



Kalmes Hilltop Bar and Grill

16680 US Highway 20, East Dubuque, IL 61025
815-747-3920 • www.KalmesHilltop.com

HOURS: Bar: 11 am - 2 am, Kitchen: Tue - Thu 11 am - 8:30 pm
Fri - Sat 11 am - 9:30 pm, Sun 11 am - 7:30 pm, Mon, Closed

ATMOSPHERE: Neighborhood Sports Bar

NOISE LEVEL: Loud during games

RECOMMENDATIONS: Lunch Daily Specials; Pizza; Ribeye and Sirloin Steaks; Friday Fish Fry; Saturday Prime Rib; BBQ Ribs

LIQUOR SERVICE: Full Bar; Busch Light and Potosi Beer on Tap; 30 Bottled Beers; Specialty Hurricanes and Cyclones

PRICES: Lunch: \$4.29 - \$8.99; Apps \$1.79 - \$10.99; Entrees: \$8.99 - \$18.79

RESERVATIONS: Only for 15 or More

PAYMENT OPTIONS: Cash, Checks, Debit, Credit except AMEX

ACCESSIBILITY: Front Door and Restrooms

KIDS POLICY: Friendly; **Menu; Video Games**

CATERING: By Special Request **TAKE OUT:** Yes **DELIVERY:** No

PARKING: Private Lot



Kalmes' Hilltop Bar & Grill

by Rich Belmont

It is not surprising you will find a Kalmes Bar and Grill in Dubuque, and in Saint Donatus, Iowa and in East Dubuque, IL. After all, Grandpa Peter Kalmes, opened the first bar in the early 1890's. The Kalmes family has been serving great food and drink in the area for over one hundred years!



When Mike Kalmes turned his Breaktime Grill and Spirits over to his sons, T.J. and Dallas, three years ago he simply crossed the Mississippi River and started Kalmes Hilltop Bar and Grill. His mission was to continue the family traditions of providing freshly cooked meals in a casual and comfortable atmosphere.

The truth is this was an easy goal for Mike. As a fourth generation Kalmes he had already been in the restaurant business 17 years. And then too he had his wife helping him. Theresa grew up in the bar business and had already invested 11 years working with Mike developing the Dubuque location's long list of regular customers.

First and foremost, Kalmes Hilltop is a friendly

neighborhood style bar and grill. Only the neighborhood is sort of in the middle of nowhere on Highway 20 almost half way between Dubuque and Galena. It's definitely a sports bar because there are 7 HDTV's. They have the NFL Sunday Ticket so you can watch your favorite team while you choose from two brews on tap and over 30 bottled beers. To keep things interesting there are different drink specials every day.



The hamburgers are exceptionally tasty. They are made fresh with Choice Grade, hand ground beef with Ribeye Steak trimmings added in. There are several to choose from including the Mushroom and Swiss, American Cheeseburger, Bacon Cheeseburger, Jalapeno Cheeseburger and my favorite, the Olive Burger topped with green olives and Swiss cheese.

There are many other appetizing lunch items like Grilled or Breaded Chicken, Fried Fish, Ham & Cheese, BLT's, Chicken Strips, Pork Tenderloins and Reubens. More noteworthy are the specials that change from day to day. For example, this last Wednesday I had a succulent Boneless Pork Loin with mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans and roll. On Thursday there was a Grilled Prime Rib Melt and on Friday a 6 oz. Ribeye. These Ribeyes are very popular because they are uncommonly flavorful

without much fat. In fact, the Ribeye Steak Sandwich is on the menu every day and so is the Steak Taco. The latter comes with a generous portion of shredded sirloin mixed with salsa and lettuce in a large flour tortilla shell.

Kalmes Hilltop is known far and wide for Great American Steaks. They are all Choice Grade, Angus, aged in-house for at least 21 days and hand cut. These steaks are so delicious because they are sprinkled with the famous Kalmes' House Blend Seasonings. The seasonings are available in many grocery stores and meat shops in the area.

The most popular steaks are the Ribeye and Sirloin. I always enjoy the Flat Iron. This steak is unusual because its juices mix with the seasonings and form a flavorful sauce.



The BBQ Ribs are slow cooked for 14 hours at low heat and basted with secret ingredients. You can order Broasted Chicken and Pizza every day after 4:00 pm and all day on week-



ends. The Pizza here is a real surprise. It's a 16 inch, thin crust made with a special sauce with extra olive oil and Italian spices added in. It's particularly good with Mike's special medium spicy sausage.

On Friday many regulars come for the all you can eat Fish Fry of Cod Loins. Or perhaps you would prefer the Whole Catfish.

Many of those regulars come back on Saturday for the Prime Rib. This is a delicious ribeye slowly roasted 4 to 5 hours and covered with a special seasoning crust.

All of the entrees include the salad bar and your choice of French or American Fries or Hash Browns and on week-ends there are baked potatoes as well. Of course in my opinion the best side dish is the Kalmes Luxemburg Noodles. These are made from a flour and egg blend and then are boiled and fried with crackers and butter. You might have heard of these because they were made famous on Alton Brown's Feasting on Asphalt TV program during the Mid-American Pie episode.



Mike and Theresa invite you to come and relax. When it's warm enjoy outdoor dining on the deck. Watch a ball game while eating some really great food. Take advantage of the free WIFI and be sure to book your Holiday parties early. There are two private rooms that accommodate up to 30 people each.

www.Dubuque365.com