



MONKEY BAR

5297 S Cherokee Way
Homosassa, FL 34448
352-628-2474

Our Story

Brothers Blair & Ethan Hensley, born and raised in Brooksville, FL, were no strangers to the world of cooking. Coming from a family full of cooks, they have been in the kitchen for as long as they can remember.

Growing up, the brothers were fortunate enough to have their Granny Lewis live with them, who would regularly help cook 3 meals a day, with the Hensley boys' Mother Larie, the old fashioned way.

With their mother Larie, known for her long-lasting restaurant Mallie Kylas, the boys both started working in the restaurant industry at a young age. It was only a matter of time before they ventured out on their own.

A menu inspired by some of Blair & Ethan's favorite recipes from their mother, Larie.

#Floridacrackerstyle

Soups

Ask Your Server About our Soup of the Day!

Cup 3.50 Bowl 4.5 Bread Bowl

Crab & Corn Chowder

Creamy Crab and Corn Chowder with lumps of Blue Crab and sweet yellow corn

Chicken Tortilla

Tomato base with chunks of White Chicken Garnished with sour cream and shredded cheese

To-Go Soups Available in Personal & Sharable!

Personal 3.75

Sharable Quart 11.95

Salads

All Salads are Served on Bed of Mixed Greens! Dressing Options:
Orange Vinaigrette, Greek, Nicoise (Ranch), Citrus & Chipotle Mayonnaise

Fajita Chicken

Black beans, tomatoes, Cheddar Jack Cheese, Grilled Chicken and Frites

Paired with Chipotle Mayonnaise Dressing

9.95

Mallie's Garden

Mandarin Oranges, Peanuts, Raisins, Sliced Mushrooms, Feta Cheese and Crumbled Bacon

Paired with Orange Vinaigrette

8.95

Southern Cobb

Grilled Chicken, Hard boiled Egg, Crumbled Bacon, Tomatoes, Sliced Avocado

Paired with Nicoise Dressing

9.95

Greek

House-made potato salad, black olives, pepperonies, Pickled Beets, Purple Onions and Feta Cheese

Paired with Greek Dressing

8.95

Florida Spinach

A Bed of Spinach topped with Cranberries, Toasted Pecans Purple Onions, Mandarin Oranges and Feta Cheese

Paired with Citrus Dressing

9.95

Sandwiches

Sandwiches are available on Whole Wheat, White, or Marble Rye.

We use only Hellmann's Mayonnaise and our Homemade Mallie's Mustard. Lettuce and Tomato available on request.

All cafe sandwiches are served with chips, dill pickle and choice of potato salad, kidney bean salad, cucumber slaw or pasta salad. Substitute Fresh Fruit add .50

Ham & Swiss

Sweet Virginia Ham topped with Swiss Cheese (Heated if you'd like!)

8.95

Beef & Bird

Roast Beef, Turkey and swiss layered between three slices of bread

9.99

Roast Beef Crunch

A Warm & Crunchy Sandwich on an Italian Ciabatta roll with thinly sliced roast beef, Swiss Cheese and our Mallie's Mustard. Served with Au Jus

8.95

Monkey Island Club

Oven Roast Turkey on a fresh baked croissant with Sliced Avocado, bacon, Lettuce and our house Nicoise Dressing

8.95

The BoB

Any Choice of 1/2 of our sandwiches with a cup of homemade soup.

Add .50 if it's Ham & Swiss, Gobbler,

Monkey Island Club, Roast Beef Crunch or on a croissant.

7.95

The Gobbler

Turkey Piled High on a fresh baked croissant with Hellman's Mayo and Whole Berry Cranberry Sauce and thin sliced cucumber and lettuce

8.95

Build Your Own With Egg or Chicken Salad, Roasted Turkey, Ham or Roast Beef

Cracker Cuban

Thinly sliced ham and swiss cheese with Cracker coated Mojo pork, pickles and yellow mustard - pressed hot and crispy!

9.99



Dips

All Dips are Served with Pita Chips

Granny McKethan's Hot Blue Crab Dip

Our Family recipe creamy Blue Crab dip
with cheese, served piping hot with pita chips!

10

Florida Cracker Shrimp

Fresh shrimp in an orange vinaigrette
glaze with fresh purple onions,
mandarin oranges and secret spices.

10

Buffalo Chicken

Shredded fresh grilled all natural chicken
and a blend of cheeses, served hot

9

Monkey Bar House Plates

Chicken Salad Wrap & Cup of Soup

Fresh Chicken Salad, Spinach, crumbled bacon and toasted pecans in a soft tortilla shell
A Cup of our Home-Made Soup

8.95

Homosassa Salad Plate

Choice of Chicken or Tuna Salad and two of the following; fruit salad, Pasta Salad,
Kidney Bean Salad, Potato Salad or Cucumber Slaw

9.50

Cup of Soup & Side Salad

Side Salad of Mixed Green, Tomatoes, Cucumbers & Onions,
With House Dressing and Crunchy Bread Sticks

7.95

Stuffed Avocado

Choice of Chicken or Tuna Salad and one of the following; fruit salad, Pasta Salad,
Kidney Bean Salad, Potato Salad or Cucumber Slaw

9.95

Beverages

Sweet or Unsweet Tea | Peach Tea | Pink Lemonade | Coca Cola Classic | Diet Coke
"Real" Cherry Coke | Root Beer | Sprite | 100% Colombian Coffee - Regular or Decaf

Monkey Treats

Monkey Bread

Soon to be Famous!
Everyones favorite sticky cinnamon pull apart sweet treat

4.50

Banana Cream Pie

Classic and creamy banana cream pie

4.50

What is a Florida Cracker?

The term generally describes a class of early Florida Pioneers, mainly small farmers and cattle ranchers. Cracker cowboys are sometimes called cow hunters.

When it was time for branding or driving the cattle to the market, the cracker cowboys would search the swamps and round up all the cows with the aid of whips and cattle dogs. Florida Crackers are also distinguishable by the architecture of their frontier Florida homes, their musical traditions and food-ways.

A TRUE HISTORY OF MONKEY ISLAND

HOMOSASSA'S FLORIDA CRACKER RIVERSIDE RESORT

G.A. (Furgy) Furgason, also known as “Mr. Homosassa” because of his planning and directing of much of the areas surroundings, worked 36 years with Bruce A. Norris of the Norris Cattle Company until his retirement in 1983. They negotiated deals to buy the land where the Yardarm Lounge, the Riverside Resort and Riverside Crab House, the Wildlife Park, the Crow’s Nest, Sugarmill Woods, and Riverhaven Village now sit.

Mr. Furgason said he ran into the late Dr. John N Hamlet in Rapid City and convinced the naturalist to come to Florida. Upon his arrival, Dr. Hamlet was hired by Weekie Wachee as naturalist and then subsequently was hired Furgy. Dr. Hamlet had captured monkeys and brought them to America where they were used to perfect the polio vaccine. Monkey Island was just a pile of rocks in the 1960’s that took the bottom right out of boats during high tide. Furgy went to Africa on Norris Cattle business leaving instructions for the dragline operator, working for him on the Crow’s Nest, “to pull some dirt around these rocks so the boaters could see it better”. When he got back to Homosassa, the dragline operator had piled so much dirt and rocks up that he had succeeded in building a barren island right outside Yardarm.

Having no idea what to do with this horrible eyesore, he decided to build a lighthouse on it. He then started thinking about the monkeys along the canal at the Attraction. There were some that were rather difficult, always escaping and getting into visitors cars, stealing candy and biting tourists. He said he had often thought of sending them to Alcatraz and figured the island would be perfect. He put three spider monkeys and two squirrel monkeys on the island with some huts and trees. The first island monkeys lasted twelve years before they began to die and were replaced with younger monkeys. The island turned out to be a big attraction for the visitors becoming known as Monkey Island. Palm trees were planted by the monkeys kept eating the palm hearts, which caused the trees to die; cedars volunteered and prospered.

Today there are five spider monkeys on the island; there is Ralph, the alpha male, Sassy, the matriarch, Ebony, their offspring, and our two newest female adoptions, Eve and Emily. The two squirrel monkeys; Tiny & Tim, died of old age in 2003 and 2005. New houses, play toys and enhancement features are always being added for their amusement. Visitors to our river are a constant source of entertainment for our Monkey Family. Even though the ownership of the property has changed over the years, the island is still owned by Homosassa Riverside Resort and the monkeys are under the care of the present owners.

The monkeys are fed twice a day from a menu designed specifically for them consisting of: green leafy vegetables, bananas, oranges, sweet potatoes, raw peanuts and monkey chow. They stay on the island because they prefer not to swim and the river acts as a natural barrier. They still delight the Yardarm and hotel guests with their playful antics.