

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY**  
Star-Telegram

Subscriber Services

# Star-Telegram.com

 **Current: 84°**  
83° / 62°  
[Complete Forecast](#)



Serving Tarrant County and all of North Texas

[Entertainment](#) > [Weekend](#) > [Go!](#)

Friday, Oct 12, 2007

**Go!**  

- Jobs**
- Cars**
- Real Estate**
- Apartments**
- ShopLocal**
- All Classifieds**
  - Create an Ad
  - Find an Ad
  - Legal Notices
- Yellow Pages**

Posted on **Fri, Oct. 12, 2007**

[email](#) [print](#) [reprint or license](#)

[AIM](#) [del.icio.us](#) [Digg it](#)

## Wine and dandy

### A downtown vino bar gives grown-ups a tasteful option

BY AMY CULBERTSON  
STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Zambrano Wine Cellar -- Z Wine Cellar for short -- is still a work in progress, but it's clearly headed in the right direction.

Cef Zambrano, known to many from his years as wine manager at Del Frisco's, opened his own place a couple of months ago - a sophisticated but easygoing little downtown spot where grown-ups can linger, explore an interesting wine list and graze on nibbles crafted with care.

Warm woods and tall, cushy two-tone leather banquettes soften the 1907-vintage exposed-brick walls. The bar is topped with a gorgeous slab of amethyst, illuminated from within to glow softly. To our mind, the flat-screen TV mounted above the bar lowers the tone a bit, but Zambrano says his customers want to watch the Cowboys.

Zambrano's thin-rimmed wineglasses are a pleasure to drink from, and on our visit, the ever-evolving wine list offered more than 40 wines by the glass. Each can be had as a 6-ounce full pour, at prices ranging from \$7 to \$25 (for a couple of the Napa cabs), or a 3-ounce "taste" (\$3.50-\$12.50), allowing you to indulge your curiosity without committing to a full glass.

Even better, if you like what you try, Zambrano will sell you a bottle to take home at retail, roughly half the restaurant price. We felt like buying a case of the 2003 Legaris tempranillo (\$10 a glass), a crianza (that means it's been aged at least a year in oak) with beautiful structure and balance from Spain's Ribera del Duero region.

The menu is evolving too. On our visit, four choices were available -- bruschetta, a panino, a cheese-and-charcuterie platter and a pizza.

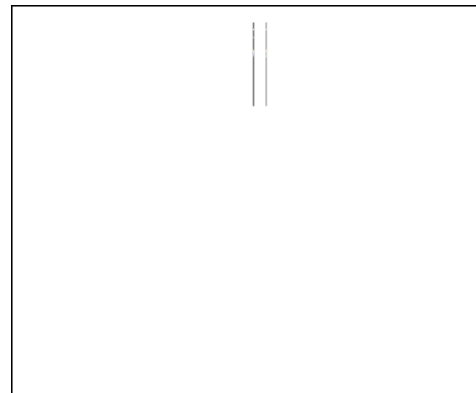
The fact that every one of these involved jamon Serrano didn't bother us, but we were a little concerned about our vegetarian guest.

No problem: Our server suggested a half-meat, half-veggie pizza, and the cheese plate rounded things out (all the more jamon and spicy salami for us). The pizza (\$13.95) was one of the best I've had in Fort Worth, with a crispy crust, top-quality ingredients -- artichoke hearts, red bell pepper, red onions and mushrooms, plus



Star-Telegram/Jeffery Washington

The beverages at Zambrano Wine Cellar can be accompanied by a first-rate pizza or a meat and cheese plate.



Never touch, smell, or buy cat litter again.

See the cat box that, like a cat, is completely self-washing.



See **CatGenie**.  
The dust, odor, germ, work, and litter free cat box

- News**
- Opinion**
- Sports**
- Business**
- Entertainment**
  - Reviews
  - Weekend / GO
  - Movies
  - Video & DVD
  - Restaurants
  - Concerts
  - Music
  - Stage
  - Arts
  - Books
  - Television
  - Celebrities
  - Comics & Games
  - Horoscopes
  - Columnists
- Living**
- Click**
- Obituaries**
- Weddings**
- Columnists**

**StarLinks**

- ▶ [Make us your home page](#)
- ▶ [Dallas Cowboys Medallions](#)
- ▶ [Places of Worship](#)
- ▶ [Accents Shopping](#)
- ▶ [Car Reviews](#)

**ALWAYS CONNECTED** 

- Breaking news alerts
- Daily news updates

**SIGN UP**

- ONLINE EXTRAS**
- [Today's Front Page](#)
- [e-Edition](#)
- [Mobile News](#)
- [Star-Telegram TV](#)
- [Weather](#)

<b>Your Commute</b>	Serrano and pepperoni on the meat side -- finished with an aromatic tumble of fresh basil shreds.
<b>Live Traffic</b>	
<b>Yellow Pages</b>	Though served a little colder than the optimum temperature, the cheese plate (\$14.95) was satisfying, too, with not only sharp Cheddar and Gouda but two sheep's milk cheeses -- Manchego and Petit Basque -- as well as a creamy, mushroomy brie.
<b>Maps &amp; Directions</b>	
<b>Newsletters</b>	

**SITE SERVICES**

<b>RSS</b>	Zambrano says he's expanding the menu, adding some salads, soups -- Hatch green-chile chicken and tomato-basil -- and a chicken panino. Let's hope he keeps the dark-chocolate ganache cake, though (\$6.95). With a cup of French press and the last of that lovely crianza, it made a dreamy ending to the evening.
<b>Contact Us</b>	
<b>Advertise</b>	
<b>Employment</b>	Zambrano Wine Cellar 910 Houston St., Suite 110

**READER SERVICES**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">Events</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Photo Sales</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Posters and Reprints</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Press Pass Card</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Reader Rewards e-Newsletter</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Newspaper in Education</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">MyDFWstore.com</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>Fort Worth</b> 817-850-9463 (850-WINE)</p> <p><b>Hours:</b> 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 11-1 a.m. Friday-Saturday, 5-9 p.m. Sunday</p> <p><b>Cuisine:</b> Wine and tapas</p> <p><b>Essentials:</b> Major credit cards, wine and beer, SF (smoking permitted at sidewalk tables), WA</p> <p><b>Cost:</b> Tapas \$6.95-\$14.95</p>
---	---

**ADVERTISING INFO**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">Newspaper media kit</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Online media kit</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Contact information</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Classified ads</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>Signature dish:</b> Gourmet pizza</p> <p><b>Noise level:</b> Background music -- sophisticated jazz and standards -- is played at a perfect level, hearable but not intrusive.</p> <p><b>Good to know:</b> Owner Cef Zambrano has just begun offering lunch and plans to stay open through the afternoon. There's Internet access, so you can bring your laptop.</p>
--	--

**AFFILIATES**

<p><b>DIARIOla estrella</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">Panache Magazine</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Indulge Luxury Magazine</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Accents Shopping</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Mansfield News-Mirror</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Weatherford Telegram</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Alliance publications</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">The Southlake Journal</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">The Colleyville Courier</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">The Grapevine Courier</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">The Argyle Messenger</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">The Flower Mound Messenger</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">The Keller Citizen</a></li> </ul> <p><b>dfwVarsity</b></p>	<p><a href="mailto:aculbertson@star-telegram.com">aculbertson@star-telegram.com</a> <i>Amy Culbertson is the Star-Telegram food editor, 817-390-7421</i></p>
---	--

**SPECIAL PRODUCTS**

- [DFW AutoLink](#)
- [North Texas Cars](#)
- [Deal on Wheels](#)
- [Star-Telegram Weddings](#)
- [Bridal Magazine](#)
- [Neighborhood Values](#)
- [DFW Find a Home](#)
- [Special Sections](#)



[Ads by Google](#)

## DFW Restaurant Menus

Search Thousands of Menu Items and Eat  
What You Want to Eat Tonight!

[www.foodhawk.com](http://www.foodhawk.com)

[Advertise on this site](#)



[News](#) | [Business](#) | [Sports](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Living](#) | [Shop Local](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Cars](#) | [Homes](#)  
[About the Real Cities Network](#) | [About the McClatchy Company](#)  
[Terms of Use & Privacy Statement](#) | [Copyright](#)