

Cooters Restaurant & Bar: Good ol' Florida

If you Google cool seafood joints in Clearwater Beach, my guess is Cooters Restaurant & Bar will be at the top of the list. What a great place. No, you are not going to be wowed by the décor, because, again, it's a great seafood joint in Florida. It's exactly what I would picture if I were to imagine the perfect Florida seafood restaurant.

The atmosphere is casual and relaxing, and while, yes, I am a total restaurant snob, I do not want to sit in a cold and stiff restaurant. I want the warm, inviting and casual atmosphere that Cooters in CB offers. I know I said casual twice, but I don't utilize a thesaurus when I describe the interior of a restaurant. It's charming, it's, well, let's just say it's Florida. And I love my Florida.

On my most recent visit, I chose to dine outside on the front patio, but there is no shortage of seating inside the restaurant. My server was due to give birth at any given table, bless her heart. Yuck, I hate it when Southerners say that, and I can say that because I am one.

Moving on, Jonnie was AWESOME. I know if I was eight or nine months pregnant, I would be an ass to every table. Actually, if I was at all pregnant, I would be a jerk. Guys don't like pain or discomfort. OK, I'll move on.

I happened, by freak of convenience, to dine at Cooters on a Thursday afternoon, which happens to be Super Grouper Thursday, when they offer a Caesar salad with grouper cheeks, a grouper Reuben, a grouper sandwich, and I want to say grouper tacos and a handful of other grouper items. And, yes, they have a zillion other items in addition to their amazing seafood, such as BBQ Baby Back Ribs, the Famous Cooter Chicken, a Fish and Chips basket, the Sirloin Burger, and the list of mouth-watering items goes on. I actually wanted to try their killer wings but, hey, did you forget I was there on Grouper



Cooters Restaurant & Bar
423 Poinsettia Ave.
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Thursday? So I went with the grouper Reuben and the grouper sandwich, because I couldn't decide what to get and so what do you do? You order both. OMG, they were both out of this world. The Reuben was amazing and the grouper went perfectly with the Thousand Island dressing, sauerkraut and cheese. The grouper sandwich was perfectly prepared and the fresh, fresh bun was delicious. And, yes, I meant to say fresh twice. Oh, I almost forgot. I also had the She Crab soup, and let me say this, it was hands-down the best in the area. I dare anyone to create a better tasting She Crab. And just as amazing were the reasonable, and in my opinion, cheap prices. OK, affordable. Obviously I love the place. It is right down my alley and, truthfully, the perfect restaurant for me. Well, me and about a million others, I reckon. And I must confess, I have been to Cooters a ton of times, so I know you also have to order the Old Bay Steamer Bucket, which consists of mussels, oysters, shrimp, crab legs and corn steamed in a bucket and served with red potatoes and garlic bread. Damn, folks, get in there. I ain't playin'!

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