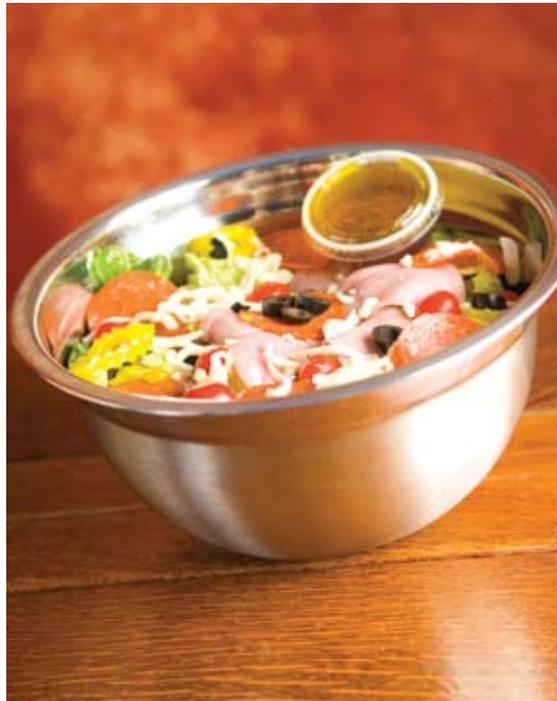


Main Street Pie Co. - Alachua

by Callie Polk photography by Brad Palmer



You are part of the family when you dine at Main Street Pie Co.

The quaint pizzeria, in downtown Alachua, is filled with hefty oak tables and chairs like you may have eaten at as a child. The experience isn't fancy, and that's the beautiful part about it. The food is simple and delicious. Not to mention there are some all-stars on the menu that you may have never tried before.

After choosing one of the 10 tables the restaurant has to offer, you can sit back, relax and chat amongst each other knowing that soon you'll be served a cold beverage and a hot meal. The mother and daughters who run Main Street Pie Co. are quick to take orders and make sure everything is served just how you want it.

The deep silver bowl that holds the Antipasto Salad comes out family style so everyone at the table can choose just what they like. The salad is filled with romaine lettuce, ham, pepperoni, whole milk mozzarella, and fresh veggies. The salad can be topped with red-wine vinaigrette blended with herbs and spices, a sweet and smooth homemade French, or any of their other dressings.

Any of their classic appetizers are sure to hit the spot. If you can't decide between the mozzarella sticks, baked chicken wings or garlic cheese bread, you can try them all. The lightly breaded, ooey-goey melted mozzarella sticks have a little dish of marinara sauce for dunking. The Italian baked chicken wings are plump and juicy with seasonings that are a great variation to a generic chicken wing.

At Main Street Pie Co. not only do you get great food, but you get more bite for your buck. The lunch special, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., includes a small gar-

den or Caesar salad, a personal pizza, stromboli and a smaller calzone for \$7.25 Tuesday through Friday.

However, if you decide to order just a calzone instead, you'll receive a massive surprise. The whopping creation is stuffed with ricotta cheese, Parmesan, mozzarella and whatever toppings you would like from the menu.

Also on the menu, just under the long list of toppings, are the specialty pizzas cook in a stone oven, which are not to be overlooked. Cheeseburger pizza, Loaded Tater pizza and Buffalo Chicken pizza, who would've thought they'd get to try something so familiar yet so exotic?

If you like some heat, the Buffalo Chicken pizza is an excellent choice. A crispy pizza crust is topped with your choice of bleu cheese or ranch dressing, then gets a thick layer of mozzarella and cheddar cheese, and finally grilled garlic chicken tossed

in buffalo sauce is the final component. The tender chicken and spicy buffalo sauce is sure to please.

For the potato enthusiasts, baked potato and ranch dressing on a pizza crust with mozzarella and cheddar cheese melted with broccoli is a must. Finally, for the most adventurous appetites, the cheeseburger pizza has a thick, soft crust that is topped with ketchup and mustard in place of a sauce. Then, a layer of cheddar cheese is melted on with beef and bacon, and topped with a lettuce, pickle, tomato and whatever else you like on a burger. If you haven't tried it yet, you're missing out.

Every Friday night, Main Street Pie Co. serves up a new pasta dish, so it is a great place to branch out and order something new. The restaurant is open Tuesday through Saturday and you'll be coming back for seconds before you know it.

