

# Vista Vino Impresses

Vista Vino Opens to Rave Reviews in Castle Rock

New restaurants often struggle coming out of the gate on opening day so just for fun we wanted to be the first to indulge at Castle Rock's newest chef-driven restaurant, Vista Vino, the latest offering by seasoned restaurateurs and local residents Janine and Michael Glennon.

Their love of food, wine, and stunning scenery brought both to Colorado in the 1990's. Michael had worked on Cape Cod at Chillingworth in Brewster, deemed "Best on the Cape" by the New York Times. Janine arrived via the Copper Cellar in Knoxville, Tennessee and Hilton Head. Michael and Janine met at highly regarded Sweet Basil restaurant and moved together to local favorite, Montauk Seafood Grill where they were soon working as executive chef and restaurant manager. In 1999, they took their skills to Avon, Colorado where their restaurant at the foot of Beaver Creek called Vista took on the motto, "Good Food, Nice People" which quickly gained them a loyal following.

As for our experience on opening night it seems that first night struggles we often see were nowhere to be found. We started with "small plates" of Tuscan Spring Rolls (spinach, fontina, sundried tomatoes, red onion), Burrata Cheese (with roasted roma tomatoes, pesto & aged balsamic), and Prince Edward Island Mussels (bathed in coconut curry, ginger, cilantro, sweet soy). Each were among the best we've ever sampled and that is saying a lot for our group!

We took on "big plates" that included both Sauteed Shrimp (with giant white beans, tomatoes, lemon, with toasted ciabatta) and Bolognese (traditional Italian hearty meat dish over shells with Parmesan). As the plates arrived at our table and steam and aroma began to waft about our table, knew this could be something special, and indeed it was. The flavors were clean, simple, and rustic just as you would expect with a Tuscan-themed menu. The dishes were tasty but not over spiced.

We finished with Mascarpone Cheesecake (crustless, creamy decadency with blueberry compote & amaretti crumbs) and a serving of Flourless Chocolate Cake (with salted caramel ice cream). Again nothing but great flavors to finish a wonderful meal that was served with care, expediency, and courtesy by our server and other staff members.



## IF YOU GO...

### DINNER

Served every evening Tuesday through Saturday

A very nice variety of small and large plates from about \$11 to \$30. Mixed Drinks, Wine, and Beer.

Desserts with Espresso, Cappuccino, Latte, and other offerings

### HAPPY HOUR

Everyday with varying hours

Huge menu of offerings with many plates under \$10 plus \$5 WINES & WELL DRINKS, \$3 BEER

### WATCH FOR....

A new Rock-View Deck opening in the coming weeks

### Vista Vino Modern Grill

611 North Wilcox  
Castle Rock, CO 80104  
303-660-2005  
VistaVinoModernGrill.com

