



DINING

ALL BOTTLED UP: THE BUZZ ON BYOB

Bring the heat

By Emily Hiser Lobdell

The spot: Don't put away those Uggs just yet. If you think this week's warm weather means winter's over, you're probably not from around these parts. When the temp retreats to its frigid January norm, you'll find us warming up in the cozy confines of **Tre Kronor**. Those Scandinavians know how

to ward off winter chill. Packed with students and a friendly neighborhood crowd, the downstairs dining room is Old World cozy, with bright decor and a colorful troll mural painted on the east wall. Owner Larry Anderson, of Swedish descent, and his wife, Patricia Rasmussen, of Norwegian descent, have kept traditions alive

here for 16 years. The hearty breakfast is popular for the *pannekaker* (Swedish pancakes) topped with lingonberries (\$4.95). At dinner, nothing warms the soul like *kottbullar*, Swedish meatballs served with lingonberries and cucumbers (\$11).

The bottle: If you want the full-scale Scandinavian warmup treatment, bring aquavit, a grain-based liquor seasoned with caraway seeds, anise and herbs. **Sam's Wines and Spirits** (1720 N. Marcey St. 312-664-4394) sells a handful of aquavits from across the pond, such as Sweden's O.P. Anderson (\$22.99) and the less expensive Danish Aalborg (\$16.99). But North Shore Distillery in Lake Bluff makes an aquavit that Sam's spirits director David Soto calls "one of the best" (\$25.99). Tre Kronor will be ready with small, frosted glasses kept stored in the freezer.

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TRE KRONOR

[BARRY BRECHEISEN PHOTO FOR METROMIX]

READER REVIEWS

What you're saying about Tre Kronor

"Coming from the South Side, I expected to get a good meal but also [to] get ripped off. Not here. I had a fish plate and loved it. Price was right."
—GEORGE A.

"We went on a Sunday expecting a wait, which was fine. When we did get a table, our order took 30 minutes ... After our table was cleaned off, it took another 20 minutes to get our check. The service was terrible. The food was

good, the portions small, and the price high." —JANE

"Go to this restaurant! Great food and service." —NICK

"Went to Tre Kronor for the first time and loved it! We were seated upstairs promptly. The service was attentive and quick, our coffee cups were never empty and our food came to the table quickly. ... Will go back for sure!" —PH