



# Clough Crossings

*Clough Pike restaurant, once a schoolhouse, serves up seafood with a community flair.*

By Thomas Vaughan

**H**ave you ever noticed that the best restaurants are not the flashiest or the biggest? The best restaurants are the neighborhood mainstays with a crowd of regulars. That is the case with Clough Crossings in Anderson Township, on the east side of Cincinnati.

The building has been a part of the Anderson Township community since being built in 1874 as District School No. 7. Since the 1940s it has been a restaurant, a tavern and even an American Legion Post. Today, Clough Crossings offers a varied menu with a focus on seafood.

The menu has been refined over the years to cater to the favorites of the restaurant's many regulars. A standout item is the Almond-Crusted Salmon in a light saffron ginger sauce. Priced at \$16.95, this dish is typical of the attention and value offered by owners Gary and Mary Sammons.

If seafood is not your preference, Clough Crossings also offers a selection of homemade steaks, chicken, burgers, sandwiches, salads and soups.

Clough Crossings has a definite local flair. The seafood is purchased daily for maximum freshness. There is even a selection of microbrews from the local Barrel House Brewery.

Start your evening in the golf-themed bar. The walls are covered with memorabilia, but pay close attention. All the items on the walls, from the golf pencil collection to the hundreds of bag tags from some of the world's best courses, were provided by the restaurant's customers. In response to his regulars updating the environment, Gary Sammons refers to the bar as "an artifact in progress."

The main dining room stays true to its roots as a local schoolhouse. The walls are decorated with old black and white pictures of school children and activities. Most striking though is the massive antique black walnut bookcase that dominates one wall of the main dining room. This beautiful piece was hand-carved in Germany in 1840 as part of a matching pair originally for a private Cincinnati library.



Clough Crossings offers customers a varied menu.

## Location

6892 Clough Pike, Anderson Township

## Hours

Dinner, Monday through Thursday, 5 to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 5 to 10 p.m.

## Atmosphere

Golf-themed bar has both table and bar seating. Dining room is intimate with larger tables in the center and smaller nooks around the perimeter.

## Reservations

Recommended by calling (513) 624-7800.

## Prices

Dinner: Appetizers \$4 to \$10; salads \$10 to \$12; burgers and sandwiches, \$7 to \$11; entrees, \$16 to \$20.

## Other

AAA Rating: 2-Diamond.  
[www.cloughcrossings.com](http://www.cloughcrossings.com)



The inside of Clough Crossings stays true to its roots as a schoolhouse.

During warmer months a spacious patio opens in the back of the restaurant for al fresco dining. The sign out front reads "Good Food & Potable Spirits" and Clough Crossings definitely lives up to its billing. Arrive early, stay late and become one of the regulars.