

The scoop on the list of Top 100 Restaurants for 2013

By Alison Cook

32. Giacomo's Cibo e Vino



James Nielsen, Houston Chronicle

Orecchiette Giorgione "little ear" pasta with broccoli rabe, garlic & oil, spicy lamb meatballs at Giacomo's

September 11, 2013

Chef-owner Lynette Hawkins' smartly designed casual Italian spot is a River Oaks neighborhood staple that has become a destination for diners from all around town. They're there for the lively flavors and genuine, homey touch for which Hawkins is noted. Although the once-flawless pastas may falter when there's a full house, the hot and cold antipasti are as invigorating as ever, with vegetables getting pride of place.

Don't miss: roasted eggplant rolls; grilled stuffed radicchio leaves; grilled shrimp al diavolo in house-made harissa and garlic; crostini with Tuscan liver pate; tagliatelle alla Bolognese; yogurt panna cotta.

Inside track: First come, first served. Do explore the moderately priced wine list. Hawkins always has something interesting to sample.

Cuisine: Italian

Entree price range: \$\$

Where: 3215 Westheimer

Phone: 713-522-1934

Website: www.giacomosciboevino.com