



TASTE OF WINE

By Frank Mangio

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Meet the Mola Men & the Wines they Love

Mola Gastro Bar, upstairs in the Del Mar Plaza, is drawing a lot of big time party people since it opened a short time ago. Meet and greets love the format that promotes easy getting-to-know you over a glass of wine and a tapas or two. An inviting combination of an inside bar room and a generous outside dinner table plaza scene connect the fun.



Jose Antonio Gomez is the G.M. that turns it on. "We are something new and different, very colorful with murals crowded with smiling people raising wine glasses, and we have a much bigger wine menu," he soothed in a perfect Spanish accent.

The cool Mola men include Jack Petty, bar manager and G.M. Jose Antonio Gomez, revealing their favorite wines, led by a Hazana Tempranillo from Rioja Spain.

Turns out that Mola means "cool" in Spanish, so the name is a perfect fit.

If you've ever traveled in the night life circles of Spain, say Barcelona, Marbella or Madrid, you know that night life begins at 10pm and ends with the last patron standing and that's usually 7am. "We're open 7 days a week from 3pm to when the last diner leaves," said Antonio.



19 year old chef Eric Mendoza is great beyond his tender years. His tapas list is long and flavorful. Try the Lobster Croquettes, Fried Zucchini Blossoms or the trio of Mini Sliders:

Margherita, Smoked House BBQ and Diablito.

If a big entrée is your thing, get the smoked short rib or Chilean sea bass.

Jack Petty is the Bar Manager and he opened up a Spanish wine that had it all going, a blend that was his personal favorite. It had 65% Garnacha/35% Tempranillo that was high on flavor and big on berries.

Eric Mendoza is the chef at Mola, a Tapas bar that's turning heads at the Del Mar Plaza.

Hazana is the brand and like many wines from Spain, you get flavor, quality and a value wine at a little price. And Mola is not just Spain. They offer name brand California premiums like Silver Oak '09 and 10's. Give them a call at 858-792-0209.