

RESTAURANT REVIEWS, DINING DEALS & FOOD NEWS

Four new pizza restaurants to try in Central Oregon

STORY AND PHOTOS BY BARB GONZALEZ
For The Bulletin

As pizza is the perfect takeout and delivery food, four new pizza places have opened in the last year despite most restaurants' challenges with closures.

Grace and Hammer in Redmond opened before 2020, but hadn't been open 6 months when they had to close down to dining in. As fall 2020 approached, Deschutes Junction took over Round Table pizza in Bend and Redmond. And in the past month, The Fold in Sunriver and delivery-only Bend Deep Dish opened for business. A fifth new pizza place, Abe Capanna's Detroit Pan Pizza, opened in May, as covered in the Crosscut Tap House food trucks article.

Everyone has an opinion about what makes the best pizza, which is influenced by our preferences and where we have lived. Chicago residents might prefer a deep dish pizza. New Yorkers may be purists that enjoy a thin crust pizza that can be folded with few toppings — meat, cheese and lots of oil. Other pizza lovers may like those pies influenced by California pizza chefs Alice Waters of Chez Panisse and Ed LaDou of Prego. LaDou later designed the menu for the California Pizza Kitchen. Toppings made popular by these California pizzas include chicken, duck sausage, goat cheese and truffles. Also, they started the trend to use barbecue sauce instead of marinara.

While everyone has their favorite, there's no need to declare which style is best. All can co-exist, and we can all enjoy what we like. The new pizzerias in Central Oregon represent each pizza style.

THE FOLD, SUNRIVER

The Fold was opened in December by Lisa Cassidy, Lauren and Chris Copelan, owners of fine dining restaurants and Hook and Plow in Southern California. I spoke with Chef Shawn Smith, who grew up in Connecticut, where his father was a New



Grace and Hammer's Pio special with rolled prosciutto and white sauce is wood-fired.

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