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Brochure, Columbia Restaurant, America's Oldest Spanish Restaurant

The Columbia Restaurant

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America's Oldest Spanish Restaurant



Columbia
RESTAURANT
Since 1905



In 1905, the Columbia Restaurant's vital and visionary founder, Casimiro Hernandez, Sr., opened a corner bar and cafe that served the cigar factory workers in the predominantly Spanish community of Ybor City. Patrons so enjoyed the steamy Cuban coffee and delicious food, they often ate three meals a day at the Columbia Restaurant and paid in advance: \$18 a month for 30 days of food. The cafe began to grow. In 1920, Hernandez added a dining room and a tradition was born that would become internationally famous.

In the 1930's, Casimiro Hernandez, Jr., who shared his father's ideals, added the first air-conditioned dining room in Tampa, and the Columbia Restaurant continued to thrive.

Continued...

"Paella a La Valenciana" is a fabulous taste sensation of Gulf grouper, Atlantic scallops, pink Gulf shrimp, calamares, mussels, clams, chicken, lean pork and Spanish chorizo combined with yellow rice, green peppers, Spanish onions, tomatoes, garlic and spices splashed with white wine.

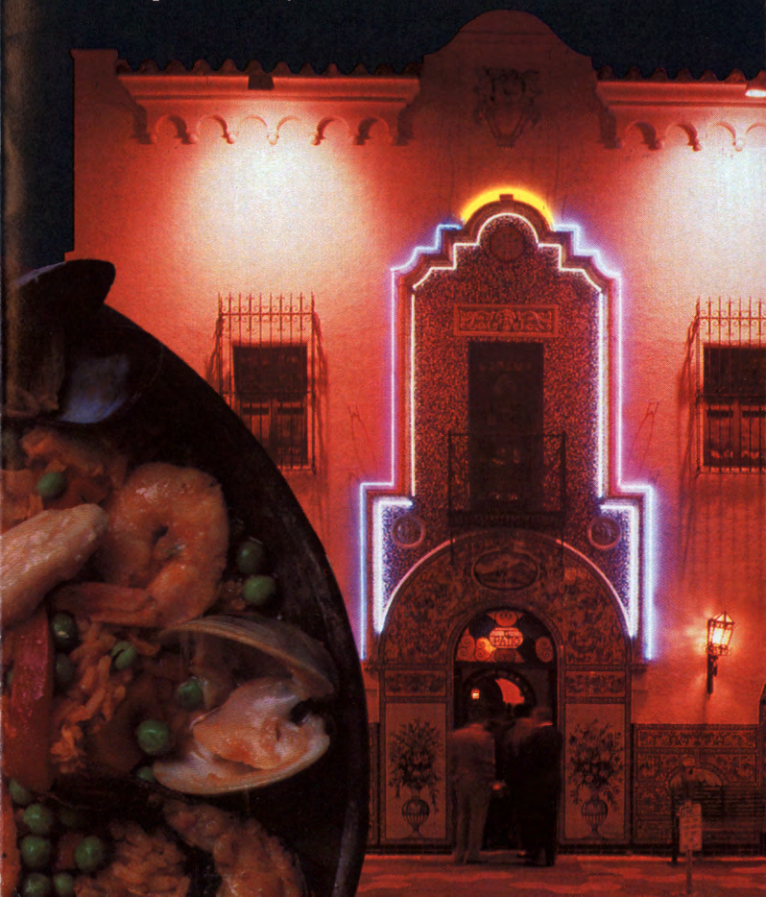


The Columbia Ybor City, Tampa



Here at the original Columbia Restaurant, you will savor the Gonzmart family tradition of serving exceptional Spanish cuisine at affordable prices. In addition to the marvelous entrees and taste-tempting desserts, you will be entertained by a live orchestra and flamenco dancers every night except Sunday. Whether you are seated in the historic "Don Quixote" room or one of the other 10 beautifully decorated

dining rooms, the food is outstanding, the service superb and the mood memorable. Please sample our hospitality when you are in this area! Open seven days a week for lunch and dinner.



The Columbia Harbour Island

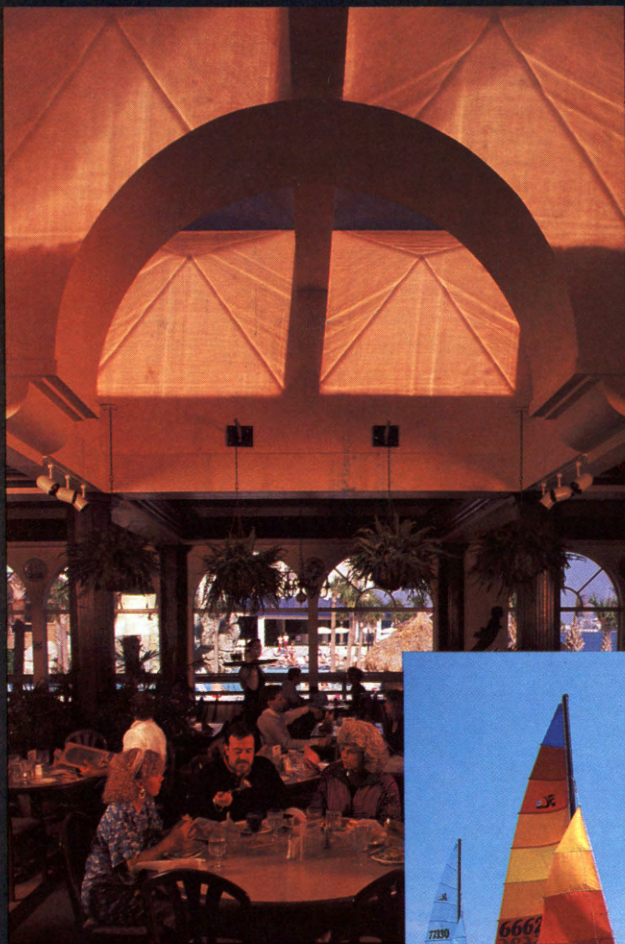
A short walk from the new Tampa Convention Center in downtown Tampa, the Columbia Restaurant on Harbour Island is an excellent place to eat after a long day of work or play. This island location is situated on the shores of Tampa Bay and every seat in the house provides an excellent view of the waterfront. Come visit the Columbia Restaurant on Harbour Island and savor four generations of Spanish tradition.



Sales and Marketing Management magazine selected the Columbia Restaurant as one of the top 100 restaurants in the United States and Canada.



The Columbia Clearwater Beach



Located on the glamorous north end of Sand Key on the intracoastal waterway, the Columbia Restaurant features an exterior of white stucco and an interior of beautiful and colorful Spanish tile. As part of the Radisson Suite Resort complex, the 200-seat dining room offers an excellent opportunity to enjoy the world-renowned Spanish cuisine and other favorites.



The Nation's Restaurant News' Fine Dining Hall of Fame inducted the Columbia Restaurant on its list of 100 outstanding restaurants.

The Columbia St. Petersburg

Have your next meal 1/4 mile out into Tampa Bay . . . called the "most spectacular room downtown" by the *St. Petersburg Times*, the Columbia Restaurant at the multi-million dollar Pier, one of the premier tourist attractions in the state of Florida. Surrounded by water, the Columbia Restaurant serves spectacular scenery as well as superb food. You will view the waterfront, the twinkling skylines of St. Petersburg and Tampa as you savor traditional Spanish dishes, fresh fish and other specialties.



The Columbia Restaurant has been featured in major publications throughout the country, including *National Geographic Magazine*, *Fortune*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, and *Southern Living*. It is recommended by AAA and the *Mobil Travel Guide*. The Columbia Restaurant has also been featured on Robin Leach's television show *Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous*.



Magnificent Red Snapper "Alicante" presents you with a delicious boneless snapper fillet baked en casserole with green peppers, onions, delicate spices, and sauterne wine, then topped with sliced, roasted almonds. This delicious entree is garnished with fried eggplant and shrimp supreme wrapped in bacon.



The Columbia St. Augustine

It is only fitting that the nation's oldest city is also home of the nation's oldest Spanish restaurant tradition. After a day of sightseeing and shopping on historic St. George Street, walk through the Columbia Restaurant's shady courtyard and stop in for a truly memorable meal of heavenly Spanish specialties, crusty Cuban bread, fresh seafood and superb desserts baked in the Columbia Restaurant's bakery.





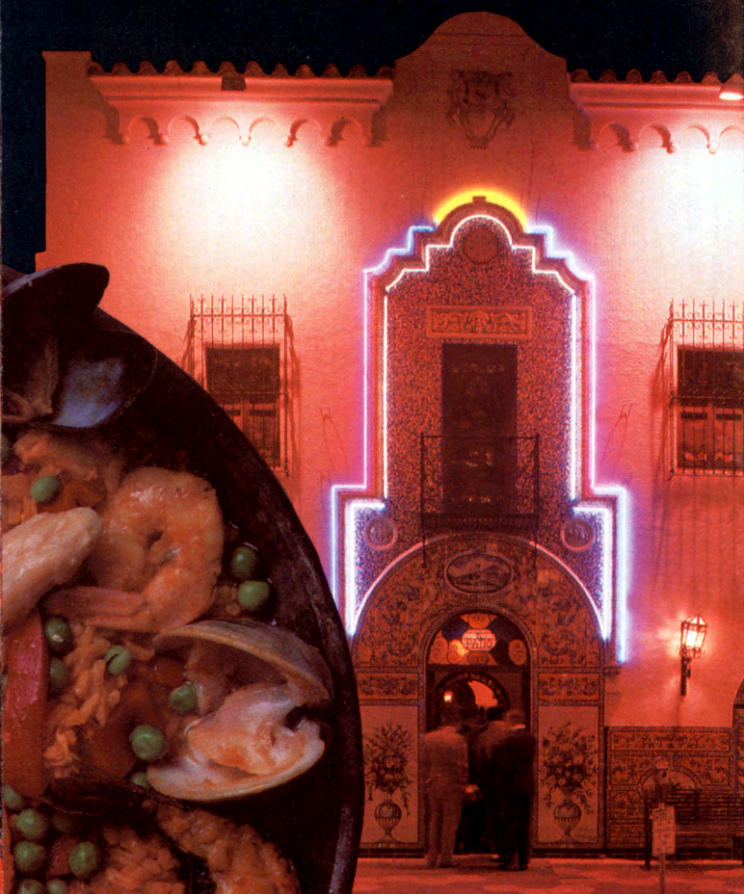
The Columbia Restaurant has been awarded the prestigious "Five Forks" by the government of Spain as the outstanding Spanish restaurant in America.



In the mid-1950's, the Columbia Restaurant torch was passed to a third-generation Hernandez: Adela, an only child and gifted concert pianist. Educated at Juilliard School of Music in New York, Adela married Cesar Gonzmart, a concert violinist with a Ph.D. in music. After a touring career, Cesar took over management of the already-famous restaurant when his father-in-law suffered a heart attack. Cesar delighted the customers with his magic violin and helped to make the Columbia Restaurant internationally famous.

Ever expanding to satisfy the demands of its patrons, the restaurant enlisted the Gonzmart sons, Casey and Richard, in the 1970's. Today, the original Columbia Restaurant occupies one city block and includes eleven dining rooms which seat up to 1,660 patrons. Five additional restaurants are located throughout Florida, each offering its own unique charm while maintaining the same high standards of quality established by the original Columbia Restaurant.

No trip to Florida would be complete without at least one visit to a Columbia Restaurant. If you are touring the state, we invite you to visit each location nearest you. The Gonzmart family looks forward to serving you.



The Columbia Sarasota



Established in 1959 by Cesar Gonzmart, the Columbia Restaurant on St. Armands Circle is widely regarded as Sarasota's oldest and finest restaurant. Located on the northeast side of St. Armands Circle,

sometimes referred to as the "Rodeo Drive" or "Worth Avenue" of the west coast of Florida, the Columbia Restaurant offers a wide view of the picturesque shopping district through floor-to-ceiling windows. In addition to the legendary Spanish and Cuban cuisine, you can enjoy live music nightly at the adjacent "Patio".



Columbia RESTAURANT

Since 1905

FLORIDA

CLEARWATER BEACH
HARBOUR ISLAND (TAMPA)
ST. PETERSBURG
SARASOTA

YBOR
CITY
(TAMPA)

ST.
AUGUSTINE



The Columbia Restaurant is
Florida's oldest restaurant
and the world's largest
Spanish restaurant.

The Columbia Restaurant has long been a favorite of both travelers and locals seeking fine food, excellent service and an exciting atmosphere. With recipes dating back four generations, the Columbia Restaurant's taste of traditional Spanish cuisine is unmatched anywhere in the world.

Consistently winning recognition for its high standards of food and service. The Columbia Restaurant is a treasured experience for all those who visit.

- In historic Ybor City, near downtown Tampa (813) 248-4961
- In downtown Tampa at The Shops on Harbour Island (813) 229-2992
- In downtown St. Petersburg overlooking Tampa Bay at The Pier (813) 822-8000
- On Clearwater Beach at Sand Key, next to the Radisson Suite Hotel (813) 596-8400
- In Sarasota on beautiful St. Armands Circle (813) 388-3987
- On Colonial St. George Street in historic St. Augustine (904) 824-3341