

OLLI Restaurant Explorations Spring 2015

In the Spring OLLI members gathered at eight restaurants in eight weeks—some old, some new. Generally speaking, we'd go back – your favorites will vary with your taste and what you want in your restaurant experience. Sixteen OLLI members participated. We met in groups of from two to six to visit the following restaurants:

Newk's Express Café

4550 Harding Pike, 37205

3 explored

Standard soup, salad and sandwich place. Order at the cash register but meal delivered to table. They also have a new location near Centennial Park on West End. Good place for a quick lunch to meet up with friends. Don't rely on the online menu.

Nama Sushi Bar

2300 Elliston Pl, 37203

3 explored but other OLLI members were in the restaurant already

Fresh tasting sushi fare and a full bar. You'll walk right by it if you walk from the Sportsplex to the Commons for class. Some of our members make regular visits here and they have weekly coupons if you sign up.

Golden Thai

73 White Bridge Rd, Ste 107, 37205:

2 explored

Standard Thai fare at very reasonable prices. Been there a while and looks it but the food was good if you have a hankering for stir fry and a spring roll. Relaxing place to go for quiet conversation.

Fenwick 300 (Melrose)

2600 Franklin P, 37204

3 explored

Reclaimed old building with open ceilings makes for interesting décor but dicey acoustics. Tables sparsely skirt a central bar. A substantial breakfast or lunch meal will carry you through the day. Located in the 8th Avenue Melrose area across the street from Sinema (which is only open at night).

Epice

2902 12th Ave S, 37204

7 explored

In the 12th Ave. South corridor. Parking is an issue like with all restaurants in that area. Hard to hear beyond the person next to you. Inventive presentations of Mediterranean fare that most felt was worth working out the logistics.

360 Bistro (Hwy 70 and 100 split)

6000 Hwy 100, Suite 100, 37205

3 explored

Airy eating space with lots of light on the porch where we had lunch. Inside a darker setting and a separate meeting room off a side door. Service was slow and food while tasty was portioned from too little to too much. Limited and pricey menu. Full bar and lots of wine choices.

Solo Mio

311 3rd Ave S, 37201

2 explored

Excellent rich Italian fare served on white table clothes in a lovely décor. Good service. Parking for a mid week lunch was no problem; weekends they have valet options. Food was upscale, inventive and well prepared.

Chauhan Ale and Masala House

123 12th Ave. N

4 explored

Flavorful Indian cuisine. The daily platter is a good way to sample the curry fare. Non-curry items also available. Full bar. Located north of Broadway and west of downtown with access from Broadway or Charlotte on 12th Avenue. Valet parking across the street.

We'll be out to find and sample more places in the fall. Join in the fun!