

Whiskey Park evokes speakeasy vibe



Bars sometimes fit their surroundings, and Whiskey Park definitely accomplishes that. The new East Naples watering hole fits in along Mercantile Avenue, just east of Airport-Pulling Road, in an unassuming, cream-colored building with a brick-walled interior and iron chandeliers. Bikers have been known to frequent Whiskey Park, giving it some street cred. It's reminiscent of industrial-style bars in Detroit and other blue-collar cities.

For nearly 30 years the bar was the Captain's Cabin, a somewhat rough bar in the industrial park. Larry Hoelzer, formerly of Grumpy's Ale House in the Pavilion shopping plaza in North Naples, opened Whiskey Park in late April.

Yet Whiskey Park has become popular with East Neapolitans and others, with its open duct work, wooden floor and beer garden light strands.

Mainly fried foods are served until closing, such as burgers, wings, fried green tomatoes and Parmesan crusted eggplant bites.

Thirsty?

Beers and mixed drinks abound, but with a name like Whiskey Park, try a whiskey served from a tap including Jameson Irish Whiskey. The bar, on its website, refers to itself as "a New Orleans-inspired restaurant" that embodies the "laid-back atmosphere of a speakeasy for sipping on whiskey."

Try this

The Parmesan crusted eggplant bites come with Parmesan sauce for dipping. At \$7.99, it could serve as a meal but there's plenty of other offerings. The sliced brisket (\$10.99) sandwich is loaded with barbecue beef, pickles, lettuce and onions.

DETAILS

Whiskey Park

3380 Mercantile Ave, Naples

Hours: 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Information: 239-263-6777 or whiskeypark-naples.com

