

## CARRABBA'S ITALIAN GRILL DEBUTS ALL-NEW LOOK AT LATEST FLORIDA LOCATION

From warm woods and sleek metals to a wine wall and a decorative Vespa scooter, the first-of-its-kind design blends Old World character with contemporary flavor

**WESLEY CHAPEL, FL (October 26, 2022)** – Carrabba's Italian Grill, known for crafting authentic cuisine served in an atmosphere meant for celebration, has introduced a completely original look and feel at its new location in Wesley Chapel. The restaurant opened Tuesday, September 13, in Cypress Creek Town Center at 25298 Sierra Center Blvd.

To mark the opening, the restaurant will host a Carrabba's Cares event on Thursday, November 17 supporting [Thomas Promise](#), a local nonprofit dedicated to providing Pasco County's most valuable resource - school children - with the simplest things that most kids take for granted. Running from 11 a.m. – 10 p.m., Carrabba's will donate 100% of the days sales up to \$3,000 to the organization, which will result in providing over 7,000 meals to children in need across the county.

The new location was created with a design prototype called "Abbraccio," inspired by the company's international locations. The design is lighter and brighter, with unique décor details like a metal-frame Vespa scooter and a picture of the original Carrabba's in a contemporary float frame.

The design creates a sophisticated but relaxed setting that blends Italian heritage with modern style. It also maximizes efficiency and guest comfort with a reimagined takeout space. But above all, the new location continues the Carrabba's tradition of serving "Classic Italian with Heart and Soul" – an idea so integral, it's inscribed on the wall.

The Abbraccio prototype creates a welcoming atmosphere with many thoughtfully designed details:

### Brilliance in the bar

- A custom-designed wine wall catches the eye with rustic wood shelves against a whitewashed brick background. Lighting is strategically designed to highlight details like the beautiful white quartz bar top and the liquor displays and shelves. The bar back features a rustic backdrop whitewashed brick, and center stage is a large screen TV with our green pop of color picture frame.

### Warm woods and cool color palette

- Various materials were used to carry out the design theme, including washed brick, whitewashed wainscoting and a wooden ceiling above the bar and the exposition kitchen. Varied textures and tones create visual depth and interest, such as with the dual-tone wood herringbone floor pattern. Pops of color here and there evoke Carrabba's Italian roots.

### Spaces aim for efficiency

- Carside Carryout orders are staged and fulfilled in a dedicated area with two separate areas for arriving guests and third-party delivery vendors. Guests wait in the comfort of their car while their carryout order is packaged and delivered directly to them.

Even with all the design and logistical changes, the Wesley Chapel location remains true to the longtime Carrabba's tradition of serving authentic Italian cuisine based on family recipes handed down by the founders. Menus include a variety of sautéed-to-order pastas, wood-grilled specialties, seasonal specials and more.

"It's exciting to have this impressive, beautifully imagined new design for our guests," said the new restaurant's Managing Partner, Mark Kolter, who has been with Carrabba's since he was first hired as a busboy at age 18. He has returned to the restaurant setting after being promoted to several management positions throughout his career. "I've missed connecting directly with guests and restaurant team members, so I'm excited to once again be the first person a guest sees when they enter our home," he said.

Carrabba's Italian Grill Wesley Chapel is open at the following times:

- Monday – Thursday: 11 a.m. – 10 p.m.
- Friday and Saturday: 11 a.m. – 11 p.m.
- Sunday: 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.

The restaurant will offer Carrabba's Catering beginning Tues. Sept. 27 and feature a la carte entrees or packages such as Perfect Bundles and Party Pans. For more information, visit <https://www.carrabbas.com/catering>. Guests can also earn points for future values through the [Dine Rewards Program](#) when they sign-up online.

### **About Carrabba's Italian Grill**

Offering authentic Italian cuisine passed down from our founders' family recipes, Carrabba's Italian Grill® invites guests to "Come together at Carrabba's" with the people who matter most. Carrabba's is the centerpiece of creating lasting connections through the sharing of food. Signature dishes include Lasagne, Pollo Rosa Maria, Wood-Fire Grilled Steak and Chops, and the newest Johnny Trio plated with Tuscan-Grilled Sirloin Marsala, Chicken Bryan and Mezzaluna. Carrabba's offers online ordering and curbside carryout with care; catering options include Individually Packaged Entrées and a la carte selections. To learn more, visit [www.carrabbas.com](http://www.carrabbas.com) and connect on Facebook and Instagram.

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