

Image: Grilled Shellfish Panzanella Salad Image: Valrhona White Chocolate Creme Brulee

Image: OpenTable Award

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Criollo at Hotel Monteleone Earns OpenTable Award

Recognition for Exciting New Restaurant Based on Diner Feedback

New Orleans, LA (*October 4, 2012*) – **Criollo Restaurant**, which opened this year in Hotel Monteleone at 214 Royal Street in New Orleans, is the recent recipient of the **2012 Diner's Choice Award**. The recognition is awarded by OpenTable, the online reservation network for fine dining.

"This award confirms that everything we've been working toward is translating into an unforgettable experience for our patrons," said Kent Wasmuth, director of sales and marketing at Hotel Monteleone. "Criollo is committed to incredible ingredients provided by local farmers and suppliers we are proud to call our friends. Our preparation is meticulous and imaginative, and we serve this delicious food in a classic, sophisticated, relaxed atmosphere. We're not surprised our diners are rating us this well, but we are honored to be presenting this level of cutting-edge cuisine"

The Diner's Choice Award is given to restaurants based on reviews submitted via the diner feedback form at OpenTable.com. The form is sent out to the diner following each online reservation.

Earlier this year, Criollo Restaurant was recognized by a distinguished panel of judges as a 2012 Fleur De Lis Culinary Award winner. That award was announced at the New Orleans Wine and Food Experience Grand Tasting.

Criollo Restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner seven days a week. Located next to the famous Carousel Bar & Lounge, the restaurant resides inside Hotel Monteleone. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling 504-681-4444. For more information and regular updates about Criollo Restaurant, please visit www.criollonola.com.

Established in 2012, Criollo Restaurant combines the traditional Creole flavors of French, Spanish, Italian and African influences with new spices to create a Contemporary Louisiana cuisine. The restaurant is located in the heart of the New Orleans French Quarter inside the historic Hotel Monteleone. For more information, please visit www.criollonola.com or call 504-681-4444.