

Manny's Got it Goin' On

There's a restaurant in town that's got the moves, got the menu, and got the fun and funky vibe that fits right in in Austin. Manny's Uptown Kitchen, formerly Manny Hattans, re-launched this year as an "Uptown Kitchen". I think this phrase appropriately captures its location (Uptown= North) and the combination of upscale, yet casual (and yes, you can be both).

The upgrade included the addition of a bar near the entrance and a flat screen TV (grab a beer and watch a game), as well as a revamp of the menu. It still retains the true New York deli favorites that everyone loves-- big ol' deli sandwiches, pickles, matzoh ball soup, bagels (shipped in from NY!), and pastries, while re-mixing traditionals such as the crisp and tasty "Kicked Up Potato Cakes" served three ways, one with bacon/sour cream/cheese/green onion, one with guacamole/pico de gallo (pictured above), & one with chili con queso. (Don't worry, you can still get traditional potato latkes with apple sauce or sour cream.) And the salads-- oh the salads. For the love of salads, you'll have to check out the menu for the long list of big bowls with lots of goods. The modern take on Polish Pierogies: Butternut Squash Pierogies with Citrus Brown Butter Sage Sauce with greens and balsamic glaze are my favorite item on the menu so far (also pictured above). It would take me years to eat through the whole menu, so I'll skip to dessert. Have you ever seen a hot fudge sundae where the dish it's served in is smothered in the fudge (shown above)? It's messy, it's fun, it's tasty, and it's Manny's. Mix up your morning, noon, or night at Manny's Uptown Kitchen. It's Family Friendly too! (Located on Research Boulevard, near Crate 'n Barrel).

*Thank you to Aaron, Jeff, and Allie at Manny's for the delicious bites, lovely introduction to your restaurant, and for the opportunity to capture my experience on camera!

Oh, I almost forgot! There's more! Manny's is spearheading a new exciting event: Austin Restaurant Throwdown! It's based on the Food Network's TV show: Throwdown with Bobby Flay, where Bobby challenges recipe experts and tries to beat them at their own game. Manny's is leading the local food competition, starting off looking for Austin's best Reuben sandwich. Get more info on Facebook and Twitter!