



Jimmy's Café

NEW ORLEANS NEVER LOOKED SO GOOD!

Written by Kimberly D. Goodyear
Photos by Rick Zaidan Photography

"When the taste changes with every bite and the last bite tastes as good as the first, that's Cajun."

- Paul Prudhomme

Looking for a good place to eat

that's off the beaten path? There are so many restaurants that are well worth mentioning, and **Jimmy's Café** in Cuyahoga Falls, just happens to be one of them! From the moment that one sets foot into this simulated southern territory, it's *anything* but dull! Quaint **al fresco dining quarters** with vibrantly-painted umbrella tables line the front entrance of this **New Orleans inspired Café**, and are always considered to be the best seats in the house during the balmy summer months. Upon entering Jimmy's venue, you'll



notice a grand wall of cherished photos that exhibit the many colleagues and friends that have come to love Jimmy *and* his establishment. And just as New Orleans is noted for its total **mix of cultures**, every corner of this **Cajun scene** displays such an assortment; **dripping with jewel encrusted walls in a copious feast of visual art and sculpture**, both **inside and out!** If not to dine, the artwork alone is enough to keep one lingering for hours!



Who would be the proprietor of such

a new fangled café? Non other than **Jimmy Van Hoose**, a native to **New Orleans**, turned owner/operator and artist to what was previously an abandoned building with no memorable history to speak of. Van Hoose bestowed a much needed breath of life into Cuyahoga Falls by opening this unique **Café with flavor**, which is often said to be the "**Jewel of the city**," attracting business professionals and young folk from all over to take in this feast for the eye *and appetite*! And although you can often drive by and see Van Hoose busy incorporating some new artful decor, he admits that in the beginning, the café had "become a real communal project," with people lending their hand to it's renovation, and donating their own cherished works of art to adorn his walls. In addition to this collective project of the heart, Van Hoose and his staff family have held cook-offs to raise money for the Hurricane Katrina victims back home in N'awlins, donating 100% of its proceeds towards the families directly! Jimmy's Café is also a home to many **local musicians, and artists** who are always encouraged to get up and do their

thing on stage **every Friday and Saturday night, performing folk, blues, jazz music** and much more! It is never out of the ordinary to hear their elevating performances throughout the neighborhood, followed by swells of cheers from the crowd that it draws. - A *surefire* way to attract nearby residents in to see what the fun is about, Jimmy's has literally turned a once bland street corner of the Falls, into a hopping, fun place to be!

What kind of cuisine does Jimmy's offer? While Jimmy's Café is known for their unparalleled

desert coffees and drinks, his expertly skilled kitchen staff is proficient in creating a modest, yet perfected array of southern dishes! From Jimmy's *famous* **red beans and rice**, spicy **Jambalaya** and variety of **Gumbos**, to the ever authentic **Po' Boy sandwiches, quiches** and **crepes** are available, and have become local favorites!

Have a sweet tooth? Well y'all 'ave come to the right place! Some of Jimmy's best deserts

can be described as "*delectable*," boasting an incredibly rich **rice pudding**, drizzled with southern comfort sauce, or an out of this world **almond tort**, drizzled with warm caramel! Jimmy's also offers **breakfast crepes** for you early birds from 8-10:30 Saturday mornings and 12-3 on Sundays, using only the freshest ingredients. Have a party that needs catering? Jimmy's Café **hopes to expand its services to offer catering in the near future!**

Café features;

- Live music/entertainment
- Patio dining
- Take-out
- Cash and checks only
- Smoking sections
- Casual dress
- No reservations
- Vegetarian dishes



So if you're ever on this side of town, be sure to stop by Jimmy's Café for a **fine** slice of The Big Easy! - We're Talkin' *N'awlins Style!*



Jimmy's Café

2028 Chestnut Blvd.

Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

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330.923.3660

Closed Monday

Tues-Thurs - 7am-8pm

Friday – 7am-10pm

Saturday – 8am-10pm

Sunday – 12 noon – 3pm

A lil' "yatspeak" to get you in the mood!

- **Gris Gris (gree gree)** - Voo-Doo good luck charm (If the Saints tried it, we know it doesn't work!)
- **Do-do (dough dough--*not* du-du!)** - In New Orleans, it's a cute word children use when tired and sleepy (*from the french "to sleep" = dormir*)
- **Dressed** - Sandwiches served with lettuce, tomatoes and mayonnaise--"the works" (*And, of course...the way those with class catch their Mardi gras throws!*)
- **Gallery (galllll-rreeeee)** - Balcony--walkway outside of homes on the second floor.
- **Fat City** - A region of Metairie (see below) that is a popular place to party during Mardi gras, originating from the term *Fat Tuesday*, the literal translation of *Mardi gras*.
- **Mardi gras** - Fat Tuesday, the day before Lent....the day to celebrate before the traditional Catholic tradition of sacrificing and fasting during the 40 days of Lent.

Happy Dining!