



Restaurant

**Vitis (\$)**

535 NW 16th Ave  
Portland, OR 97210  
**Phone:** (503) 241-0355

### Citysearch Editorial Review

By Ivy Manning

**Editorial Rating: Recommended**

A selection of wine and Italian small plates at this new trattoria, just steps away from the Pearl district.

#### The Scene

Set in a subterranean corner spot with lots of light, diners are greeted by a spare, modern space highlighted by a gleaming open kitchen. Dark walls and a granite bar are set off by crisp white tablecloths. The staff is efficient but seems unacquainted with the large, by-the-glass wine selection.

#### The Food

The Italian-inspired menu consists of 30 or so smallish plates at reasonable prices for the sip-and-nibble crowd. For a great light meal, order several starters--like the crisp cauliflower or baccala (dried salt cod) fritters, thick grilled bruschetta with a long list of toppings, or the excellent grilled pizza topped with prosciutto and pesto. The more substantial plates tend to be less charming, particularly the bland clams in a white wine saffron broth and the overcooked, tough pork chops. Concentrate on small plates and the fun, fascinating wine list for a good nosh.

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#### Restaurant Information

##### Cuisines

Italian

##### Hours

Tue-Thu 11am-3pm, 5pm-9pm  
Fri 11am-3pm, 5pm-10pm  
Sat 5pm-10pm  
Sun 9am-1pm

##### Parking

Street

##### Smoking

No

##### Special Features

Notable Wine List  
Dine at the Bar  
Quiet

##### Payment

American Express  
Discover  
MasterCard

Lunch Spot

Brunch

##### Price Information\*

Visa

\$ (\$20 and under)

\* Restaurant prices are based on the average cost of a three-course dinner, excluding wine, tax and tips.

### Insider Tips

#### Know Before You Go

Interested in trying a big-ticket wine, but don't want to commit to a bottle? Try one of the pricier wines that are available when you purchase two glasses.

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User Rating: **Highly Recommended**

**WOW** Posted by [mamacas](#) on 08/12/2004

I am so impressed with the food, the presentation, the atmosphere, and especially the service! The wine selection is fabulous also.

My favorite for lunch was the Mozzarella sandwich with poached egg...yum! On another occasion for dinner I started with the Ensalata Mista and then had the scrumptious and perfectly done lamb chops rubbed with mint and rosemary. I have now tried two of their desserts and am now addicted to their bittersweet chocolate tart, but also have a hard time choosing between the tart and the walnut popovers....

I will definitely go back again and again, and refer friends and associates there. The atmosphere is clean, calm, and perfect for dining with friends, co-workers, on a date, with your family, or even by yourself!

**Pros:** Excellent Service, Excellent Food, Inexpensive

#### Sponsored Information

"Distinctively different Italian dining. Over 50 wines by the glass."

Small plates of regional Italian cuisine. Open Tuesday through Friday for lunch 11AM-2PM, Tuesday through Saturday Dinner, and Sunday brunch 9AM-1PM