

Riverwalk: Where Food Creates Community

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In the center of Oswego lies the beautiful Oswego River, where people come together and make memories by the water. There is always a light hum of voices laughing and conversing. People walking hand-in-hand with loved ones or catching up with old friends as the cool breeze of the water carries the aroma of pizza crust in the air. Along the river, several businesses and apartments reside, making the Oswego River a staple for social gatherings in the city. Whether you want to watch the water, grab a bite to eat, or even wake up every morning to the gorgeous view, the Riverwalk businesses are the perfect place to experience the beauty of Oswego. Recently renovated in 2019, all of the locations have a modern, fresh feel inside, from Luxury apartments to salon suites. But this slice of town is perhaps best known for its bagels, pizza, and café.

I had the opportunity to speak to Michelle Goderwis, the marketing manager for the Riverwalk businesses, and she began by glowing about how welcoming Oswego has been, saying, “Oswego is amazing! People from the community offer a lot of feedback that helps us grow and be the best version of ourselves.” Part of that community includes a large number of SUNY Oswego students from downstate, who find tasty connections to home through this Oswego staple. Goderwis reflected that, “Many students are from New York City, or grew up near New York City, and are initially attracted to Riverwalk for our handmade bagels and pizza. We see a lot of students at our restaurants every day.”

But you don’t have to be from NYC to appreciate the delicious pizzas and bagels, and the beauty of Riverwalk is that everything is homemade, right down to the toppings. “I would say the most important message we convey about our restaurants is the quality of food and drink we offer,” says Goderwis, “Everything is handmade from our doughs to our baked goods to our pizza toppings to our roasted coffee. We take great pride in our quality, and it shows in our reviews, comments, and the community of regular customers we have built.”

Riverwalk puts in the work that makes their food great, and you can taste the love that the Riverwalk staff have for the Oswego community. It is a place that evokes nostalgia while simultaneously exhibiting a beautifully new, modern look when you walk into any of the establishments. Everything is always clean and photo-ready, making any experience at Riverwalk a memorable and enjoyable time. Having Riverwalk in the center of town allows for a safe social gathering where anyone, from child to adult, can create new memories in the heart of Oswego.