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### **Chops Lobster Bar**

Chops Lobster Bar, the unique prime steak and prime seafood concept from the Buckhead Life Restaurant Group, originated in Atlanta, Georgia in 1990. The restaurant has enjoyed a history as one of the industry's most successful in the upscale steak and seafood niche and as a result, the company targeted the concept for a national expansion initiative, announced in January 2006. The expansion of Chops Lobster Bar is the first out-of-state venture for the Buckhead Life Restaurant Group, a family-owned, multi-concept restaurant company based in Atlanta, Georgia.

Long considered one of the premier prime steak and prime seafood restaurants in the country, Chops Lobster Bar has earned the reputation of a steak and seafood-lover's paradise from guests and critics alike. The restaurant ranks among the *Zagat Survey's* top choices for food, service, décor, steaks, seafood and business dining each year. *Food & Wine*, the National Knife & Fork Club of America, *Gourmet* and *Town & Country* have recognized it as a top ten U.S. steakhouse.

The Chops Lobster Bar concept is, however, more than a traditional steakhouse with notable points of differentiation including a wide range of menu offerings and an unparalleled approach to interior design. Chops Lobster Bar boasts a selection of seafood that rivals the nation's finest seafood restaurants; the seafood section of the menu enjoys equal billing with prime steak offerings. Cuisine is prepared from the highest quality ingredients by accomplished, highly-educated chefs; the company recruits culinary talent from all over the country.

The menu mix is designed to appeal to a diverse, yet discerning, social and business audience. A fresh seafood display showcases each day's catch from delectable, tender lobster, prepared a multitude of ways to seasonal cold water oysters

and pristine, fresh fish. Chops Lobster Bar will offer more than 30 varieties of prime seafood and 15 cuts of prime steak daily.

Chops Lobster Bar chefs select meats through stringent review of cattle farms and aging specifications – putting the restaurant’s prime steak selection in a class of its own. Diners can select from a variety of steaks – from bone-in to filet mignon – in sizes to fit their preference (and appetite!).

Vast seafood selections are flown in daily and subject to defined, rigorous quality standards. Seafood menu offerings are subject to change daily based upon what is available at the highest quality; if products that exceed these standards are not available to the restaurant, they will not be available on the menu. Seafood aficionados can choose live Maine lobsters ranging from 2 to 5 pounds, steamed and cracked, or prepared in our original, signature style: thinly crisped, cold water jumbo lobster tail with mustard sauce – a creation that has been a family specialty for more than 30 years. Chops Lobster Bar will also feature the finest genuine Dover Sole, filleted tableside, as well as unique daily fish and shellfish specialties to satisfy even the most discriminating seafood lover.

While the original (Atlanta) Chops Lobster Bar floor plan is located on two levels, the new, combined concept is a marriage of two distinct settings and menu offerings on one level. The unusual, luxurious design makes a bold, powerful statement yet broadly appeals to a variety of clientele. The dining environment blends the traditional, clubby steakhouse feel of Chops, wrapped in Honduran mahogany, with custom-designed chandeliers, sconces and coffered mahogany ceiling, with the Lobster Bar’s herringbone marble tiled walls and ceilings, reminiscent of the famous Oyster Bar in New York’s Grand Central Station. Bill Johnson of The Johnson Studio is leading the design team for Chops Lobster Bar’s expansion.

Buckhead Life Restaurant Group is an independent company led by Founder & CEO Pano Karatassos, and an executive team which includes President & COO Greg Carey, Director of Human Resources, Training and Development Niko Karatassos and Corporate Chef Pano I. Karatassos.

With more than 75 years of combined restaurant industry experience, the company's leadership has a proven history of restaurant ownership, management, development and success with concepts such as Atlanta Fish Market, Buckhead Diner, Bluepointe and many more. The company is family run and widely recognized for innovation in food and design, along with high standards of service, food quality and employee training.

Chops Lobster Bar Boca Raton is located at Southeast 1<sup>st</sup> Street and Plaza Real South, southeast of the intersection of Federal Highway and Palmetto Park Road, and is scheduled to open in January 2007. The restaurant will serve lunch five days and dinner seven days a week, features a large patio and will offer two beautifully-appointed "Boardroom" style rooms for private parties and events. The restaurant's website is [www.chopslobsterbar.com](http://www.chopslobsterbar.com) and phone number is (561) 395-2675.

Buckhead Life Restaurant Group is a privately owned Atlanta-based company which operates Bistro Niko, 103 West, Buckhead Diner, Chops, Lobster Bar, Pricci, Veni Vidi Vici, Atlanta Fish Market, Corner Cafe, Buckhead Bread Company, Nava, Bluepointe and Kyma, all in Atlanta and City Fish Market in Boca Raton. The company is led by Pano Karatassos, who has earned great acclaim as a leading restaurateur since opening his first restaurant, Pano's & Paul's, in 1979. Additional information is available at [www.buckheadrestaurants.com](http://www.buckheadrestaurants.com) and [www.chopslobsterbar.com](http://www.chopslobsterbar.com) or by calling (561) 395-2675.

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