



HANKAMER
& ASSOCIATES
BROKERS, L.L.C.

RESTAURANT UPDATE

OCTOBER 2018

HRUSKA'S STORE & BAKERY

109 W. Highway 71 Ellinger, TX 78938 979.378.2333 hruskas-bakery.com
(Outbound from Houston toward Austin)

WEIKEL'S BAKERY "WE GOTCHA KOLACHE"

2247 W. State Highway 71 La Grange, TX 78945 979.968.9413 weikels.com
(Returning to Houston from Austin)

Houstonian's in-the-know folk schedule a stop going to and coming from Austin at these two, authentic, long-time family owned bakery stores. Forget about Buc ee's on this trip-this is the real thing, Folks. Think several generations of mature Czech ladies in the back turning out baking rack after baking rack of hot fresh cookies, bars, cakes, pies, squares, sweet rolls, Danish, pigs-in-the-blanket, cupcakes, AND, the signature masterpiece: hot kolaches in a multitude of flavors. Country prices make the trip an even greater pleasure. Weikel's has the largest selection, so we will describe its menu, but Hruska's is not far behind. **Kolaches:** apricot; apple; blueberry; chocolate; cherry; cream cheese; lemon; peach; pineapple; poppy seed; prune; pumpkin; and strawberry. **Pigs-in-the-blanket:** sausage; sausage & cheddar; cheddar & jalapeno; ham & pepper jack. **Sweet rolls:** cinnamon; honey bee. **Cookies:** chocolate chip; white chocolate macadamia; oatmeal raisin; sugar; and many others. **Cakes:** chocolate fudge; carrot; German chocolate; white cake. **Pies:** coconut cream; cherry; banana; lemon meringue; pumpkin; pecan; pumpkin pecan. **Bars:** 2 ½ inch square lemon; pecan; apricot shortbread; cherry shortbread. **Muffins:** farm cake; morning glory; blueberry; cranberry nut; lemon poppy seed. **Deli:** pulled pork sandwich; Philly cheese steak; Reuben; Veggie; and many others. And yes, you can buy these pastries pre-packaged to take home, although if you are like me, a goodly portion of this heavenly stash does not make it back to Houston if the stash is in arm's reach of the steering wheel. And also yes: these bakeries may warrant a special trip if you have no plans to go all the way to Austin. La Grange is an interesting German-Texas town with history markers and fine stone architecture that merits own visit, and not far away are the lovely "painted churches" and of course Round Top, TX, with its nationally famous antique fair. Fayette is also a sweet little nearby German community worth a visit while you are in the area.

GILHOOLEY'S RESTAURANT AND OYSTER BAR

222 9th Street San Leon, TX 77539 281.339.3813

Located a few hundred yards from Galveston Bay, Gilhooley's is an institution. It looks like it was built from driftwood with 'designer lighting' by beer signs. The fishing and shrimp boats dock nearby. The oyster shell / gravel parking lot typically features SUVs, Harleys, pick 'em up trucks, and the occasional Lexus side by side, with a mixed clientele to match. Very casual with indoor and outdoor seating. Great prices, generous portions, salt-of-the-earth honky-tonk restaurant atmosphere: another best-kept secret by Houstonians who know their city and its environs. Plan to spend a while so that you can sample the generous menu, platter by platter. **Starters & finger foods:** Shrimp cocktail; Shrimp ceviche; Crab, filled with seafood stuffing; Hushpuppies, Fried shrimp; Fried oysters, Boudain link; Onion rings; Wings; Cheesy potatoes w Colby cheese & jalapenos; Chicken livers, fried tender; Gizzards w gravy; U peel shrimp. **Salads:** Shrimp slaw. **Gumbo & soups:** Shrimp gumbo; Everybody gumbo-full of oysters, shrimp, chicken & sausage; Chili. **House specialties:** Baked oysters, butter & Parmesan cheese; Oysters picante, topped w salsa & melted Colby jack cheese; Oysters/shrimp picante. **Seafood dinners:** Seafood cakes; Fried catfish; Broiled catfish; Stuffed shrimp; Seafood platter; Fried shrimp or oysters; Shrimp kabob stick; Sauteed shrimp. **Southern fried:** Chicken fried steak, gravy topped; Country fried pork; Chicken fried chicken. **Other:** Mexican burger; Stuffed pork loin; Quesadilla platter w shrimp or chicken; Boudain & sausage, beans & garlic bread.

For more information on Hankamer & Associates or any of our current listings, please visit our website at www.hankamer.com.

Note: By way of qualifications for reviewing restaurants, Hankamer has owned and operated numerous restaurants, coffee shops, hotels, discotheques and banquet halls over the last forty years; he has traveled to over 70 countries and has studied and lived in Europe for over three years; he was co-owner of a home delivery wine of the month club and imported his own wine labels for years. Copyright 2015 Ray Hankamer, Hankamer Commercial/Hankamer & Associates.