

kapnos taverna

Project Location: Arlington, VA

Project Category: Interior Architecture

Project Synopsis: Kapnos Taverna is a new restaurant in Arlington, VA opened by Top Chef Alum Mike Isabella and head Chef George Pagonis. Serving classic and coastal-inspired Greek dishes, including favorites from the Greek Islands along with tastes from other regions known for their fine local products, Kapnos Taverna is inspired by the Mediterranean influences of Coastal Greece. This project consisted of an interior build out of an empty retail space within a newly completed residential building.

Starting with the same inspirations that created Isabella's original Kapnos location (in downtown D.C.), which was inspired by the rustic mountainous regions of Greece, this new design blended modern detailing with rustic comfortable aesthetic. The space is designed to emulate both the regional fare that is served and the Greek name of the restaurant, which means smoke. The 169-seat, 5,450-square foot space uses terra cotta and other earthy tones offset by a variety of eclectic lighting styles, classic Greek tile motifs, live herbs and plantings, and millwork panels to create an atmosphere reminiscent of Mediterranean gardens.

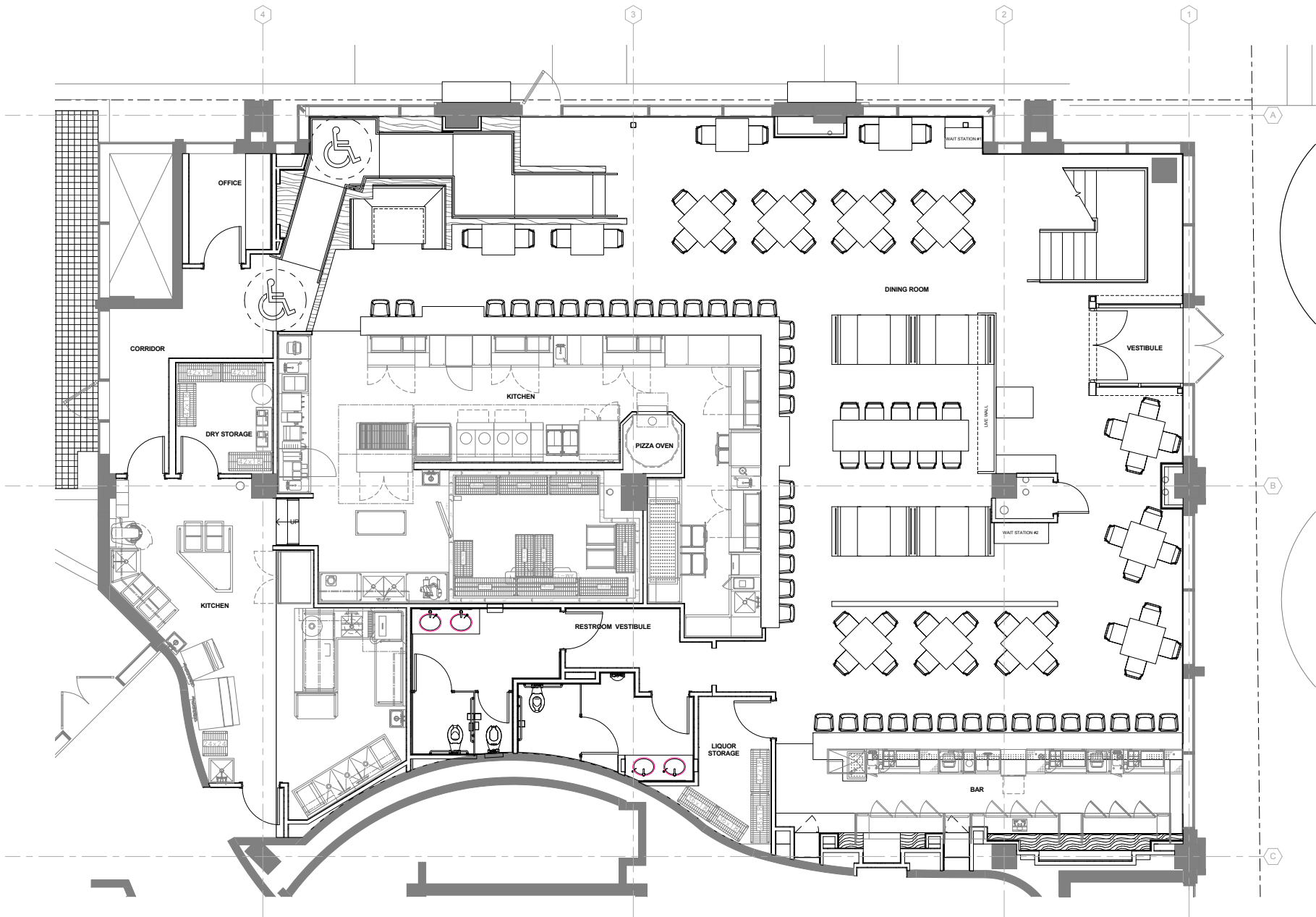
The bar conveys a rustic, outdoor quality with its ebony-stained distressed wood bar front, charred wood back bar. The dining area exudes a comfortable, Mediterranean garden feel highlighted by steel framed vertical herb garden punctuated with lava rock. Overlooking the display kitchen hangs a spacious dining mezzanine with views of the street, the adjacent patio dining, the bar and the action of the open kitchen.



Kapnos Taverna succeeds in transporting the patron to a place that invokes everything that the chefs has to offer from the kitchen, including classic and coastal-inspired Greek dishes.



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Interior floor plan and layout for Kapnos Taverna



It is both a challenge and an opportunity for excellent design to be tasked with imbuing a space with an old world Mediterranean ambiance, while showcasing and celebrating a pristine cutting edge open kitchen. The design seamlessly combines the traditional and familiar with contemporary detail and materials, achieving a subtle and elegantly familiar atmosphere.



Bar details at Kapnos Taverna



Dining Room + Bar view