

LET'S TACO BOUT IT

A tour of the North Shore's taco joints

by Josh Klein, Photos by Maya Kowitt



Taco Nano

Taco Nano is the original North Shore taco restaurant, and similar to Trendy Taco, the restaurant has an authentic vibe to it. There are small cactus plants as center pieces on all of the tables, and the walls are painted in popping blues, oranges, greens and yellows.

Taco Nano offers a variety of choices. The menu has nine different tacos that range from your classic ground beef taco to steak, chicken, turkey, seafood and more. Tacos are either \$3 or \$4 each, depending on the contents, and each order comes with two tacos that have either corn or flour tortillas, and you can mix and match. Taco Nano's variety allows one to eat there multiple times a month while always ordering different tacos.

Taco Nano is a walking distance from New Trier's Northfield Campus. It's a popular place for students to go to after school or for kids and families to eat at on the weekend. It is located at 1743 Orchard Lane and is open from 11:00 AM-9:30 PM on weekdays, 11:00 AM-10:00 PM on Friday and Saturday, and it's closed on Sundays.

Taco Lago

As opposed to the other two that pride themselves as a healthy quick and cheap food option, Taco Lago markets themselves as more of a traditional sit-down restaurant, and it's the most expensive offering.

Taco Lago's menu offers six different tacos that each cost either \$7 or \$9, significantly more than the other two. On all of the tacos, you can add on chicken, steak or guacamole for \$1 each or add onion or cilantro for 50 cents.

As the name of the restaurant implies, Taco Lago is located inside of Wilmette's Plaza Del Lago, and there were very few restaurants in that location prior to Taco Lago's opening. Many people feel that Taco Lago is a much needed restaurant, filling the culinary void of Plaza del Lago.

Taco Lago aims for a classier feel. In some people's opinions, the tacos are very similar to those of Trendy Taco and Taco Nano, so the extra cost doesn't feel justified.

Taco Lago is located at 1515 Sheridan Road and is open from 11:00 AM-9:00 PM on weekdays, 11:00 AM-10:00 PM on Friday and Saturday, and 11:00 AM-7:00 PM on Sunday.



Trendy Taco

Trendy Taco is the newest restaurant of the three, and the authentic vibe is realized the moment you walk in. The yellow tile walls are decorated with gigantic iguanas, and the restaurant has a design aesthetic that's a mix of wood and metal.

The tacos are inexpensive, delicious and authentic. Every order comes with two corn tortilla tacos, and the menu offers six tacos, each for \$3. On top of that, Trendy Taco offers two burritos at \$7 each.

Located in downtown Wilmette, Trendy Taco is a perfect, quick and inexpensive meal for when you're on the go. It's a great fit for downtown Wilmette. However, there is very limited seating, so be prepared to wait for a table or order takeout.

Trendy Taco is located at 1195 Wilmette Ave and is open every day from 10:30 AM-9 PM and from 11:00 AM-6:00 PM on Sundays. The restaurant is cash only.

