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# Shula's Bar & Grill opens at Southwest Florida International Airport

## Second-of-its-kind Shula's location opens

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Travelers pass by Shula's Bar & Grill, which opened in the pre-security area of Southwest Florida International Airport's passenger terminal on Wednesday. The restaurant replaces Chili's Too. / Laura Ruane/news-press.com

Written by **Laura Ruane**

Upscale dining has landed at Southwest Florida International Airport.

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After months in the making, Shula's Bar & Grill opened for business Wednesday in the passenger terminal's pre-security area.

It's not the first Shula's in Southwest Florida: Naples has a Shula's Steakhouse.

It is, however, only the second of this particular Shula restaurant format to be located in an airport, with the first opening early this year at Miami International.



Jason Roth serves a customer at the bar at Shula's Bar & Grill, which opened for business Wednesday at Southwest Florida International Airport. / Laura Ruane/news-press.com

**At a glance**

What: Shula's Bar & Grill  
Where: Southwest Florida International Airport Terminal

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A couple stopping early Wednesday afternoon for some refreshment said they were surprised and delighted by the restaurant's menu in general, and its wine assortment in particular.

"She had a pomegranate martini; I tried a Chardonnay and a Zinfandel — fantastic," said Joe Cistaro, 65, who with wife Jori was waiting for a return flight to Chicago.

"This is a higher-end place for airport visitors — something different than fast food," said Jori Cistaro, who's 41. They have a second home in Naples, "and when we're in this airport, we'll make enough time to stop here," Jori Cistaro said.

Shula's Bar & Grill, with 55 full- and part-time workers, serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, including full bar service. Adjacent to the restaurant is Shula's on the Fly: a counter for takeout food orders.

Sandwiches, salads and burgers are the main fare. A Shula burger with fries or coleslaw costs \$10.99. Steak lovers may choose from a 6-ounce filet mignon for \$31.99 or a 12-ounce New York Strip for the same price, served with grilled asparagus and a choice of potato.

Wine by the glass ranges from \$9 to \$32, with full bottles also available.

NFL Hall of Fame coach Don Shula — former coach for the Miami Dolphins — and his family created the restaurant.

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