They laughed when I pulled into a strip mall for dinner...

...BUT THEY WERE SPEECHLESS AFTER THEIR FIRST BITE

What does Cypress Grill offer that others don't? Don't listen to me, just see what our guests have said ...

Super-friendly staff and awesome specials. Love the 1/2 price wine Mondays. You're my favorite choice for a healthy, reasonably priced dinner. – Carri Augenstein

The waitstaff was great. The food was wonderful – it was our first visit and we were very pleasantly surprised – great choice, good wine! – Ken Langston

Best Caju & Top Favorit Austin Chr Readers

... the best Cajun Food I've had in the city. Superb service. – Marla Bedola

CYPRESS GRILL Louisiana Café and Bar One block west of Mopac, next to Gold's Gym

358-7474 4404 W. Wm. Cannon www.cypressgrill.net STE. L



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- *6416 North Lamar: 451-5440 *301 West Riverside: 472-9304
- All orders must be picked up before Thanksgiving Day or Christmas Day.

- FEAST INCLUDES:

- 8-10 lb. Roasted Turkey
- or 6-8 lb. Spiral-Cut Ham • 2 Qts. Cornbread Dressing
- + 2 Qts. Mashed Potatoes
- + 2 Ots, Candied Yams
- + 2 Qts. Green Bean Casserole
- +1 Qt.Turkey Gravy
- + 1 Pt. Cranberry Sauce or Jezebel Sauce + 2 Dozen Rolls
- Choice of 12" Pumpkin or Pecan Pie (Serves 8 people, No substitutions please.)

- ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

- (PACKAGED HOT) • Gallon of Any Vegetable \$31.95 (Serves 17-20)
- Quart of Any Vegetable \$8.95 (Serves 4-5)
 [PACKAGED COLD/ READY TO RE-HEAT]
- Pound of sliced Turkey or Ham \$10.95 (Serves 2-3 per pound)
 - Whole Pumpkin or Pecan Pie \$19.95

\$129.95 tax

<u>restaurant roulette</u>

LET'S GO OUT!

If dirty dishes and turkey tetrazzini aren't your style, check out some of our local favorites for the big day

HOTELS

DRISKILL HOTEL The famous mezzanine brunch tradition continues with seatings every half-hour from 11:30am to 2:30pm. This is a popular event, so make sure to reserve early. If you don't make it upstains, the 1886 Cafe will be offering plenty of your favorites as well as a seasonal menu for lunch and dinner. Reservations are a must later for the six-course prix fixe main event in the Driskill Grill with service from 4:30 to 9:30pm. Grill: \$85 per person, \$62 for wine pairings. Brunch: \$75 per person, \$38 for children under 12. Sixth & Brazos, 391-7121 for reservations. www.driskillgrill.com.

TRIO AT THE FOUR SEASONS offers a groaning holiday brunch in the ballroom from 11am to 4pm. Reserve early; the seafood stations alone are worth your decisiveness. Adults, \$68; children ages 1-6, \$20; children age 5 and under, free. 98 San Jacinto, 685-8300. www.fourseasons.com/austin/dining.

www.tourseasons.com/ ausun/ uning.

INTERCONTINENTAL STEPHEN F. AUSTIN Drink mimosas while listening to Margaret Wright on piano, and enjoy an array of Thanksgiving favorites, as well as the unexpected for brunch in the Capital Ballroom. 10:30am-2:30pm. Adults, \$57.95; children under 12, \$29. 701 Congress, 721-2008 for reservations. www.austin.intercontinental.com.

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Banderas restaurant invites you to a special Thanksgiving spread for brunch from 10:30am to 2:30pm. Expect a full breakfast buffet with waffle stations and all the goodies. Reservations suggested. Later, enjoy a prix fixe holiday menu from 5:30 to 9:30pm. Brunch: adults, \$45; children ages 5-12, \$18; children under age 5, free. Dinner: adults, \$25. 9721 Arboretum Blvd., 343-2626 for reservations. www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/ OMNI HOTEL DOWNTOWN serves a traditional Thanksgiving brunch in the Atrium Lounge from 11am to 3:30pm: \$45 for adults, \$17.95 for children under 12. Later, enjoy the usual á la carte dinner menu at Ancho's, plus a few holiday surprises from 5:30 to 9:30pm. 700 San Jacinto, 476-3700 for reservations. www.omnihotels. com/findahotel/austindowntown.aspx.

OMNI HOTEL SOUTHPARK offers seating in the Onion Creek Grille for a full brunch buffet with carving stations and the traditional Thanksgiving spread. Reservations suggested. 11am-2pm. Adults, \$37; children ages 6-12, \$15.95; children age 6 and under, free. 4140 Governor's Row, 448-2222. www.omnihotels.com/ findahotel/austinsouthpark.aspx.

RESTAURANTS

MANSION AT JUDGES' HILL weighs in with yet another elegant Thanksgiving with a three-course prix fixe, served in both the ballroom and mansion dining areas. 10:30am and 2:30pm seatings. Adults, \$49.50; children, \$17.50. 1900 Rio Grande, 495-1800. www.mansionatjudgeshill.com.

DOÑA EMILIA'S SOUTH AMERICAN BAR & GRILL will be hosting an extensive holiday buffet this year, complete with your favorite South American dishes, as well as fried turkey and all the trimmings. 10:30am-4pm,

buffet this year, complete with your favorte South American dishes, as well as fried turkey and all the trimmings. 10:30am-4pm. Adults, \$22.95; children under 12, \$10.95. 101 San Jacinto, 478-2520. www.donaemilias.com.

HUDSON'S ON THE BEND will be offering a special á la carte menu including some signature dishes from its fall menu, as well as special holiday options. Childen's menu available. Seatings are limited, so reserve early. 11am-4pm & 6-9pm. 3509 RR 620 N., 266-1369. www.hudsonsonthebend.com.

GREEN PASTURES This annual Thanksgiving brunch buffet has so many fans, it's sold out again this year. 11am-2pm. \$55 per person. 811 Live Oak, 444-4747. www.ereenpasturesrestaurant.com.

ESTIMATED MEAL COST PER PERSON

\$ <\$10 \$\$ \$10-25 \$\$\$ \$25-40 \$\$\$\$ \$40+

HYATT REGENCY AUSTIN is slinging what is promised to be "a decadent holiday buffet" in the Southwest Bistro, where you can count on flowing mimosas as well as contemporary cuisine and traditional favorites. 11:30am-5pm. Adults, \$52; children ages 5-12, \$27; children under 5, free. 208 Barton Springs Rd., 480-2035 for reservations. www.austin.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels.

HILTON HOTEL DOWNTOWN Liberty Tavern has lunch and dinner covered with a fullcourt brunch from noon to 5pm and a prix fixe plated holiday dinner service from 5 to 9:30pm. Brunch: adults, \$33; children under 12, \$12.95. Dinner: adults, \$34; children under 12, \$12.95. 500 E. Fourth, 482-8000. www1.hilton.com/en_US/ hi/hotel/AUSCVHH-Hilton-Austin-Texas/ index.do.

THE CARILLON Feeling conflicted between turkey day and game day? No sweat. Enjoy Thanksgiving brunch in this lovely room before strolling over to Darrell K. Royal Stadium for the UT vs. A&M game. Dinner includes roasted butternut squash bisque, roasted maple turkey, and veal blanquette. 11am-4pm. Adults, \$36.95; children under 12, \$16.95. 1900 University, 404-3689 for reservations. www.meetattexas.com/restaurants.html#carillon.

SHORELINE GRILL Located at the Four Seasons Hotel, this place invites those who are tired of buffets and prix fixe menus to join it for a limited menu with a nice variety of choices. The herb-infused portobella mushroom with goat cheese will please vegetarians. 98 San Jacinto, 477-3300. www.shorelinegrill.com.

CONTINUED ON P.60



aussh-renaissance-austin-hotel

"I've received samples of bread crumbs, **chicken stock**, various condiments, several flavors of **instant mashed potatoes** (yuk), imported chocolates (alas, all melted), plus **wines and liqueurs** (always shared with other writers)." - Virginia B. Wood

VIRGINIA'S ON THE RANGE	austin
HOLIDAY SAMPLES:	chronicle .com/
HRONICLE	chronic

