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CHOW! SUMMER 2009

Veritable Caffeine-o-rama



Looking for somewhere new to rejuvenate your mind with delicious caffeinated beverages? Vero Espresso House, which recently opened on 14th Avenue and Pearl Street, isn't your average coffee joint. In fact, it's not a coffee joint. "It's a restaurant," says Cindy Casey, the manager who helped open Vero with owner Sunny Seo. For her first coffee venture, Seo wanted to stress quality and simplicity. She certainly seems to be delivering with Vero's full assortment of sandwiches, breakfast items and, of course, coffee.

Vero opened quietly on Mother's Day, without even a sign to stick outside the beautifully renovated building. "We wanted simple," Casey says. "It's evolved." In addition to offering Stumptown coffee, Vero has an ever-expanding food menu featuring turkey, roast beef and ham sandwiches made from Boar's Head meats, salads of both the vegetable and fruit variety and waffles and bagel sandwiches to complement your morning. Fruit smoothies made with frozen yogurt and other cool treats are also available for a cool down.

The coffee is definitely the main event here, though, whether you're looking for a plain mug of coffee, a flavored latte made with a low fructose syrup or the always decadent café Borgia, with its mounds of whipped cream.

The spaces both inside and outside of Vero are beautifully renovated, and Seo certainly wants to take advantage of that. A meeting room is available for private meetings, and the building is available to rent for functions from bridal showers to community fundraisers after hours. Where you're a coffee lover or not, Vero is an excellent place to just unwind from the day, or maybe wind yourself up for the day ahead with some delicious caffeine. — Sam Marx

Vero Espresso House, 205 E. 14th Ave. 654-0504.



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