

DENVER LIFE[®]

Highlands and Sunnyside Welcome The Thunderbird Imperial Lounge

By: [Kendall Kostelic](#)

Ready to eat (and drink)?



Courtesy The Thunderbird Imperial Lounge

Denver's list of eateries is expanding once again. [The Thunderbird Imperial Lounge](#), created by local restaurateur and real estate developer Jesse Morreale, Larimer Associates/City Street Investors and contributing chef Goose Sorensen, is grand opening December 3 at 8 p.m.

Taking the Highlands/Sunnyside spot of the infamous Subway Tavern, The Thunderbird, from the menu to the decoration, is a tribute to the past. The almost 3,000-square-foot, 150-person-capacity space will be serving up elevated, affordable comfort food like chili cheese dogs, classic sloppy joes and "The Thunderburger"—a make-your-own entrée served on a bun from Denver's Hinman's Bakery—and cocktails such as a whiskey sour, Manhattan and boxcar. Iconic concert posters, a jukebox, vintage Thunderbird Ads, *Mad Magazine* covers and historic headlines from the *Rocky Mountain News* and *The Denver Post* decorate the restaurant.

"It's been a lot of fun finding the right balance of memorabilia and meaningful antiques to match the concept, food and drinks menus," says Morreale. "We look forward to sharing it all with our friends and new neighbors."

A large year-round patio and bar are also part of the restaurant, who says they will take menu input from regulars and neighbors on what they would like to see once they get everything running smoothly. So be sure to keep notes when you stop by.

THE DETAILS

What: [The Thunderbird Imperial Lounge](#) is opening

When: Grand Opening: December 3 at 8 p.m.; Initially open Monday-Friday 4 p.m.-2 a.m. and Saturday-Sunday 10-2 a.m., with full menu service open until 11 p.m. nightly

Where: 3759 Lipan St.

Cost: Food menu: \$4-\$18; Drinks: \$3-\$4 for canned brews and \$4.50 for well cocktails