

franchises in the Chicago area.

The dining rooms are attractively finished with acid-washed floors, marble-topped tables and a handsome bar. The Novi location has two exterior glass walls and a patio, which will open this spring.

When I visited anonymously last weekend, I could see and taste the freshness of the toppings, used generously on both pizzas my table ordered.

Basic pies -- homemade sauce, mozzarella and Romano cheeses, olive oil and fresh basil -- are \$10.50 (12 inch) and \$14.50 (16 inch); add toppings for \$1.50 and \$2.50. Children's pizzas start at \$5.25. Specialty pies are \$15.95 and \$18.95. Appetizers and salads are \$4-\$9; sandwiches on hot, fresh-baked flatbread -- baked to order from the pizza dough -- are \$7-\$8.

(No reservations. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday. 42970 Grand River, east of Novi Road; 248-349-2625 or [tonysaccos.com](http://tonysaccos.com).)

## Bargains in Birmingham

Twenty of Birmingham's best restaurants will participate in this winter's Birmingham Restaurant Week -- or weeks -- scheduled Jan. 31-Feb. 4 and Feb. 7-11. The three-course prix fixe meals are \$15 at lunch and \$30 at dinner, not including beverages, tax and gratuity.

This year's participants are 220, Big Rock Chop House, Café Via, Cameron's Steakhouse, Chen Chow Brasserie, Elie's Mediterranean Cuisine, Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, Forest Grill, Forté, Mitchell's Fish Market, Peabody's, Phoenicia, Quattro Pizzeria & Wine Bar, Tallulah Wine Bar and Bistro, the Rugby Grille, Salvatore Scallopini, South, Streetside Seafood, Toast and Zazio's.

Not all restaurants accept reservations; call to inquire because spaces can fill quickly. Some venues may not offer both lunch and dinner. See menus and details at [enjoybirmingham.com/rw](http://enjoybirmingham.com/rw).

## A few quick bites

- The Ann Arbor Art Center's third annual Artini Martini Crawl, in which downtown's hippest bars compete to create the most artful martini, is Feb. 18, starting at 7 p.m. This year's contenders are Alley Bar, Bab's Underground Lounge, the Black Pearl (the two-time champ), Café Felix, Café Habana, Jolly Pumpkin, Mélange and Vinology. Tickets are \$45; visit [annarborartcenter.org](http://annarborartcenter.org) for

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**Mom Dilemma #36:**  
Your daughter insists on wearing her princess costume to the grocery store. Allow it or not?

YES, at least she's dressed!

NO, I have some rules!

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