

MAY / JUNE 2016

# OMAHA MAGAZINE



## THE FOOD ISSUE

### FLAGSHIP COMMONS

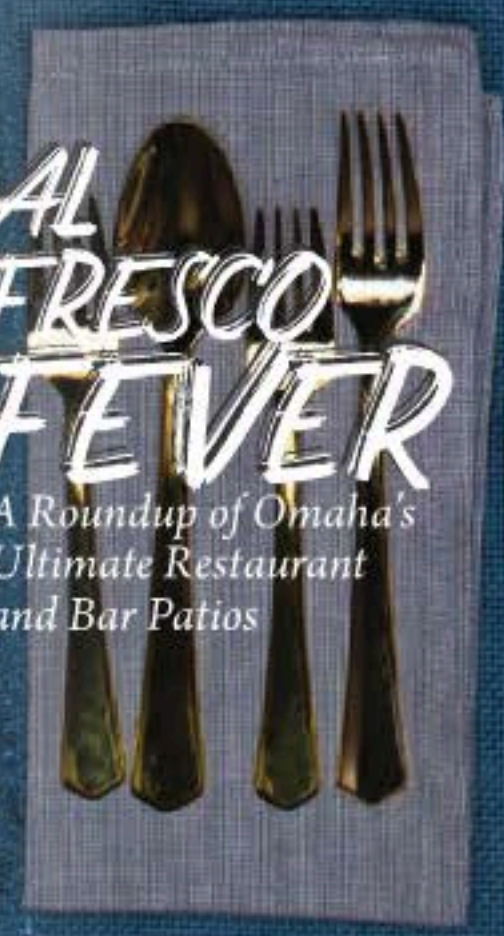
*An Uncommonly Good  
Mall Food Experience*

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# FLAGSHIP COMMONS

*An Uncommonly Good  
Mall Food Experience*

STORY BY MYSTERY REVIEWER  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BILL SITZMANN

**WHEN I AM** trying to pick a place to go for a quick casual meal, the mall is not usually one of my top choices. That changed when Flagship Commons opened at Westroads Mall in January 2016. Now I find myself going to the mall to eat all the time. Judging by the crowds, it appears I'm not alone.

Flagship Commons is an innovative new concept by the Flagship Restaurant Group. These are the same people that brought to Omaha Blue Sushi Sake Grill, Roja Mexican Grill, Blatt Beer & Table, Plank Seafood Provisions, and Amsterdam Falafel & Kabob.





*Amsterdam Falafel & Kabob*

In the comfortable and open Flagship Commons area, you will find eight different fast casual or full service dining concepts, plus a bar, in one food hall. The list includes: Weirdough Pizza Company, Yum Roll Sushi, Yoshi-Ya Ramen, Clever Greens, Juan Taco, Aromas Coffee House, Amsterdam Falafel & Kabob, and Blatt Beer & Table. As you might guess the hardest part about eating at Flagship Commons is deciding which concept to go to. Well, I have tried all of them and I can tell you that they are all good. It just depends what you like and what you are in the mood for.

“WELL, I HAVE TRIED ALL OF THEM AND I CAN TELL YOU THAT THEY ARE ALL GOOD. IT JUST DEPENDS WHAT YOU LIKE AND WHAT YOU ARE IN THE MOOD FOR.”

Some of my personal favorites come from Blatt Beer & Table, which has an abbreviated menu of what you will find at the other locations that share its name. Here you will find the best-ever mall burger (\$11.50), and some very tasty mac and cheese (\$9), as well as a great assortment of craft beers (\$5.50 each). Amsterdam Falafel & Kabob is kind of fun in that you first chose a style—flatbread, salad, or plate. Next choose a protein—falafel (\$6.25), beef (\$7.99), lamb (\$7.99) or chicken (\$7.50). Then you can doctor it up with assorted sauces and veggies. Juan Taco has a great assortment of authentic tacos (\$2-\$4.50) as well as some very yummy quesadillas (\$2.50-\$4.25).

Over at Clever Greens everything is bursting with freshness. They have some specialty entree salads (\$7.50-\$13), or you can build your own creation, specifying every single ingredient. The build-your-own option starts at \$7.50. As you might have guessed Yoshi-ya Ramen serves up authentic ramen noodles.



*Blatt Beer & Table*



*Yum Roll Sushi*

My favorite is the Tonkotsu Deluxe (\$11.50). This ramen soup has chicken and pork broth, chashu, ajitama egg, menma, moyashi, negi, corn, pork belly, and rayu chili oil. Yum Roll Sushi has some excellent bowls (\$7-\$9), sashimi (\$5-\$7), nigiri (\$4.50-\$6.50) and of course sushi rolls (\$4-\$11.50). Weirdough Pizza Company is known for its Roman-style, square-cut pizza, made by hand to order in their custom oven. You can get whole-sized pies (\$18-\$23) or a large slice (\$3.75-\$4.50).

Many of the concepts serve beer and wine and there is also a full bar at the appropriately named “The Bar.” I should also mention that there is a reverse happy hour Sunday-Thursday from 7:30 p.m. to close. I really like this concept and think that it has some great growth potential. If you have not been over to check it out yet, you really need to do so soon.

Cheers! OMAHA

**FLAGSHIP COMMONS 10000**  
 California St. (Westroads Mall)  
 402-932-9993  
 FLAGSHIPCOMMONS.COM

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<b>FOOD</b>	★★★★★
<b>SERVICE</b>	★★★★
<b>AMBIANCE</b>	★★★
<b>PRICE</b>	\$
<b>OVERALL</b>	★★★★★

5 STARS POSSIBLE