

East Vancouver's newest cafe Oh Carolina packs a big bite in a small space.

Nestled between Robson Park and the cozy residential homes of East 12th Ave, Oh Carolina has found its home as the newest corner cafe in Mt. Pleasant. Opening its doors just this past summer, Oh Carolina has welcomed a new concept of bringing contemporary delicious eats to an old-school style of neighbourhood gathering.

Far from your typical corner bodega, the cafe offers novelty grocery and treat items that will have you trading in your late night Hot Cheetos with Confit D'oignon chips straight from France.

There is a little something for everyone at Oh Carolina, from gluten-free cookies to Mexican mango sodas. The cafe also boasts local farm fresh items, including produce and meat, providing a carefully curated selection of goods to choose from.

As a member of the Gooseneck Hospitality family, Oh Carolina was born from great minds. The group has opened a number of spots across the city that have been ranted and raved on by locals, including Italian restaurant Bufala and sports-bar adjacent Bells & Whistles. Following suit, the Oh Carolina team has drafted up a delicious lunch menu to offer those who are looking for more than a snack. A selection of sandwiches and sides are available if you'd like to dine in at one of the charming two seater tables, or take it to go on your lunch break. On sunnier days, the patio of the cafe is particularly inviting, with just enough sunlight and potted plants to get your daily dose of feel good.

Oh Carolina removes the over complicated and over dressed from your typical lunch and brings it back to the nostalgic basics with dishes like

sourdough pastrami sandwiches and pasta salads. The whipped smoked sockeye salmon toast is a real winner, served on Irish brown bread with perfectly briny capers and fresh dill. There is a burrata pasta that is sure to change your life and drink selections from flat whites to hot apple cider. If you're brunching, get there before 11am to catch the breakfast sandwich on a potato bun (courtesy of local bakery Livia sweets).

The best part of the whole Oh Carolina experience is tough to nail down. You just can't beat the atmosphere this place so effortlessly provides; a meeting place for friends, families and neighbours to come and press pause on the flurry of everyday life. A sense of peace you can feel while slowly browsing the baked good selection and the genuine smiles coming from the staff is hard to emulate elsewhere. Oh Carolina serves up the best of both worlds: delicious food inspired by modern taste and a comforting community vibe that leaves pretentiousness behind.

Next time you're in the neighbourhood, check out Oh Carolina at 580 E 12th Ave and follow them on Instagram to keep up to date with fresh new doughnut drops [@ohcarolinacafe](#).