

42nd Street Oyster Bar and Seafood Grill
508 W. Jones Street
Raleigh, NC
919-831-2811
www.42ndstoysterbar.com

Reviewed by Katie Zimmerman

When your travels take you through the Raleigh area, stop by the 42nd Street Oyster Bar for dinner one night. The Oyster Bar was first established in the area in 1931 and was re-established in 1987 at its original location. A newsletter available at the restaurant recounts the history of the restaurant's location and reports that in 1933 the grocery store that stood there was the first business in Raleigh to sell draft beer in a frosted mug. It was an instant hit. The restaurant that now stands on the sign is named in honor of a group of doctors. The doctors so enjoyed their visit to 42nd Street in New York that when they returned to Raleigh, they agreed to meet "at 42nd Street" whenever they got together for a beer at the grocery store.

The restaurant features a variety of seafood and most of the fresh fish served there is caught on boats owned by the restaurant. Start with the steamed oysters if you enjoy that sort of thing. I recommend the "pack". It's a bucket of steamed oysters served with butter, horseradish, cole slaw, and hushpuppies. The fresh fish is served broiled, blackened, or mesquite grilled. I had to sample the broiled seafood platter, which features halibut, shrimp, and scallops. I liked the white wine/butter/lemon juice sauce that the scallops and shrimp were cooked in. I didn't think the halibut was anything special, but it was fine. Meals are served with cole slaw or salad and your choice of potato. The menu also features a comprehensive beer list to compliment your seafood.

If given a choice, I'd recommend asking for a seat at the oyster bar rather than sitting at a table restaurant. There's so much activity around the oyster bar that it's very entertaining! Enjoy!

42NDST.
OYSTER BAR
& SEAFOOD GRILL