



HOWARD COUNTY TOURISM NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Best Deal in Dining Out The Return of Howard County Restaurant Weeks

Ellicott City, MD (February 1, 2009)

Howard County diners will be able to explore local fine dining destinations at an attractive price, during Howard County's Winter Restaurant Weeks. From **Monday, February 23 through Sunday, March 8**, diners will enjoy creative fixed price menus ranging from \$10.09 to \$40.09 at participating restaurants.*

Diners are sure to find plenty to savor in every corner of Howard County. From wine bars and steakhouses to tapas and seafood, there is an amazing diversity of dining choices close to home. Howard County's most creative chefs will dazzle diners with their creations, while beautiful settings and superb service make dining out close to home a true *gourmet getaway*.

"Restaurant Weeks are a great way to encourage people to try someplace new," said Jordan Naftal, owner of Jordan's Steakhouse and one of the event's organizers. "We always see lots of new customers during this promotion because people know it's an affordable way to dine out."

Joe Barbera, owner of AIDA Bistro & Wine Bar and member of Tourism's Board of Directors said, "Restaurant Weeks gives us all a chance to celebrate the many and distinct local restaurants in Howard County. In this uncertain economy, customers have asked us to offer value-priced options and an incentive to try or return to restaurants in Howard County."

NEW This Year:

Prixé Fix Menus \$10.09 to \$40.09

Howard County restaurants are introducing an innovative pricing structure during this promotion. With fixed price menus ranging from \$10.09 to \$40.09, restaurants will be able to offer one or more fixed price menus to customers at four price points; \$10.09, \$20.09, \$30.09, and \$40.09, for one to four courses. Participating restaurants will have the option of offering one or more of the pricing options to customers. Some restaurants may also add a wine option as one of the courses. This flexible pricing will offer diners the chance to customize their choices.

Frequent Diners Passport

An added incentive to savor even more savings is the chance to win a **\$100.00 gift certificate from the Restaurant Association of Maryland (RAM.)** Simply pick up a Passport Card at the first restaurant you visit during the promotion, and have it validated after each meal. At the end of Restaurant Weeks, either drop the card off or mail it to Howard County Tourism's Visitor Center in Historic Ellicott City (8267 Main Street, Side Entrance, Ellicott City, MD 21043.) Diners must visit at least six restaurants to be eligible.

Make Your Reservation Directly With Participating Restaurants

To see a list of participating restaurants, go to www.visithowardcounty.com and go to the "Savor It" logo on the right. The site links directly to the restaurants.

Reservations are recommended and should be made directly with the restaurant or through Open Table (www.opentable.com)

Participation / promotions varies by restaurant.

*Price is per person and excludes beverage, tax and gratuity. Offer cannot be combined with any other offer or promotion.

- **AIDA Bistro & Wine Bar**, Columbia Gateway
- **Alexandra's At Turf Valley** Resort, Ellicott City
- **Belmont Manor**, Elkridge
- **Bistro Blanc**, Glenelg
- **Cacao Lane**, Historic Ellicott City
- **Café De Paris**, Columbia
- **Copeland's Of New Orleans**, Columbia
- **Crab Shanty**, Ellicott City
- **Donna's Café**, Columbia
- **Elkridge Furnace Inn**, Elkridge
- **Greystone Grill**, Columbia
- **Jordan's Steakhouse**, Historic Ellicott City
- **Morgan's Grille** At The Hilton Columbia
- **oZ. Chophouse**, Maple Lawn
- **The Diamondback Tavern**, Historic Ellicott City
- **The King's Contrivance**, Columbia
- **The Melting Pot**, Columbia
- **Rams Head Tavern**, Savage Mill
- **Ranazul**, Maple Lawn
- **Stained Glass Pub**, Elkridge
- **The Rumor Mill**, Historic Ellicott City
- **Tersiguel's French Country Restaurant**, Historic Ellicott City
- **Toby's Dinner Theatre**, Columbia
- **Victoria Gastro Pub**, Columbia

HOWARD COUNTY TOURISM... A Destination Marketing Organization...

Howard County Tourism, Inc., a non-profit, membership-based organization funded by generous grants from the State and County. Howard County Tourism is recognized by both Howard County Government and the Maryland Office of Tourism Development as the official Destination Management Organization for Howard County, Maryland. Tourism's mission is to increase, develop and promote tourism in Howard County by featuring the county's unique sites, services, products and people by creating marketing opportunities like Restaurant Weeks. For more information contact Howard County Tourism or check out our website www.VisitHowardCounty.com.

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