

Restaurant Review 58 Rosalita's Cantina Nov 17 2017

RESTARUANT REVIEW: Rosalita's Cantina, Des Peres, Mo. It was built in the place where the old Casa Gallardo was located, but not in the same building. That building was torn down and a new one built.



remains of former

Casa Gallardo.



The old Des Peres Casa Gallardo



The seating increased from 180 for Casa Gallardo to 460 for Rosalito, but that 460 includes an outdoor area with a cover and heaters.



Covered outdoor area with heaters and a Virgin Mary you can pray to.

I'm not a huge fan of Mexican or even Tex-Mex food. I had been hoping that there would be a heavy rain just as my lawn crew showed up and I could take them to lunch. But that never happened.

Trish, our house painter (that's right a chick with a big white pickup truck with ladders, brushes and canvasses on board) was working at the house last week and mentioned that she loved Mexican food. So she was taken to lunch with us. We arrived at 11 am before the lunch crowds.



Our first recommendation is to ask for Lee the waiter. Here is why. We established we had never been to Rosalita's before. I was considering mixing up the tacos. My wife and Trish were getting lunch specials. Lee brought us samples of several different taco fillings plus different sauces to try.



Free samples of meat used in tacos.



Also the chips and sauce kept coming. Then at the end of the meal we had a refilled basket full of chips. Those were put in a paper bag and we finished them that night watching a Netflix movie.

The Lunch Specials were \$10 and included a refillable soft drink and desert (a corn masita, which was warm and very tasty.)

Trish ordered the Yucatan Tamale. Diana ordered the Butternut Squash Tamale.



And finally there were my tacos, I went with the ground beef, BBQ beef and steak.

They came out al'carte priced at \$2.75, \$3 and \$3.75.



Waiter Lee saved the day when I tried to order a quesadilla for us to all try. He stated that was a terrible idea because it would be more food than we could eat. He said this talking to a fat guy. It turns out he was right.

The corn beard desert was delicious, but after a couple of bites we decided to have it for dessert at home.

Trish was a member of the clean plate club. However my wife and I had leftovers. This was not a Styrofoam box operation. The meat dishes went into aluminum pans with covers. Dipping sauce went home with us as did the dessert in thick plastic containers.





Everyone liked their meals with one exception. I found the rice to be bland. But I didn't order any. I stole a fork full off of my wife's plate.

Of course Taco Bell and Fuzzy's Tacos are cheaper. However the size of the portions at Rosalita's were very large. You got larger portions and the food was better. This doesn't mean I'm not stopping at Taco Bell after a meeting. But we will all be back at Rosalita's, at least in Des Peres. Their flagship is downtown on Washington Avenue. In Des Peres there is little chance of my car getting broken into or stolen or me being held up.

The place is impossible to see from the road. It is in the Des Peres Square on Manchester just before I-270. You can only get to it from eastbound Manchester. It is very popular at dinner often with long waits in the bar on weekends. Try it for lunch.