

Search LA.com

Search

[Guides](#) / [LA.COMfidential Blog](#) / [ClothesHorse Bl](#)

NIGHTLIFE

DINING

SHOPPING & SPAS

ATTRACTIONS

The JetBlue Card from American Express.

The more you use it, the more free\*

JetBlue flights you can earn.



DINING GUIDES

## Ole! Tapas Bar

A buttery bistro dims the lights and goes Spanish

- Happy Hours
- Romantic Restaurants
- Late-Night Eats
- Special Dining Nights
- Alfresco Dining
- Diners, Delis & Dives
- Celebrity-Owned Restaurants
- Eat & Shop
- Only in LA
- Pet-Friendly Restaurants
- Escape LA (Without Leaving)
- Aphrodisiacs Guide
- Business Lunches
- Hotel Brunches
- Where the Chefs Go
- LA's Hottest Restaurant Personalities 2005
- See All Guides

### FACTS

- print
- other dining in this area
- nightlife in th
- e-mail to a friend
- official website
- search dinin

**Address:** 13251 Ventura Blvd.  
Studio City, 91604 [> map it](#)  
(818) 986-3190

**Cross Street:** Longridge Ave.

**Neighborhood:** East Valley

**Type:** Tapas

**Hours:** Sun-Thu 5pm-11pm  
Fri-Sat 5pm-12am



### WHERE TO GO

- See All (974)
- African, Caribbean & Creole
- American, Steakhouses & Seafood
- Asian, Pan Asian & Sushi
- Bakeries, Coffee & Breakfast
- California & Pacific
- Diners, Delis & BBQ
- Eclectic
- Fast Food, Pizza & Bar Food
- French & Bistro
- Healthy & Vegetarian
- Indian
- Italian
- Mediterranean & Middle Eastern
- Mexican, Southwest & Latin American
- Regional European

### LOWDOWN

The former French bistro Tournesol has become a tapas bar, bringing the olive to the Valley. Finally.

It was the previous restaurant's chef and owner, Patrice Lambert, who wanted happening Spanish-themed spot. The Frenchman had a successful run with the Provencal-style Tournesol, but it was not unlike similar spots nearby. So he hired a chef to change the menu. Then he changed the butter-yellow walls to darker hues, drenched that sunny disposition in wine and sexy darkness. Valley denizens—industry-ites, and others uninterested in driving over the hill for dinner—show up filling the leather booths, slick bar and patio almost every night.

Chef Richard Crespin's family once owned a real tapas bar in the Basque region when they tried to open something similar here in the '80s, it tanked. Seems LA is ready for small portions of salty anchovies, garlicky peppers, cheese and char almost-authentic tapas spots are popping up all over town, and Crespin has got the real thing. Indecisive diners should try the hot tapas plate with almost everything: menu: fried calamari with chili-garlic sauce; sauteed mushrooms and artichoke; creamy fried goat cheese with honey. Standout entrees include seared ahi with the five-peppercorn grilled NY steak. The Spanish wine and punchy sangria are a nice and decor—nicely.

### SEE ALSO

- Email the Dining Editor
- LA Dining Gossip
- Food & Wine Events

**Cost:** \$\$

Get restaurant and dining event updates delivered to your mailbox once a month to [Fooditude](#), LA.com's free dining newsletter.

Fooditude Newsletter



FEATURE:

Atmosphere: Hip

Parking: Valet on weekend nights, street parking



FOR A LIMITED TIME,  
JOIN THE EMERALD CLUB  
FOR FREE (\$50 VALUE).

[Enroll Now](#)  
Make a reservation

| Sponsored Links                            |  |                               |
|--|--|-------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Unbiased reviews of Hotels</a> | <a href="#">Moving Companies</a>       | <a href="#">Timeshares</a>    |
| <a href="#">Reviews of London Hotels</a>   | <a href="#">Business Card Printing</a> | <a href="#">Laptops</a>       |
| <a href="#">Home improvement</a>           | <a href="#">Car Insurance Quote</a>    | <a href="#">Shopping Cart</a> |
| <a href="#">Medical Alert for Seniors</a>  | <a href="#">Siebel CRM Software</a>    | <a href="#">Used Cars UK</a>  |

[About LA.com](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Advertising](#) | [Press](#) | [Terms & Conditions](#) | [Contact Us](#) |

~LA.com: Your City. Your Guide. LA.com is a new insider's guide to Los Angeles  
21221 Oxnard Street, Los Angeles, CA 91367

© 2005 LA.com