

About Us



La Storia di Reginella's

When I was deciding on a name for the restaurant, I wanted something that would tell a little bit of history about my city in Italy, Napoli. I finally decided on the name Reginella's. In Italian, Reginella literally means, "little queen". Reginella is not only the name of a very popular Neapolitan song; it also is to signify a special lady, Queen Margherita.

The pizza was created in Naples. Its exact start is actually traced back to the Greek colony of Neapolis (New City), which is now modern day Naples. It is said that pizza may have been baked in their brick ovens as early as 500 BC. These hot pies were usually garnished only with cheese.

The pizza was a very popular dish eaten primarily in Naples, and a pizzaiolo (pizza cook) needed to have a fine hand to make it come out just right. It was not until the tomato was introduced to Naples by way of Peru, that our modern day pizza started to come into existence and its international popularity spread.

In 1889 a Neapolitan man named Raffaele Esposito brought pizza to international attention. Raffaele Esposito was summoned to the royal residence to cook for Queen Margherita, who was visiting the city with her husband Umberto I. Raffaele Esposito decided to make something that represented his newly unified country of Italy. (The Italian city-states were not unified until 1861). The inventive cook created a dish with the colors of the united Italy, green (basil), white (mozzarella), and red (tomato sauce). This is also why this type of pizza in Italy is called a Margherita. Queen Margherita loved the new dish presented to her and pizza was on its way to becoming the popular dish it is today.

Naples is a city that is famous for its culinary accomplishments. When I came to this country I dreamed that I would one day create something that would bring my cities tradition and style to this country. With Reginella's I am bringing a little bit of my home to yours. Buon Appetito.

*Grazie,
Vincenzo Fusaro
Owner/Operator*