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## Marcellino Ristorante adds pizza to lunch menu



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If you're craving pizza, you're not alone. Three billion pizzas are sold every year in the United States, and more than 41 percent of Americans eat pizza every week, with one in eight of all Americans eating pizza on any given day.

After celebrating Marcellino Ristorante's 16th anniversary last month, Chef and his wife, Sima, decided to add "Chef Marcellino's Original Wood-Fired Pizza" to their lunch menu.

"Chef's pizza is delicious! We present pizza as you'd find in Roma and other cities in Italy, and we only use the freshest ingredients," Sima Verzino said. "In addition to our full lunch menu, guests can now choose from six delectable 12-inch, round pizzas reflecting all the famous ones offered in pizzerias in Italy."

Patrons may not realize just how much work goes into making an authentic Italian pizza.

"Chef and his team start working on making the dough the day before. Dough is left to rise overnight using the mother yeast, which is natural. The crust is thinner, and the wood fired oven cooks the bottom of the pizza beautifully, crisping the edges to perfection with no burning. It is not served as one slice, but as a whole to enjoy," Sima explained.

The six homemade pizzas available for lunch include: Pizza Marinara, Pizza Napoli, Pizza Margherita, Pizza Ai Funghi, Pizza Prosciutto di Parma, and Pizza Bianca.

Chef Marcellino and Sima's favorite pizza is the Margherita.

"This is the most popular pizza in Italy," Sima said. "Chef uses only fresh mozzarella, imported San Marzano pelati (peeled) tomatoes, EVO and his garden basil on top. The recipe is simple, and balancing ingredients is the key to its flavor and authenticity. As in all his cuisine, Chef has mastered the art of creating the perfect pizza."

Prices for Chef Marcellino's delicious wood-fired pizza range from \$10 to \$18. The pizza is available from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday.

Marcellino Ristorante is located at 7114 E. Stetson Dr. in Scottsdale. For more details, visit [www.marcellinoristorante.com](http://www.marcellinoristorante.com) or call (480) 990-9500.