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2009 Free Press Restaurant of the Year: Roast

February 7, 2009

Michael Symon's Roast heats up Detroit

Michael Symon's Roast represents so much more of what Detroit needs. Another catalyst for a livelier downtown. An advocate for the farm-to-table local foods movement in a rich agricultural region. A magnet for visitors. Affordable high-end dining. It is a restaurant with impact as well as excellence, a newcomer that truly fits this place and these challenging times. For that -- and for distinctive, skillfully crafted food that will surprise, intrigue and please diners of many tastes -- Michael Symon's Roast is the 2009 Restaurant of the Year.



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Roast

Restaurant Of The Year
MANDI WRIGHT\DFP-- Michael Symon's Roast was...

MICHAEL SYMON'S ROAST

At the Westin Book Cadillac Detroit

1128 Washington at Michigan

313-961-2500

www.roastdetroit.com

On the menu: Chops and aged steaks grilled over hardwood charcoal. Fork-tender braised short ribs and lamb shanks with intense sauce reductions. Juicy chunks of Roasted Beast of the Day -- either suckling pig, baby goat or baby lamb. Chicken, duck and fish. Bold sauces, distinctive starters and sides, and house-made desserts. Lunch menu is more casual. Wine list features 600-700 selections.

Don't-miss dishes: Start with Michael Symon's signature beef cheek pierogi (\$12); more adventurous diners should try Crispy Fresh Bacon (\$10) or Roasted Marrow (\$9).

Roasted Beast (market price) can also be a shared starter. Standout entrées include braised short ribs (\$24) and lamb shanks (\$25), smoked pork chop (\$24), any of the long-aged steaks (\$21-\$38) and roasted trout with brown butter (\$24).

Most affordable: 6-ounce filet (\$21); lemon-roasted free-range chicken with Greek yogurt and arugula-chickpea salad (\$17); hamburger with bacon, cheddar and fried egg with rosemary fries (\$14).

Attire: Jeans to evening wear.

Hours: Lunch 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. weekdays. Dinner 5-10 p.m. Mon.-Thu., 5-11 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 5-9 p.m. Sun.

Special notes: Smoke-free. Wheelchair users can enter barrier-free through exterior door on Washington Boulevard. Valet parking \$5 with validation. Reservations

recommended.



PREVIOUS RESTAURANTS OF THE YEAR

- 2008:** SaltWater, MGM Grand, Detroit
- 2007:** Beverly Hills Grill, Beverly Hills
- 2006:** Seldom Blues, Detroit
- 2005:** Five Lakes Grill, Milford
- 2004:** Jeremy Restaurant & Bar, Keego Harbor
- 2003:** The Grill, Ritz-Carlton, Dearborn
- 2002:** Cuisine, Detroit
- 2001:** The Hill, Grosse Pointe Farms
- 2000:** Tribute, Farmington Hills

PHOTO GALLERIES

Roast: 2009 Restaurant of the Year

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