



The Insider's Guide

Our prime location on the Georgetown waterfront, with views of the Potomac River, Kennedy Center to the left, and the Key Bridge to the right, is pretty ideal. It's no wonder everyone walks in wanting the best view possible!

And, as you may have guessed, that means that our window tables are some of the most coveted in Washington, DC. Believe me, we wish every table was along the window, but simply put, we can only have so many tables with a view of the Potomac River. Although we take seating requests, we cannot guarantee any particular table for any one or any occasion. Furthermore, six people is the largest party size we can comfortably accommodate along the windows and we only have two tables available for this option.

As our loyal guests know, our team at Fiola Mare strives to deliver the highest level of hospitality and cuisine for our guests. Part of being hospitable means doing all we can to accommodate our guests' seating requests, but unfortunately, we have limited availability when it comes to tables on our Veranda and Patio. That is why we thought it might be helpful to share this Insider's Guide to Fiola Mare.

When looking for "prime time" reservations, generally between 7 and 8pm, we suggest making reservations at least a month in advance for Fridays and Saturdays. Please inform us of your seating preference at the time of making your reservation. Although, guests sometimes arrive and request certain seating, we prioritize seating based on arrival while also taking into account how far in advance the reservation was made.

As a general rule, we plan for guests to be seated between 2 to 2 1/2 hours to fully enjoy their dining experience. Please consider this when sitting for longer than 2 1/2 hrs. We want everyone to have an opportunity to enjoy the Fiola Mare experience as they imagined!

The Veranda

Our glass-enclosed room facing the Potomac River is known as The Veranda and has 10 tables that overlook the river. The Kennedy Center and the Key Bridge are visible before sunset, depending on which direction you are facing. Some tables have a slightly obstructed view due to floodgate columns and umbrellas. After dark, there are no lights to illuminate the scenery. As you know, we take requests for Veranda seating, yet cannot guarantee any certain table. That said, you are more likely get a Veranda table if you arrive early, between 5:00pm and 6:00pm, for the first seating. The second seating generally happens between 7:45pm and 8:00pm. The third seating can be anywhere from 9:00pm to 10:00pm. For those who dine on the later side, after 9:30pm, you will most likely have your pick of tables!

The Patio

We have 8 tables on the upper Patio, just outside of the Veranda. Although we do our best to honor requests for outdoor seating, we do not make reservations for outdoor seating due to potential for daily weather changes. Outdoor seating is based on requests, made in advance, as well order of arrival. Some guests choose to wait for outdoor seating. The wait-time can be between 1 - 10 minutes or 30-45 minutes depending on how long previously seated guests choose to linger. We are continually checking tables to update guests on wait-times. We close the patio in the fall and winter seasons. The closing date is dependent on weather changes but generally happens in early October. We re-open the patio in the spring, as soon as weather permits, usually in mid-May.

If you plan to come without a reservation, we do have options for you!

Marina

Situated on the boardwalk level along the Potomac River, the Marina has 10 – 12 tables. We do not take reservations for Marina seating. The best chance to get seating on the Marina is to arrive before 7pm most evenings. Otherwise, we do start a waiting list specifically for the Marina, just check in with the host. The Marina has continuous service from lunch through dinner service, although in between lunch and dinner we offer a limited menu. If you are looking to have just drinks, we ask that you have a seat in the bar area or lounge areas.

Fiola Mare Main Bar

The semi-circular bar at the front of the restaurant with 16 comfortable stools is extremely inviting, especially at Happy Hour and sunset. We serve our full menu, excluding whole grilled fish, at the bar. We have 3 bar tables inside and a few outside tables on the front patio that are available for guests who walk-in without a reservation. Please check-in with the Host Stand and they will be able to direct you to an available table.

Bar Piccolo

This smaller, more intimate bar has 6 – 8 seats and can be found just beyond the main dining room. The tables found in this room are for reservations only. You will have to ask the host stand if they are available. Bar Piccolo can get rather lively on weekends but is nice alternative to the main bar on quiet evenings. Again, we serve the full menu, excluding the whole grilled fish, at Bar Piccolo.

Sofia Lounge, Kennedy Lounge, Marina Lounge

These lounge areas can be found outside the Mermaid Room, outside of Bar Piccolo, and on the Marina level. They are available for drink service only, no food, and are first come, first serve. They are sometimes used as a place to gather if you are waiting to be seated.

Want an Insider Tip?

- *The best times to walk-in without a reservation are 5:30pm or 9:30pm during the week. Weekends are a little more challenging because are generally fully-booked from 5:30pm onwards.*
- *If you join our eClub, we can alert you of further insider information and special events through our newsletter.*
- *Did you know Gruppo FT VIP Club members gain access to priority reservations?*
- *Once the sun sets, the party moves inside to the main dining room. That's where you really want to be seen after dark!*