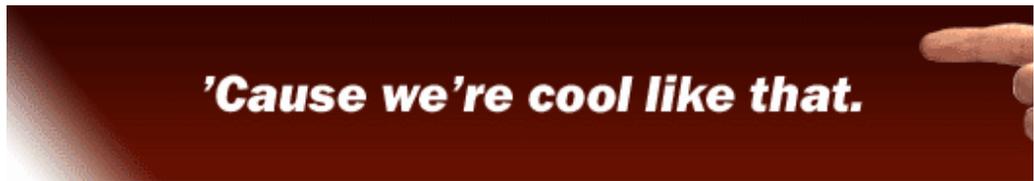
MOVIES

ARTS

BEST OF

CLASSIFIED

PROMOT



\$13 at ... Lola

Wed Mar 19, 2008 at 08:00:31 AM

In this weekly feature, C-Notes stretches your dollar at restaurants around the region, just in case the Great Depression hits but you still want to impress that hottie from accounts receivable. This week ...

Lola

2058 E. 4th Street, Cleveland,
(216) 621-5652,

www.lolabistro.com

For Scene's full review, click [here](#).



Lola's fried bologna is signature Symon.

What \$13 got us: Lola

Express: Half a pressed turkey sandwich and a cup of Great Lakes Beer and Cheddar Soup

What else \$13 can get you: Any of the sandwiches and salads, from the Lola Burger and the fired bologna sandwich to a chickpea salad with hangar steak. Or, the Lola Express, combining two soups, salads, or sandwiches.

The Verdict: Put a Lola lunch date on your calendar. In Sharpie.

When an Iron Chef sets his mind to making lunch, you know you're in for something a little more special than a Luncheable. So I wasn't surprised; I have never encountered a Michael Symon-made morsel that didn't set me to swooning. But Symon's mouth-watering lunch offerings at his East 4th flagship, Lola, blew my midday meal expectations out of the water, and all for a

Recent Posts

- [This Just In: Neko Case leads the latest, greatest concert announcements](#) 8:49 AM, 06/24
- [Hello, Cleveland: This Week's Concert Calendar](#) 12:45 PM, 06/23
- [Welcome to a One-Alt-Weekly Town](#) 10:19 AM, 06/20
- [Restaurant of the Weekend: Wieners are winners at Buckeye Beer Engine](#) 8:58 AM, 06/20
- [Hello, Cleveland: Petty tops the weekend's shows](#) 8:35 AM, 06/20
- [Last Night in Cleveland: The Cure](#) 2:09 PM, 06/19
- [O'Brien Factor: Terrorists should either get color-coordinated or get tortured](#) 8:03 AM, 06/19
- [Before Dethlok rocks Cleveland, Metalocalypse creator Brendon Small yaps with C-Notes](#) 7:33 AM, 06/19
- ['Dunk Giuseppe' at Brothers Lounge benefit concert](#) 7:13 AM, 06/19
- [Al Franken heads to Shaker Heights for Senate fundraiser](#) 7:08 AM, 06/19



Categories

delectable price. ...

It's almost as bustling at lunch as on a weeknight dinner at Lola, so it couldn't hurt to call ahead. The menu features smaller-sized (and priced) portions of traditional Symon fare, like the roasted chicken and goat cheese mac and cheese, which launched a thousand sincere-flatterers. But for the best bang for the buck, look to the Lola Express.

For \$11, you can enjoy a haute cuisine riff on the classic mix-and-match tune of soups, salads, and sandwiches. I opted for the pressed turkey club and Great Lakes beer and cheddar soup. The dishes let Symon show his flair for taking traditional dishes and making them completely new with his kitchen's flawless execution and pitch-perfect ingredients. The soup is sublime — perfectly smooth, hearty, and creamy, with a little kick from the suds. And the sandwich has officially and permanently elevated my definition of sandwich. Soft, dense bread is panini-pressed to crisp perfection. It surrounds luscious, moist chunks of white turkey meat that would make a weary Thanksgiving chef weep with envy. The turkey is dressed up with some nice cheddar for a bit of bite, alfalfa sprouts for texture, and thick, house-cured bacon slices for bacon-y awesomeness. A coarse-ground, house-made mustard finishes the arrangement, and it is surprisingly delightful to an avowed avoider of mustard.

The proportions of the sandwich were perfect—and the size of soup and sandwich left me perfectly sated (with room for a few bites of my companion's mac and cheese. I couldn't resist.)

The food arrives quickly enough to get you back to work on time, but sitting in the lap of luxury without a smarting pocket book might just induce you to linger. And one of the poshest spots in the city feels even more accessible at noon tide. Despite all the people in nice suits elegantly dining and (no doubt) discussing important matters, I couldn't resist dunking my sandwich in the soup. You shouldn't either. Something tells me Mike would approve. -- *Tori Woods*

Category: **Food**



[Fulwood Watch \(29\)](#)

[Media \(45\)](#)

[Medical Mart \(6\)](#)

[Music \(828\)](#)

[News \(1002\)](#)

[Novak: Action Rock Photographer \(21\)](#)

[Public Square \(228\)](#)

[SXSW \(12\)](#)

[Sports \(248\)](#)

[The Wisdom of Dick Feagler \(20\)](#)

Archives

[June 2008](#)

[May 2008](#)

[April 2008](#)

[March 2008](#)

[February 2008](#)

[January 2008](#)

[December 2007](#)

[November 2007](#)

[October 2007](#)

[September 2007](#)

[August 2007](#)

[July 2007](#)

[June 2007](#)

[May 2007](#)

[April 2007](#)

[March 2007](#)

[February 2007](#)

[January 2007](#)

[December 2006](#)

[November 2006](#)

[October 2006](#)

[September 2006](#)

Search

[Subscribe to this blog's feed](#) 



Blogroll

2 Comments:

ashmatash says:

Mmmmm... bacon.

Posted at: March 19, 2008 5:21 PM

jerry kreegle says:

Everything is better with bacon. Back in December I had the bacon maple ice cream desert and it was mind-blowing.

Posted at: March 19, 2008 7:21 PM

Post a comment

Comments may not show up immediately after submission. Please wait a minute after posting a comment for it to appear.

Name:

Email:

URL:

Remember personal info?

Comments: (you may use HTML tags for style)

Blogroll

That One Free Rag
Cleveland Scene

The Dailies

Plain Dealer

Akron Beacon Journal

Canton Repository

Toledo Blade

Columbus Dispatch

The Blogs

Cleveland.com

Meet the Bloggers

Brewed Fresh Daily

Writes Like She Talks

Callahan's Cleveland Diary

Planet NEO

Political Science 216

Psychobilly Democrat

Life, Liberty and Pursuit of Your Boyfriend

Michael Ruhlman's Blog

Cleveland Foodie

Cleveland's a Plum

Sports Blogs

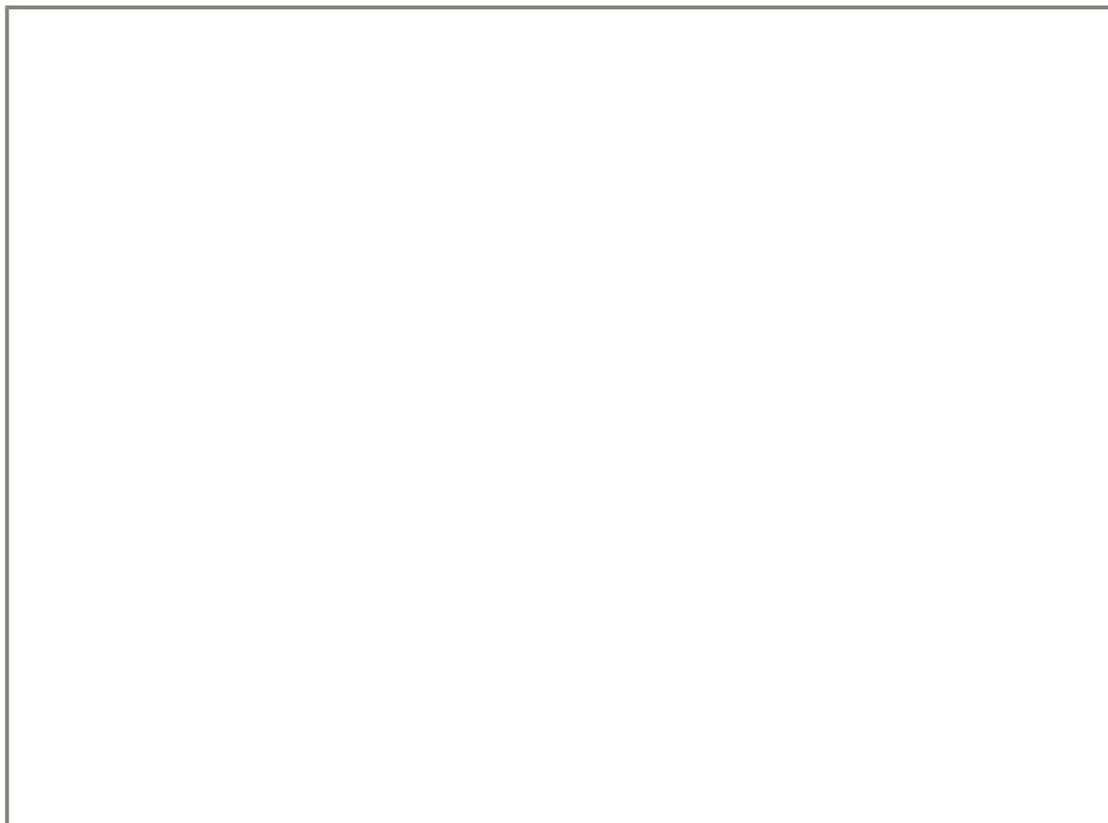
The Cleveland Fan

Diatribes

Let's Go Tribe

Waiting for Next Year

Dawgs by Nature



Type "banana" in the box below **(required)**:

Post

[About Us](#) | [Work for Cleveland Scene](#) | [Esubscribe](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Problem With the Site?](#) | [RSS](#) | [Site Map](#)

©2008 Village Voice Media All rights reserved.



LadyKate

If I could be anywhere
at the moment: "I am
obsessed with the idea
of settling down in
London or New York."

More Personals >>